

ARRANGEMENTS FOR SCHOOL BASED CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

Children are practicing very hard and are preparing to entertain their parents and family members in 'a Christmas Sing-along' which promises to leave the X Factor participants and judges green with envy!! All are welcome. Times are outlines below

Monday 8 th
Junior Infants: Ms. Hayes and Ms. Coleman – in classrooms at 1:10
Tuesday 9 th
Senior Infants: in classrooms at 1:10
Wednesday 10 th
Junior Infants: Ms. Dalton – in classroom at 1:10 ASD Classes: in Halla at 1:00 1st Classes: each class perform separately in their classrooms at 2:10 4th Classes: perform together in the Halla at 2:10
Thursday 11 th
3rd Classes: in Halla at 12:00 2nd Classes: in Halla at 2:10
Friday 12 th
5th Classes: in Halla at 12:00 6th Classes: in Halla at 2:00

CAROL SINGING AT OFALIA HOUSE

Fifth Class pupils will be extending some Yule Tide cheer to our friends in Ofalia House. A fun packed visit is planned for Wednesday 17th December, when residents will be taken back in time to share their Christmas childhood memories.

PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY EVENTS

Once again, Christmas Shoppers are in for a treat, when the pupils from Scoil Bhríde perform their Christmas Carols in Dunnes Stores Shopping Centre. The times for the Carol Singing are listed below. Please let your family and friends know that everyone is invited to come along and join in the festivities.

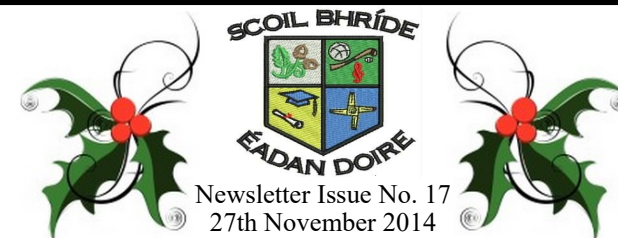
Carol Singing in Dunnes	
Monday 15 th	
12:30 – 12:50	Senior Infants (Ms. Fitzgerald)
12:50 – 1:10	Senior Infants (Ms. Dillon)
1:10 – 1:30	Senior Infants (Ms. Butler)
1:50 – 2:10	3 rd Class (Mr. Taaffe)
2:10 – 2:30	6 th Class (Altogether)
Tuesday 16 th	
12:30 – 12:50	4 th Class (Ms. Rourke)
12:50 – 1:10	4 th Class (Ms. McKeown)
1:30 – 1:50	1 st Class (Ms. Evans)
1:50 – 2:10	2 nd Class (Ms. McKeon)
2:10 – 2:30	2 nd Class (Mr. Nugent)
Wednesday 17 th	
12:30 – 12:50	Junior Infants (Ms. Coleman)
12:50 – 1:10	Junior Infants (Ms. Dalton)
1:10 – 1:30	Junior Infants (Ms. Hayes)
1:30 – 1:50	5 th Classes (Altogether)
1:50 – 2:10	1 st Class (Mr. Winters)
2:10 – 2:30	3 rd Class (Ms. Keane)

DOGS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

Remember dogs are not permitted anywhere on our school grounds even if they do come with a school bag!!!!!!



SCOIL BHRÍDE PRIMARY SCHOOL Carrick Road, Edenderry, Co. Offaly.



Dear Parent(s), / Guardian(s)

Hello and welcome to our second newsletter this year. Our new school building is nearing completion. A lot of 'behind the scenes' planning is underway to ensure a complete and timely fit out of the school to allow a smooth transition. The OPW have confirmed they expect the handover of the building to be on schedule. The Board should receive the keys by end of January with a view to occupying the building by mid-late February. Thanks to all members of the Board of Management for all the time and effort that has gone into getting the project to this stage.

We had a very successful Enrolment Week with many new families joining our school. We have implemented our revised Whole School English Plan. We're busy working to deliver our SSE Literacy Plan, our SSE Numeracy Plan and are currently revising our Whole School Gaeilge Plan. We're working on a lot of projects such as our new school library, our Special Class Sensory Rooms, Activity Rooms and playground, our European Comenius Project, and of course, our range of Christmas performances, details of which you will find inside. On your behalf, I would like to thank all involved in the Parent's Association for all their work throughout the year. The Association made a very significant contribution to the cost of transport to the Christmas Panto, in an effort to keep costs for parents to a minimum. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank all the parents and pupils for their interest, hard work, cooperation and thoughtfulness throughout the year. Thanks to the teachers for their commitment and dedication to learning in the school, to the SNAs and bus escorts for the care of our pupils, and the cleaning staff for all their hard work. On behalf of the Board, staff and pupils it only remains for me to wish you all a peaceful and Happy Christmas. Then, refreshed and re-energised let's see what we can achieve in what promises to be a very exciting 2015!

