

Kilcolgan Educate Together

January 2013

HAPPY NEW YEAR



Féilire



Athbhliain faoi Mhaise

Happy New Year and welcome back to everyone. Anna is delighted to be back again. Big thanks are due to Fionnuala for her work during Anna's absence.

There is much happening this month and the children have been busy with energy workshops, anti-racism initiatives, imminent student council elections and of course the regular curriculum.

February 10th is Chinese New Year. It is the year of the Snake. We wish you all 新年快乐.

7th Feb—Table Quiz
10th Feb—Chinese New Year
11th-15th Feb incl—School closed for mid-term break
23rd Feb—Bag Pack—Supervalu, Oranmore



Breithlaethe

Mí Nollaig & Eanair

Student Led Conferences

Following the success and very positive feedback from last years student led conferences we have decided to run them again this year. **The dates have been set for March 12th-14th** with finer details to be firmed up.

For those of you who are wondering what a student led conference is—it is an opportunity for students to report on their learning to their parents and showcase their work. Further information will follow in due course.

4th ~ Aongus	2nd ~ Frederic
7th ~ Darel	4th James (JI)
13th ~ Cole	15th ~ Rosa
15th ~ Oisin (JI)	17th ~ Saidhbhan
16th ~ Hannah-Mae	20th ~ Jessica
18th ~ Alex	25th ~ Matilda
23rd ~ Molly	27th ~ Oscar
24th ~ Noelle	28th Luan
30th ~ Alba	



2013 is Bliain na Gaeilge—a chance to celebrate the Irish language across the world. We will be making an extra effort to use the cúpla focail in school and encourage parents to do the same at home. There will be lots of up-coming events around the country. Breis eolas ar fail ar <http://gaeilge2013.ie/>

A big go raibh maith agat too to Aoife who is running Irish classes for parents on Tuesday mornings.

Here are some phrases to get you started:
Hello—Dia duit (dee ya gw-itch)
Reply—Dia is Muire duit (dee ya iss mw-irra gwitch)
Thank you—Go raibh maith agat (guh rev moh a gut)
Well done—Maith thú (moh who)

For those of you who have more than the cúpla focail, labhair Gaeilge linn!

Pyjama Day

The Student Council are working on establishing a school library. See more on back page. To this end they also want to hold a fundraiser—a pyjama day—on Friday 8th. Children may wear pyjamas to school and are asked to bring a euro (or more) towards the library. See plans for PA celebration on the same day (also back page)



Parking

Thank you all for the increased attention to parking and driving at peak times. It is vital that parents remember to follow the one way system, reverse into spaces at O' Donoghues and do not obstruct local traffic. Remember to arrive in plenty of time to avoid frustration.

Show Racism the Red Card



3rd and 4th class are participating in the Show Racism the Red Card initiative. They have completed masks based on their identity (many thanks to Melinda for her help in this) and members from the FAI visited the class to talk about racism in sport and engage in some sporting activities. The children learned about what racism really is and how to raise awareness to challenge racism.

Parents who have had experience of racism and would be able to help out in the classroom please contact Genevieve.

The class will be making a submission to the creative competition and Genevieve would appreciate extra hands.

Cash for Clobber

Cash for Clobber continues to be a worthwhile fundraiser and has to date raised over €1000. Bags are available from Noreen. Any textiles and shoes can be bagged and bags left at the school for collection.

Table Quiz



A table quiz is being organised for the 7th February at 8pm as a school fundraiser. It is a great night out and we would ask parents to support it.

Snow Queen

Many thanks to Orla who filmed and edited the production last year and gave us a limited number of DVDs for distribution. We put them safely away (very safely—so safely it took us a while to find our very safe hiding place!) We have found them again and they are now ready to go to homes. There is a limited number and we can only give one per family. If you would like a copy please speak to Noreen. Please know that the reproduction of *any* of the material for distribution online (facebook, youtube...) is not permitted. Once the initial batch is gone, we will put your name on a waiting list.

Bag Pack

In Supervalu, Oranmore on Feb 23rd. A really easy way to fundraise money without much work. See rota on PA notice board, inside main door. The school continues to rely heavily on fundraisers such as this and we would appreciate if you could spare just a few hours to help out.



The 'Hole'

Blythe and her sister Fern have been in the media lately because they made a video documentary about the The Hole in their housing estate in Oranmore. Google 'The Hole Oranmore' to find out more.

Working in School

It is vital that parents who work alongside teachers in school understand and sign the school's Code of Conduct for Staff and Volunteers. You will find this on the school website under the Policies in our Online Library. We can also provide you with a paper copy if you wish. There is also a Garda Vetting Policy online. If you are working in the school on a regular basis or intend to work in the school regularly it is important that you complete Garda Vetting. Forms are available from Anna or Noreen. If you have any questions about this please speak to your child's teacher or Anna.

Debating

5th and 6th class attended a debating competition in Oranmore library last Wednesday. Our team consisted of Angelica, Cian and Isabella. They made us all very proud as did the rest of the audience. The motion for the debate was 'Old age is honourable' and our school was opposing it. Angelica won the best speaker of the debate award. Well done to the whole class for all of the hard work put in in preparation for the debate.

Bus Co-ordinators

Please see below the names and phone numbers for the bus co-ordinators. If there is a problem with the bus service (i.e. broken down, not in service) you will be notified by the appropriate co-ordinator. If you are unsure that the co-ordinator for your child's bus has your contact details please contact them directly.



Ardrahan—Deirdre—086 8615874
Kinvara/ Ballinderreen—Caroline—
087 7577909
Oranmore—Gwenn—086 1793815
Craughwell—Brian—086 3318789

Many thanks to these parents for the work that they do.

Student Council

Welcome back to school all new and old students!!!

We, the student council, have two projects underway. We are currently trying to create a whole school library and we are holding our elections for a new student council.

We would love if students could donate 1-2 books in aid of our whole school library. It will be a great way to get your child to start reading!!! It will be open to the whole school so please donate a book that you think the children will benefit from..

Our elections consist of candidates from 1st-6th class. We will take 2 people from each classroom 1 boy 1 girl. We wish the new council the best of luck!!!!

Cian

Message from PA

Let's celebrate our school and have a party!

Join the children and staff, for chat or cup of tea, on Friday February 8th, in the yard, at infant pick up time (1:20pm).

Please, could children bring, in the morning, some cookies or buns to share? We will offer the drinks because we care. Thank you :)

Parents Association AGM is on Thursday Feb 21st, 8pm at school.

