

Kilcolgan Educate Together.

November 2011

Anti-Bullying Month

November has been celebrated as Anti-Bullying month and all classes have been learning what bullying is, how to challenge it and procedures in place in the school to deal with it. Being a good friend, supporting each other and helping children to be happy in school are all part of the theme. There will be a talk on Cyberbullying by Brendan Smith in the school at 7.30pm on November 30th for anyone interested. Parents and older children are welcome. It would be great to have a good turnout as this is a very topical issue.

Ethos Conference



The Educate Together ethos conference took place in Galway on the 12th November. Some Board of Management members and teaching staff attended. Eimear did the school proud with her presentation on the Show Racism The Red Card project.



Calendar

Christmas Card orders taken until
22nd Nov
Book Fair -5th-9th Dec
Parent/Teacher Meetings 5th-9th
Dec
Snow Queen ~15th Dec
Christmas Fair ~ 18th Dec



November Birthdays.

Claire ~ 11th	Kaya ~ 19th
Elliot ~ 17th	Katie ~ 28th
Daróg ~ 17th	Oisín ~ 29th



Mondays and Fridays

Staff meetings are no longer taking place on Fridays as previously happened. Instead teachers are meeting immediately after school every Monday. We would appreciate that children are collected promptly especially on Mondays so that teachers can continue working.

Switching on of Lights



Clarinbridge have invited the school to attend the switching on of Christmas lights on the 8th Dec at approx 7pm. Some of the older children are learning songs to sing at the event. Please keep an eye on notes home for more information. All are welcome to attend on the evening.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Parent teacher meetings will take place the week beginning 5th December. Please arrange a mutually suitable 10 min slot with your child's teacher



Snow Queen

The date has finally been set as the 15th December. The venue is Kilcornan hall. The excitement builds! Many thanks to all the parents who have volunteered to help. There are various co-ordinators now in charge of different aspects for anyone who still would like to be involved.



No-religion Meeting

Aongus, Clare and Anna met interested parents regarding the teaching of no religion in the school on the 9th November. There was plenty of discussion and an outline plan was drafted regarding this subject. A review of the way we teach Learn Together is also taking place. As documents are typed up and formalized we will make them available to parents.

Yoga

A big thank you to Suzie and Sylvia for offering their time to do yoga with all the classes. Yoga takes place on Mondays and Thursdays so please ensure your child wears appropriate clothing.





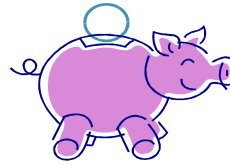
Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair will take place on Sunday 18th December from 11 till 2. Andrew would like to express a sincere thank you for all those who have volunteered to help.

We still need brick-a-brack (all sorts of unwanted gifts and things you no longer need) and cakes.

Cake Sale: (Please contact Siobhan Moylan 0879795590 and let her know what you'll be baking. NB: keep a list of Ingredients (i.e. nuts)

Tombola: (Loads of unwanted gifts needed, Please bring to school the week of the Fair).



Coppers for Books

Aelex and Matthew are collecting coppers for books. There is a big bottle upstairs, outside Anna's room if you would like to rid of purse of some weight. All money in the bottle will go towards buying books for the school. Wednesday is dé Céadaoin in Irish so Wednesdays is our Copper Céadaoin and Aelex and Matthew will go to all the classes to see if anyone has any coppers to put in the pot. They will also do up a jar for anybody who would like to bring it to work.

St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal

The school would like to support the Society of St Vincent De Paul this Christmas in their 'Giving Tree' Fundraising Appeal. SVP will distribute presents in the local area,

How To Give

1. You take a tag from the Giving Tree.
2. You buy a gift or a gift voucher.
3. You drop it off at School unwrapped.
4. The 'SVP' say a big "Thank You" for your Generosity.

The age groups are:

Boy 0 - 3 Years	Girl 0 - 3 Years
Boy 4 - 7 Years	Girl 4 - 7 Years
Boy 8 - 12 Years	Girl 8 - 12 Years
Boy Teen	Girl Teen

Adult Male/Female

News from the Board

A huge thanks is needed to the board members stepping down for their energy and commitment they are Maeve, Mike, Naoise and Breeda. The new board will be in place in the coming weeks.

A new system of on line record keeping has been sanctioned by the board, it is called Aladdin

The board were delighted to sanction the start up costs for 4th, 5th and 6th class's business proposal to make and sell reindeer food.

A voluntary contribution of €100-€250 per family is again sought, and is unfortunately very necessary for the resourcing of the school. It is impossible to meet all the requirements of a growing school with the grants received from the Dept of Ed. It can be paid weekly/monthly or in any payment form to suit the parents. Voluntary contributions are voluntary but are appreciated by the school, as all other funds must be raised through fund raising. Funds raised through the contributions are used directly for the students, to fund books, IT, trips, sports etc.

A working group are looking at the "None" aspect of the "all faiths and none".

Thank you to all the parents who have given their time over the past months to support the school, in classes, at meetings, on planning and policies and fundraising; it is such a necessary part of school life here. Thank you for all the volunteers for the snow queen and Christmas fair along with plans from the PA the lead up to Christmas promises to be very eventful. As always please continue to give feedback and comment on school matters to the school and board.

Green School Tip.



Switch off and plug out appliances when not in use. Appliances left on standby continue to use a reduced amount of electricity.

