



November 2015 (Available on website, read it in colour)

Dear parents and children,

We have been blessed with the weather and it has been great for the children to get to play out in the sunshine.

The term is in full swing with lots of hard work going on. It's great to see homework diaries and reading logs signed. It shows that you support your child's learning at home. Thank you.

**Absences:** You are required to send in a note to explain absences otherwise the absence is logged as unexplained. Thank you

We plan to have a remembrance ceremony in school in November. We will remember all the people who have died in our families. The children will be given leaves to decorate and they will be invited to write the name of a family member on the leaf. These leaves will be displayed in the school and presented during the ceremony.

Mrs M Murphy

**Parents' Committee AGM:** The new parents' committee has been appointed. Eithne Gordon is the chairperson, Suzanne Kent and Sarah Sheehan treasurers and Brenda Rothwell is secretary. There is a fantastic, vibrant committee who are busy organising a **Movie** evening for Saturday the 7<sup>th</sup> of November. Drop and go service!

Doors open at 3.30pm, movie starts at 4pm. Details sent home in a note and there is more information on the school website.

Pumpkin sales were excellent this year and thank you for your generosity.

The parents' committee has a new e-mail address. You are free to contact them with any suggestions/questions.

Christmas Fair: Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup> of December. Always a treat!

[Parentscommitteebalrotheryns1@gmail.com](mailto:Parentscommitteebalrotheryns1@gmail.com)

**Building update:**

The never ending saga! Hopefully the end of this month should shed some light on the situation. I will keep you informed.



Literacy and Numeracy

- We are focussing on Oral Language, writing genres and reading fluency. This month the topic is The Environment.. We have completed work on the genre of report writing and now this month we will work on narrative . As part of the WSE recommendations we are concentrating on handwriting and the presentation of work in copies. The infants have started to learn cursive writing as this is a recommended approach and has proven benefits.
- Numeracy: We are concentrating on learning our tables and we continue the work on problem solving. Please support your child with problem solving.
- SPHE: We have chosen this subject as our next focus. We are currently looking at how we teach the subject , we are looking at the resources we use in detail and how we can deliver the SPHE programme in a consistent and coherent manner throughout the school.

**Junior infants:**

It is great to see how quickly the junior infants have settled in. Remember to continue to support your child with their homework. They will tell you they know how to do it and want independence but at this stage they still need you. A one to one at home is so valuable.

**Board of Management**

**Election of parent reps to the board will take place on Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> of November in the school at 8pm sharp. The new board will be active from the 1<sup>st</sup> of December and runs for four years. The process is that a mum and a dad declare their interest on the night, another parent seconds that mum / dad. If there is more than one mum or dad seconded then it goes to a secret ballot.**

## Doing something for others!

This term you have been very generous to two charities.

Goal in aid of refugees €481 and the Carers' association of Ireland €262. Thank you.

The children had great fun on jersey day and on the last day of term dressing up. The outfits were terrific.



## Maths Week 2015

The children carried out maths trails with the older children supporting the younger children.

In each class extra maths activities were done. Well done to everyone.



**Choir:** Mrs Callaghan/Ms Farrell and the choir are starting their preparation for the Peace Proms concert. They will also prepare for our remembrance ceremony. The choir is on a Thursday 3pm until 4pm.

## Science Week 2015:

Ms Farrell has organised a science exhibition in the hall on Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup> of November, more details to follow.

The infants will visit Imaginosity as part of Science week on the 13<sup>th</sup> of November.

Ms Andrews' class has been accepted to exhibit a science experiment in the RDS in January as part of the Science Expo. Very exciting!!

## Dublin Marathon 2015

We are all inspired by Mr Callaghan's marathon.

The children from 6<sup>th</sup> class ran the last mile of the marathon route after putting in hard training in the build up to the marathon. It was a great occasion and it meant that Mr Callaghan ran 27 miles. !!

The children received great support from the crowd.

