



Scoil Náisiúnta Chaisleáin Uí Liatháin

e-mail – castlelyonsns@gmail.com / Blog - www.castlelyonsns.com

Issue 09/2019

(Nuachtlitir na Samhna / Nollag – 2019)

- **Carúil na Nollag:** We wish to remind parents that the annual **Christmas Carol Service** takes place in the **church** on **Thursday, 19th Dec. @7.30 pm.** Fáilte roimh chách / All are welcome.
- **Bord Bainistíochta Nua:** We congratulate and welcome the newly elected members of the Board of Management who have just begun their term of office for the next four years until the end of 2023. Our new Board members include Anne Fay (Chairperson / Patron’s nominee), Pat O’Regan and Mary Fenton (treasurer / Community nominees), Martina O’Callaghan and Gareth Clegg (Safety Officer / Parent nominees) and Sarah Cummins (Recording secretary / Teacher nominee). Existing Board members going forward to the new Board are Fr Gerard Coleman PP (Patron’s nominee) and mé féin (principal / Secretary to the Board). We look forward to working together as a team for the good of the school and for the continued provision of the high standards of education which already exist for the children. As our Mission Statement goes, “Ní neart go cur le chéile – Together- everyone achieves more”. I also wish to thank the out-going Board, namely, Dónal O’Connell, Elaine Murphy, Claire Quirke, Marie Murphy, Fiona Murphy and Allen Cotter who all gave so generously of their time and energy to the school over the past 4 years. They were an extraordinarily busy 4 years for that Board with the 1916 Centenary Commemorations in 2016, the school’s 50 year celebrations in 2017, a Whole School Evaluation (WSE) in 2018, along with a major building project which commenced in 2015 and was just completed last August, these to name but a few matters dealt with by the outgoing Board.
It is important to point out that the work of Board members is entirely **voluntary** and so we are sincerely grateful to all present and past Board members who give and gave of their time and energy for the benefit of the education of the pupils attending our school. Go gcúití Dia libh é.
- **Leabhair mar Bhronntanais:** May we suggest that you include books for your children as gifts for Christmas and encourage them to read over the holidays.
- **Shoe Box Appeal:** Míle buíochas to everybody who donated a Shoe Box to the Team Hope Christmas Shoe Box Appeal for children who are less fortunate than ours. 117 boxes were collected in total, which was a fantastic response. Míle buíochas also to Ms Murphy for co-ordinating this initiative and to the children in Rang 6 who assisted with the collection, storage and counting of boxes. Maith sibh!
- **Enrolment Ceremony – Rang 2:** We congratulate the children in Rang 2 and their parents on their Enrolment Ceremony for First Communion held recently in St Nicholas’ church. Comghairdeas! We wish to thank Fr Coleman and Miss Forde (class teacher) for their work.

- **Panto Áitiúil / Local Panto:** We wish all the children involved in the local pantomime and all involved in its production, the best of luck in this weekend's staging of "**Robin Hood**". This will be held in the **Community Centre** this **Friday and Saturday 13th, 14th Dec. @ 8 pm and on Sunday 15th @ 3 pm.** Go n-éirí go geal libh!
- **Oíche Oscailte / Open Night:** We hope everyone who came to our Open Night on Thursday 19th October got pleasure from seeing the new extension with its state-of-the-art facilities. I'd like to express my sincere thanks to everyone who attended and particularly to all the teaching staff who made the Open Night possible. Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir.
- **Foireann Camogaíochta / Camogie Team:** We congratulate the U.14 Camogie team and their trainers who visited the school recently with the County Cup which they won when they beat Bandon in the County Final in Mahon, Cork. Comhghairdeas libh, a chailíní!
- **Tráth na gCeist / Children's Table Quiz:** We congratulate Gearóid McCarthy, Sam Greaney, John O'Neill and Brian Corrigan (all Rang 5) who got 3rd place in the Primary Schools' Table Quiz held in the Community Centre recently and organised by our Parents' Association. Congratulations also to Kilmagner NS who got 1st place and Mitchlestown CBS who came 2nd Maith sibh, a pháistí!
- **Gardaí le Madraí / Garda Dog Unit:** The children thoroughly enjoyed a visit to the school recently by local Garda, Brian Murray and Garda John Hodnett of the Garda Dog Unit. They brought along 2 dogs and told the children about what the dogs do to support the Gardaí in their work.
- **Seachtain Eolaíochta / Mathamaitice / National Science / Maths Week:** Pupils in all classes participated in various activities during National Science Week and Maths Week recently. Míle buíochas to Lorraine Ó hUallacháin (Scientist / parent) who visited Junior & Senior Infants during Science Week and for creating such an enjoyable experience for the children. They were given the opportunity to carry out several exciting experiments and to question how and why things work.

Ms O'Connor organised a Maths Quiz made up of teams from Rang 3,4,5 agus 6 during Maths Week. The children (and adults) thoroughly enjoyed the Quiz and the winners got nice prizes for their efforts. Go raibh míle maith agat Ms O'Connor and all the other staff members who helped in any way with the organisation of the Quiz.

