

October 2017 Newsletter

N.B. School Closure: The school will be closed on Friday, November 17th. The teachers will be attending a whole-school professional development course for the new Primary Language Curriculum/ Curaclam Teanga na Bunscoile. **Please note this closure is not in your school calendar.**

The new Primary Language Curriculum is being introduced on a phased basis. It's an integrated curriculum which means it has the same structure for both English and Irish:

- Oral Language Teanga ó Bhéal
- Reading Leitheoireacht
- Writing Scríbhneoireacht

The following is the timeframe for its implementation:

2017/18	Infants to 2 nd	Oral language/ Teanga ó Bhéal is now part of the curriculum. Reading/ Leitheoireacht and Writing/ Scríbhneoireacht will begin to be implemented
2018/19	Infants to 2 nd	From Sept 2018 there will be full implementation of all three areas
2019/20	3 rd to 6 th	Implementation for 3 rd to 6 th classes begins

MATHS WEEK IRELAND 2015



Maths Week Ireland takes place from Oct 16th to 20th. Your child will be engaged in various Maths activities throughout the week. You can get involved too by playing maths games with your children. You will find lots of tips and resources at www.ncca.ie/parents. You can also log on to www.khanacademy.org for free maths activities or check our website for links to great maths websites in the Gamezone.



MOON and SIXPENCE PUPPET THEATRE

The Moon and Sixpence Puppet Theatre will visit Gowran NS on Thursday, October 26th. They will perform two shows – one for the juniors and one for the seniors. This travelling marionette theatre comes highly recommended from schools all over the country and we look forward to their visit. The cost per pupil is €3.



Once again, in preparation for the Stook run this year, the children are all putting in a great effort to increase their levels of fitness. A huge thank you to the members of Gowran AC who have devised a training plan which can help the children and their families train for the 5km Dash on the 18th November. All the classes are out training each day and are really enjoying it.

The 5th and 6th class pupils will participate in a trail run in Mullaghreele Wood near Castledermot on Friday, Oct 13th. Sincere thanks to the members of Gowran Athletic Club who have planned and will lead the activity.

EARLY COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS

Reminder: 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.)

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 most pupils are participating, there will be no obligation whatsoever to buy.



HOPE FOUNDATION Leaflets from the Hope Foundation inviting participation in the Shoe Box Appeal are currently being 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 6th at the latest. See www.teamhope.ie for further details.



HEADLICE

Unfortunately, the appearance of headlice has been reported in some classes. In order to minimise the spread of these, we ask your co-operation in checking your child's hair immediately and treat if necessary. **Please see the tips sheet in the Parentzone on our website and help eradicate the problem.**

PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS



Appointments will shortly be issued for our annual Parent Teacher meetings which take place over two evenings on November 15th and 16th from 3.15pm to 5.45pm.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Oct 30th – Nov 3rd Midterm Break

November 17th New Language Curriculum training – school closed

November 15th, 16th Parent Teacher Meetings – 3.15 pm