



## December 2018

Tabhair Maith agus Geobhair Maith School Motto

### **Principal:**

Mr. Michael Feeney

# **Deputy Principal:**

Ms. Eimear Carroll

### **Contact Details**

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The school Twitter and Facebook account are an ideal way to get a flavour of what's happening in the school or to learn about events that may be of interest. There are lots of up to date pics, videos and news.

## **Health Promoting School**

We were delighted with the success of the Food Dudes Healthy Eating Programme. The children showed great enthusiasm for trying new fruit and vegetables. Our health promotion targets for the next term include participating in the Daily Mile initiative and 5th and 6th class yoga. We have found many physical and mental benefits of this practice. We are also planning a whole School wellness Week after Christmas.

#### **Swimming**

Second and Third class will commence swimming lessons in UL on Mondays from the 14th January to 18th February

## Novas Christmas Appeal

We are thrilled with your support of our Novas appeal. It is such a worthwhile charity and a wonderful lesson for children in our school.

A huge well done to our fifth class pupils participating in a Christmas swim this Friday in aid of the Share a Dream Foundation. We are very proud of them.



#### **Music Generation**

Our Third and fourth class pupils are taking part in this music programme since Halloween and the children are really enjoying it.

#### **Peace Proms Concert**

Pupils from 5th class will perform in the Peace Proms Concert in UL on Saturday 2nd March at 8pm. This is a choir made up of 3,000 voices of children from primary schools around Ireland. Tickets are on sale from peaceproms.com

#### **Christmas Concerts**

Our Christmas concerts were a great success. Pupils demonstrated a very high standard both dramatically and musically. They were a credit to themselves, their parents and teachers. All the weeks of rehearsals and planning came together to produce such good shows. It was a pleasure to enjoy the fruits of the input of pupils, teachers and parents. It was a tremendous team effort by the school staff. Thanks to all the parents who donated prizes and to the PA for their help with the raffle. Also many thanks to everyone who volunteered for the tesco bag pack in the Crescent on Saturday next. We appreciate your ongoing support.

### Junior Entrepreneur

Well done to the pupils in Fifth class who are participating in the Junior Entrepreneur Programme. They are all prepared

to present their ideas to the dragons after Christmas. Many thanks to local business man and entrepreneur Mr Joe O Brien for addressing the children this week.

#### **Vex Robotics**

Fifth class have been engaging with the Dell Sponsored Vex IQ Robotics programme since October. The programme allows the pupils to design, build and program their very own robot. The vex competition in February gives pupils the opportunity to apply their newfound STEM skills in an enthralling game based engineering challenge. They will compete with other schools throughout Munster.. Beyond robotics, they learn lifelong skills of teamwork, leadership, project management and presentation skills.

### Parent/Teacher Meetings

Our annual P.T.M. are scheduled for Wed 16th and Thurs 17th January 2019. A scholastic Book fair will be held during this week

#### **Internet Safety Talk**

Thanks to all the parents who made the effort to attend our cyber bullying and internet safety talk with Ger Brick. It was an extremely valuable, informative evening and feedback was hugely positive. With Christmas upon us and smart phones, tablets and gaming devices being popular gifts, it is important to be as prepared as possible for the responsibility that comes with it. It doesn't matter what age your child is, it is

important for parents to be armed with knowledge. Kids are clever and will always want to be one step ahead of us. Parents play a fundamentally important role in protecting and empowering their children online. We must always keep in mind that the internet was not designed with children in mind.. We need to teach them to value and protect their data, to treat people online as they would in real life and to feel empowered to question and challenge what they see and hear online. Ger Brick had a number of useful tips in his presentation. This is the link www.inetsafetytalk.com/ parentinfo

#### **SPHE and RSE**

In accordance with our revised S.P.H E policy, the R.S. E programme will be taught next term. R.S.E is an integral part of S.P.H.E and must be taught in all classes. It addresses the meaning of human sexuality, relationships, growth and development relevant to personal and social skills. The policy is available to view on our school website and I would urge you to do so.

## Irish Guide Dogs

Many thanks to Mossie Quinlan volunteer with the Irish Guide Dogs who visited us this week. The ambassador dog Charlie and puppy in training Comet were a big hit with the whole school.

### **Christmas Holidays**

The school will close at 12.30pm on the 21st December .We will reopen on Monday the 7th January. As always, you have been hugely supportive of the school in all its endeavours and I would like to express my sincere appreciation. On behalf of the staff and the Board of Management, I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas.

Nollaig Shona Daoibh go léir-Mise le meas,

Michael Feeney