



Christmas Newsletter



Scoil Fhursa Lyre
www.lyrenationalschool.com

December 2013

A Message from the Principal

Dear Parents

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. Thank you all for your support and encouragement since September. As you can see from the newsletter we have been very busy! I would like to thank the students and teachers for their dedication and hard work.

Congratulations to everyone involved in this year's Christmas Nativity - 'It's A Party' held in the St. Joseph's Church on December 6th. The children were wonderful and really reminded us all of the true meaning of Christmas.

I would like to offer a special word of thanks to the members of the Parents' Association who put tremendous work into organising the school calendar and the lovely festive gathering in the community centre. Their fundraising, work and support is invaluable to the school community. I am grateful to you, the parents and other family members of the children for your support and appreciation of the children's acting and musical talents on the night.

I wish you all the joy of the festive season...I hope Santa will be good to you all this year!

Noreen Duggan

Staff

Thank you all for your support for Ms. Christina Leahy who joined our teaching staff last September. The children are very happy in her classroom and I wish her many more years of happiness and success at Scoil Fhursa.

We bid a fond farewell to Mrs. Maria Kelleher SNA and welcome back Mrs. Katie Kiely in January. Sincere thanks to Marie for her hard work and commitment to the school during her time with us. Both the school and children really benefitted from her artistic flair! We wish Marie good health and happiness as she leaves us.

Green School

As a school community, we are continuing to work towards achieving our first Green Flag as we monitor our school production of litter and waste and our efforts to recycle. The Green School Committee are working very hard under the guidance of Mrs. Roche our Green School Coordinator. A very successful Action Day was held where the children from the senior classes tidied and re-planted one of the plant beds outside the school wall. The children of 4th/5th/6th Class designed and made educational board games on the theme of litter and recycling and played these with the younger pupils. Mrs. Roche's class also made the village of Wandsworth from recyclable materials. All projects are on display in the school porch. For future Green School updates, please visit the Green School page on our website at www.lyrenationalschool.com.

School Website

Our school website, produced over the summer holidays, went live in September. The children are delighted to see their work and achievements celebrated in the class pages. Our thanks to Charlotte Kitto for her help and expertise in setting it up. For all events, news and updates for Scoil Fhursa, please visit our website on :

www.lyrenationalschool.com



'Tis the season to be jolly'

Junior Infants

In September, our school welcomed 7 Junior Infants:

Grainne O'Neill

Aine O'Dwyer

Lucy Lane

Aoife Casey

Shauna Casey

Patrick O'Connor and

Dylan O'Keefe

We are delighted to report that all have settled well in school and Mrs. Roche is very happy with their progress.

Buddy System

The children of 5th and 6th Classes have been fantastic buddies to the children of Junior and Senior Infants since September last. They visit the infant classroom on Fridays, where they help the infants with

a variety of activities including; art, oral language, reading and learning through play. The Buddy System has proved advantageous for all children participating in it and the benefits of it are evident in both the junior and senior classrooms. Keep up the good work boys and girls!

Parent's Association

The Parents' Association held their AGM in the school last September. The Committee this year is as follows:

Bridget Brennan. (Chairperson)

Kate Lane (Secretary)

Caroline O'Sullivan (Treasurer)

Committee members include:

Hilary Lyons, John Casey, Michelle O'Shea, Monica O'Brien, John Lane Mary Leahy, Noel Healy and Noreen Duggan. Thanks to all members of the PA for their continued work on behalf of the school.

Camogie

Girls from 2nd to 6th Class enjoyed a 6 week skills programme in the school on Thursdays culminating in a school blitz at Mallow GAA complex. The girls demonstrated their skills and received certificates and medals. Thanks to Mrs. Finn and Ms. Leahy who accompanied them on the day. Well done girls. Keep playing!

School Garden

Thanks to Kate Lane who volunteered her time to helping the children to prepare the raised beds for the winter months with natural fertilizers. The children are looking forward to spring when they can begin work in earnest in the garden once more. Our compost bins are working well as part of our Green School recycling and we will be able to use this in our garden

Duhallow Rural Schools GAA.

In late October, 4th – 6th class boys participated in a grading blitz in football and hurling for the Duhallow Rural Schools Competition. Unfortunately the girls' grading blitz was cancelled due to poor pitch conditions and is rescheduled for the spring when competition begins again.

Swimming will begin in February 2014 for all pupils from 1st to 6th Class. Details and cost per child for bus and 8 lessons will be sent out in the New Year.

Christmas Nativity

On Friday Dec 6th the pupils of Scoil Fhursa performed a Christmas Nativity musical entitled "Are We Nearly There Yet?" for parents and family members. The children enacted the Christmas story beautifully through song and dance. They were a credit to their parents and their teachers are very proud of them. A lovely Christmas gathering was then held at Lyre Community Centre. This was organised by the Parents' Association and was a great success. The sense of community spirit and friendship was very evident and a joy to behold. Our thanks to all who helped with organising the night and to all who supported us.

Theatre & Drama

On October 24th, 5th and 6th Class travelled to the Everyman Theatre to see Joseph & His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat in support of past pupil Antoin Gorman who was in the show. An excellent musical experience was enjoyed by all. On November 8th The West-Midlands Children's Theatre Group performed George and the Dragon at the school for all pupils from Junior Infants to 6th. The children really enjoyed the performance.