- **Food Dudes:** All classes participated in the "Food Dudes" initiative over the past number of weeks. The children enjoyed tasting and eating familiar and unfamiliar fruit and veg and especially receiving their rewards. We encourage parents to continue providing fruit and veg in your child's lunch throughout the year. Our Healthy Eating Policy has always promoted healthy nutritious lunches as part of a healthy life style. Míle buíochas to Miss Corcoran who co-ordinated the Food Dudes initiative in the school and also to the children who helped with distribution of the fruit and veg samples which arrived each morning for the 16 days of the initiative. Go raibh míle maith agaibh.

- **Trick or Teat for Temple Street:** Míle buíochas to everyone who made a donation towards Temple Street Children's Hospital on the non-uniform day held immediately prior to the Hallowe'en break. A total of €270 was collected which we have forwarded to Temple Street and for which we received a letter of thanks for our generosity. Go raibh míle maith agaibh.
- **Ficheall / Chess:** Thanks to all the children who have been showing up for chess classes in the morning for the last number of weeks. Keep playing! Who knows, maybe Santa will think of giving chess boards at Christmas! Also, we are currently running play-offs in school at lunch time to try and finalise the last four players in each class. The last four players in each class will be going on to an Inter-schools' Chess Tournament in the New Year. Míle buíochas to Ms Murphy and Ms O'Connor who organised and who give up their lunch breaks to supervise the playoffs.
- ***Kindness Elves:** Junior and Senior Infants have some very special visitors (Holly and Chris) in their classrooms in the lead up to Christmas. Both elves have encouraged the children to carry out various acts of kindness both in school and at home. Chris and Holly are very impressed with how kind the children are and have reported back to Santa.
- **Castlelyons Goes Christmas Crackers:** Well done to the organisers of the Castlelyons Goes Christmas Crackers event recently and especially to Miss Barry (teacher - Le Chéile) for her work preparing two groups, Juniors / Seniors / Rang 1 and Rang 2/3/4/5/6, to perform at the concert. Maith sibh!
- **PoundFit Programme:** All children will participate in the PoundFit Programme with Áine Maye, (past pupil/teacher), as part of our PE Programme for a number of weeks in the New Year. This programme which uses movement and music to improve children's focus, co-ordination, physical fitness and team-work skills will enhance children's fitness, confidence and self-esteem. (Further details to follow on this in the New Year).

Parents' Association News

- 2020 Calendars are available from the school office at €10 each. All classes are included in the calendar as class groups. The calendars would make ideal gifts for Christmas for family or friends at home or abroad. Get your copy today! Also raffle tickets can be bought from the school office.
- We will ***not*** be collecting food items at the Carol Service on Dec 19th this year but instead will set up a **Donation Box in the school from Monday 16th to Thursday 19th December, where we will ask the children to bring toiletries & non-perishable foods.** This might heighten awareness among the children if they bring in the item themselves. Dependant on the amount of donations, it may be divided between Cork Penny Dinners and Fermoy Action Homeless Group. Thanking you in advance for your generosity.

- This year each family received 4 books of **Raffle Tickets (at a cost of €2 per ticket or €5 for a book of 3)**, which have been distributed to your children in school. All books are to be **returned by Tuesday 17th**. The Christmas Raffle will take place in the school Halla on Friday 20th December at c.10am. Prizes are as numerous and as good as ever, as outlined on the ticket stubs. We would like to thank all our sponsors for their generosity. **All unsold tickets should also be returned.**
- The Christmas card initiative has proven to be very successful again this year and we hope that all children and parents were pleased with their cards. Thank you for your support.
- The **Clothes Collection** will continue every Tuesday until January 28th, excluding school holidays.
- Follow us on Facebook as we interact through that platform as well and share any news and upcoming events.
- We would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody for their support since September and we wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a bright New Year in 2020.

- **Saoire na Nollag:** The school will close for Christmas Holidays on **Friday, 20th December at 12 noon**. The usual **Staggered Finishing Times** apply, as follows:

11.50 a.m. Jnr / Snr Infants (& older siblings);
12.00 noon Rang 1 / 2 / 3 / Bus (& older siblings);
12.10 p.m. Rang 4 / 5 / 6

We ask parents to move away from the car-park please as soon as you have collected your child so as to make way for the next group of parents arriving. Thanking you in advance for your co-operation.

Ar ais ar scoil ar an Luan 6ú Eanáir (Nollaig na mBan) 2020 / School re-opens on Monday 6th January 2020 (Little Christmas Day). The children will attend Mass (and participate) at 11.30 am in the church on that day.

I also remind parents that, as previously flagged, **the school will be closed on Wed. 15th January 2020** for teacher in-service on the Primary Language Curriculum.

Nollaig Shona agus Bliain Nua faoi mhaise dhaoibh go léir.