Is mise le meas,

Caoimhín Ó Dufáigh (Príomh Oide)

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DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOL LIBRARY

Over the past number of weeks staff have been working very hard on plans for our new school library. The project took a huge leap forward when the local and county librarians, Miriam Williams and Mary Stewart gave freely of their time, knowledge and expertise to assist with the identification of library furniture suppliers, the development of a school based library management system and the identification of potential suppliers of books and other reading materials. In addition, Ms Stewart, has very kindly committed to donate some books to the new library. On behalf of our whole school community – pupils, parents, staff and Board - we would like to thank them both most sincerely for their assistance, support and generosity.

A library is such a wonderful resource in any community and we, in Scoil Bhríde, have always found great pleasure in taking our pupils to visit Edenderry Library. Why not consider encouraging your family and friends to join the local library by giving them a gift of library membership this Christmas – pleasure in reading is a gift that can last a lifetime.

RECYCLE YOUR CHILD'S UNIFORM

Scoil Bhríde Primary School promotes the recycling of uniforms and this initiative is coordinated by Mrs. Farrell. This service can be beneficial for those pupils who enrol during the school year or for those who have lost or wish to replace their child's uniform. Donations of all items of the Scoil Bhríde Primary School uniform are welcome – including ties, shirts, polo shirts, jumpers, trousers, pinafores, cardigans, school tracksuits and school jackets. If you would like to avail of this confidential service or if you have unwanted uniforms that are in good quality condition please send them into the school reception. There are also uniform and non-uniform items in our 'Lost and Found' area.

YOUNG SCIENTISTS IN ACTION

Yet again this year, teachers and parents were in awe of our young scientists who demonstrated their knowledge, expertise and scientific skills when they took over the local GAA Hall during Science Week from 10th to 14th of November. Events, organised by Mr Winters, our Science Coordinator, included a presentation from Shay O'Loughlin from the Ballyfore Group Water Scheme discussing the water cycle. Students from Oaklands Community College also visited to demonstrate some amazing science experiments. Finally, some of our very own scientists demonstrated their science experiments and culminated in our biggest Science Exhibition to date. Experiments demonstrated included:

- ◆ Testing for acids, bases and starch
- ◆ The effect of water pollution on animals and fish
- ◆ Investigating teeth indentation
- ◆ Investigating the difference between healthy and unhealthy lungs
- ◆ The process of the digestion system

NON-UNIFORM DAY RAISED €494.50. FOR LOCAL CHARITIES

Thank you so much to everyone who donated to our non-uniform day in aid of "Barnardos" and the local branch of the "Irish Red Cross". The school raised €494.50. Representatives from Barnardos and from the local Red Cross were delighted to receive the cheques. We know that all the money raised has gone to helping and supporting children and adults in our local community.

INSURANCE

We would like to remind parents, for insurance purposes, that morning supervision does not begin until 8:35 and that any children who arrive earlier than that do so without adult supervision.

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS

Well Done to Emily Ginty from First Class who took part in the 'Braille Reading Fun Day'. We were all delighted to hear of Emily's success. Congratulations to Sean Mustapha who soared to national fame when he displayed his dancing talents on TV3's Toy Show. Sean will also perform on tonight's Late Late Toy Show, be sure not to miss it!!

NOTES FOR PARENTS

CHRISTMAS EVENT SCHEDULE

Preparations are well underway for our Christmas festivities. Celebrations commence next week when pupils travel to the Helix for the production of Cinderella. The cost of a ticket and travel is €15 per pupil. Costs have been subsidised by the very kind and generous donation of €1,400 from the Parents' Association. Sincere thanks to all involved.

Arrangements for trip to the Panto: Cinderella
Tuesday 2 nd December
Ms Coleman, Ms Hayes, Ms Dillon, Mr Winters, Ms Evans' Ms McKeon (2 nd Class), Mr Nugent, Mr Taaffe & Ms Rourke.
Thursday 11 th December
Ms McKeown (4 th Class) & Mr Desmond
Friday 12 th December
Ms Dalton & Ms Fitzgerald
Tuesday 16 th December
Ms Keane, Ms Butler, Ms McLoughlin, Ms Morrin & Mr Casey
Thursday 8 th January
Mrs Blong, Mr McDonnell, Mr Carney, Mrs Craig, Ms Horan, Ms Fitzpatrick

SANTA'S VISIT

The excitement is palpable word is out we have been selected YES the main man himself ... Mr Santa Claus will visit all the boys and girls in Scoil Bhríde on Monday 15th December. Again, many thanks to the Parents Association, for extending the invitation to Santa and for all their work in preparing for the visit.