

Christmas Holidays.

The school will close on Tues December 22nd @ 12.30p.m. Buses will collect the children on the first load at 12p.m. School will re-open on Thurs January 7th @ 9.20a.m. Le Cúnamh Dé.

Fundraising

Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal.

90 boxes were filled and sent to children in other parts of the world ensuring that boys and girls varying in ages will receive a gift for Christmas. Thanks for your wonderful support in this.

Pyjama Day

Thank you for your support for our recent Pyjama Day event .Ms McGowan and the student council organised this and €283.80 was raised. This money was used to buy new footballs and new goalposts for the senior pupils. We have a surplus of €50 approx. which will be used to provide yard markings for the junior yard. Thanks to Mr McKiernan for assembling the goal posts.

Buddy Reading

Ms McGowan will coordinate senior buddies to read to and with a junior buddy. This takes place in January for 2 mornings per week for 15 mins. This has shown enhancement in pupil's self-esteem, self-confidence, friendship building skills and improvement in their literacy skills.

Book Fair

There will be a book fair held again in collaboration with the parents association on March 1st 2016. We will keep you updated closer to the time. This was a great success last year and the school libraries have greatly benefited from the large amount of money that was raised and returned to the school in 2015. We would like to extend our thanks to the committee of the Parent's Association who work so hard.

Annie the Musical

The pupils from 3rd- 6th inclusive went to the matinee of this production on Thursday 17th December @10.45. It was great to see some of our past pupils perform in this musical.

The Elves and the Shoemaker.

Pupils from junior infants-2nd class attended this lovely production in The Dock on Wednesday December 9th. Thanks to parents, pupils and staff who helped make this an enjoyable and memorable event.



Wishing you all a very Happy & Holy Christmas!

Angela White, Finola McGowan, Olivia McHugh, Rachel Keane, Arlene Gilhooly, Sinead Beirne, Micheál Mc Kiernan, Gearóidín Ní Chongaille, Tara Fitzpatrick, Geraldine McWeeney, Mary Scott, Joan Tiernan, and Christina McGourty.

St Brigid's N.S Drumcong Christmas newsletter Dec 2015



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Dear Parents

Christmas is coming and we take time to reflect on the past terms and look forward to a New Year and the completion of this academic school year 2015/2016. As usual it was a very busy term with lots of visitors, learning new things, moving into a new classroom and participating in various events.

Upcoming Events

Cross Border Peace Prom Opening Ceremony 1916-2016

11 children from our school will travel to Dublin on New Year's day to participate in a 32 county children's choir. We wish them all the best and thanks to their parents for supporting this.

Dates for your Diary

Children who are receiving sacraments: First Penance is 9th March and First Holy Communion is on Sunday, May 29th 2016. Choir will be organised for holy Communion and we ask for your support in bringing your children to this special occasions.

Communication Policy

We are currently updating our Communication Policy. Due to increasing enrolment and to ensure minimal disruption to classes, we request that in future all Parents/Guardians/visitors will report first to Mrs McGourty, the school secretary. She will deliver messages and or collect pupils if needed. You are asked **not** to call personally to classroom doors. Thank you for your co-operation.

New Entrants.

We are gathering data to project the number of children attending our school in the future years. This will ensure we will have adequate accommodation and resources in place. Can you please contact Mrs McGourty @ 9642315 if your child(ren) will be starting from September 2016 onwards. If you know of new families with young children ready for school please inform to contact Mrs McGourty

Welcome.

We welcome Aadam and Ameer Hussain, Sadie and Jemima Harris who joined our school. We hope you will be very happy with us.

Memory Lane Photographer

The photographer came on November 3rd and the photographs have arrived to the school and were distributed.

Christmas Raffle.

Each class will have their raffle on Monday in their individual classroom. Please support as generously as possible.

Floral Pride

Our school received first prize (€250) in the Floral Pride competition 2015. Thanks to pupils, parents and staff who helped make our school grounds a place of learning, beauty and pride.

New Board of Management 2015-2019.

Francie Gilmartin
Fr Flynn
Angela White
Finola McGowan
Dessie Easterbrook
Patricia Lee
Sean Scollan
Nollaig Carroll

Sports

Leitrim Athletics.

Well done to the boys and girls who participated in this event held in Leitrim village on October 10th 2015.

October was the season of the Mini 7's competition and pupils from 4th-6th classes participated in this.

Congratulations to all children from our school who participate in extra-curricular activities-in athletics, football and other sports.

School Attendance.

Congratulations to the following pupils who received a trophy for full attendance 2014-2015 Jack Keaney, Rose Keaney, Darragh Lee, Hannah Keany, Riona Nic Thiarnáin.

Children who missed 1 or 2 days received a lovely certificate.

Comhghairdeas libh go léir.

Solas Art Exhibition in Ballinamore.

It has come to that time of year when we are invited to draw/paint or use various art mediums on A4 PAPER on any subject of interest to the children. We are asked **Not** to submit Christmas pictures as these are exhibited all year round in school. We will submit this into this local exhibition to be held on 16-27th January 2016 in the Solas Art Gallery in Ballinamore. The cost is €4 per child and children must have their entry ready for January 7th 2016. There is no onus to submit an entry.

When the exhibition is over, pictures are returned to our school and they are further exhibited for the next year. We always have a lovely exhibition on show for parents and visitors to the school.

Flag and Proclamation Presentation.

On Wednesday November 25th we received our Irish flag and copy of the proclamation from members of the Irish Army. Iarlaith read a part from the proclamation indicating the importance of our children and Sean and Leah accepted the flag on behalf of the school from Commdt Gary Symth.

Maths Week

This took place from the 12th to the 16th October. Thanks to Ms. McGowan and all the teaching staff for organising Maths Trails and maths activities.

Preparing for secondary school.

Our 6th class visited Ballinamore Community School on Nov, 17th.

Paul Beirne & Mary Maloney from Carrick-on-Shannon Community School visited on Dec 14th.

Clothes Collection

A clothing collection will take place on Fri 22nd Jan 2016. We would appreciate if each family could send in at least 1 bag of old/unwanted clothes. Monies raised helps subsidise buses or is used to buy resources for all pupils.

Opening of New Extension

This year saw the completion of our new extension which was officially opened and blessed on Monday 14th by Bishop Francis Duffy. We had a lovely ceremony to mark this occasion and pupils, staff (past and present), members of the past and present Board of Management, our builder Gerry McGourty and consultant engineer Tony McManus, parents and grandparents were in attendance. Thanks to Jane Cowley, Ms McHugh, Mrs Keane, Dylan and Erin Doyle and all the children who sang and played wonderful uplifting music. Thanks to parents and families and staff who brought in food for refreshments afterwards. Your generosity is always appreciated. A word of thanks to Fr Tomás and Mrs White for coordinating this event. There was a true spirit of enjoyment and delight at seeing this project come to fruition. Thanks to Pamela & Carmel and members of the Parents' Association for all their hard work on the day and also to Philomena Doran for her great efforts having our school so clean.

Mr McKiernan and his class moved into their new classroom on November 10th. We wish them a very successful and enjoyable academic year.

Nativity Play

Due to a very hectic schedule we **will not** be having our annual Carol Service. However Mr McKiernan and his class will present "Rocking and Rolling into Bethlehem" for all classes on Monday and Tuesday. We look forward to their presentation of the story of the Nativity.



Parent Teacher Meetings

Thanks to all parents who attended the recent Parent Teacher meetings. Where a parent feels the need for a further Parent Teacher meeting before the end of the school year, please make an appointment with the secretary. In cases where the teachers have a concern, they will contact the parents directly. Thank you for your interest and co-operation.