

November 2015 Newsletter

Dear parent/guardian,



HOPE FOUNDATION Leaflets from the Hope Foundation inviting participation in the Shoe Box Appeal have been distributed. This project aims to give needy children in war-torn countries a shoe box of presents for Christmas. The boxes need to be returned by Monday, Nov 9th at the latest. See www.teamhope.ie for further details.



GOAL JERSEY DAY A huge array of jerseys could be seen on our recent Jersey Day. The children received a letter of appreciation from David Andrews, CEO of GOAL thanking them for the wonderful sum of €670 raised to help the refugee cause. (see photos on the website)



TREE DAY The pupils from First and Second classes recently visited Kilkenny Castle Park, taking part in nature trails to mark Tree Day. They were very lucky to get a tour inside the castle too. Of course, no visit to the park would have been complete without a stop off at the playground!

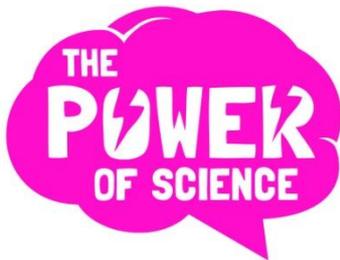


GARDA VISIT We were delighted to welcome members of the Garda Mounted Unit and Crime Prevention Squad on Wednesday, Nov 4th. All the classes got the opportunity to meet horses Donagh and Ruairi and their handlers. The children also got to see the equipment inside the Crime Prevention Unit van and to question the officers on their work. This was a great experience for us all and we would like to thank an Garda Síochána for giving us so much of their time. (Check the website for lots of photos)





ANTI-BULLYING WEEK Next week, as part of our Anti-Bullying policy, all classes will participate in bullying awareness activities. We are currently organising a talk for parents and pupils on cyberbullying. We will notify you when a date is confirmed.



SCIENCE WEEK Fifth and Sixth Classes will visit WIT in Waterford on Monday, November 9th to participate in Science Week activities. They will also visit the Medieval Museum and have a guided walk of the Viking Triangle in the city.

THEATRE On Nov 19th, the pupils from Junior and Senior Infants are off to see The Barnstorm Theatre Company's production of "Me Too!", a play written specially for children of 4+.

SPORT The boys and girls gaelic football mini- leagues are in full swing at the moment . The boys school team are through to the semi-finals after a fantastic win vs Carrickshock in the quarter final. We wish the girls team the best of luck in their quarter final vs Muckalee on Thursday. Many thanks to the teachers who volunteer their time, training and attending

matches and without whom these activities could not take place.

PRIMARY SCHOOL DEBATING This year's competition has begun again and the 6th class team had a successful first outing on Oct 22nd against Scoil Móin Ruadha when they argued that "School holidays are too long." We wish them luck as they proceed in future rounds.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER County Photos will make their bi-annual visit on Friday, Nov 13th. Information leaflets have been distributed to all families.

CHRISTMAS CARDS FUNDRAISER The children are busy designing individual cards for Christmas. A printed sample will be returned to each child to bring home, along with information about ordering packs of cards for Christmas. Please note that while all pupils are participating, there will be no obligation whatsoever to buy.



PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

As you have already been notified, these will take place over two afternoons on the 26th and 27th of November from 3.15pm to 6pm. You will receive an appointment in the post next week

Board of Management Parent Meeting

A very successful meeting was held in October. The meeting was addressed by Chairperson Canon Pat Dalton and Principal Clare Hanrick. The school accounts were presented by treasurer Christine Preston. The parent nominees for the new BOM were selected. Many thanks to Joe Scriven and Laura Convery who have volunteered their time for the next four years.

Parents' Association A sincere thank you to the group of nine parents who have agreed to form the committee of the PA . They will meet shortly to plan activities for the current school year. If anyone else would like to get involved, please contact Annette Graham for details.

EARLY COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS

We would like to remind you if you are collecting children early for any reason e.g. a dental appointment, please call to the office and sign them out before calling to the classroom. (This will not apply to pupils leaving early on match days.)

Also, if you need to call to the school during class time, please communicate with Nuala first and if necessary, she will contact the class teacher for you. Similarly, if your child has forgotten lunch, gearbag etc. please leave it with Nuala in the office and she will see that they get it. We would really appreciate your co-operation in order to minimise disruption during the school day.



Christmas Celebrations

As December is just around the corner, the children will shortly begin preparing for their Christmas celebrations, learning carols in class and practising recorder pieces with Margaret.

These will take place on **Thursday, Dec 17th** with the Junior and Senior Infants in the morning and the older children in the afternoon.