



Presentation Primary School

Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

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Roll No. 12180 U

Mid-Term Newsletter: February Update from Presentation Primary School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It has been a very busy half term since Christmas, and it is hard to believe that we are already at the end of February. I would like to sincerely thank our pupils, staff and families for the continued support, enthusiasm and positivity shown throughout the term.

Music Generation – Junior & Senior Infants

Our Junior and Senior Infants are continuing to thoroughly enjoy their Music Generation lessons with Sophie. The children look forward to these sessions every week and are developing wonderful confidence through music, rhythm and performance. By the end of this school year, they will have completed a total of 28 lessons. Please note that payment for the second term of these lessons is now due. If you have an outstanding balance, we would appreciate it if this could be settled at your earliest convenience.

Faith Friends – Second Class

Our Second Class pupils have recently begun working with students from the Presentation Secondary School as part of the Faith Friends programme. The children are exploring themes of friendship, kindness and the story of Zacchaeus. They have created a beautiful “Tree of Love,” filled with ideas and examples of how we can show kindness to others. The girls are also learning about how we can see and

feel the presence of Jesus in our everyday lives.

Red Kettle Theatre Company

On 13th January, all classes enjoyed a wonderful interactive performance by the Red Kettle Theatre Company in the lunchroom. The children took on various character roles, and great fun was had by all.

SNA Review

On 15th January, we welcomed SENO Eileen McCrea to the school for an SNA review. As you may have heard in the media, there is currently a pause on SNA reviews nationally, and therefore it is unlikely that we will receive an outcome from this review in the near future.

NCSE Sustained Support Pilot Project

Work continues across many class levels through our NCSE sustained support pilot project. We are very grateful to Ciara Gill, Speech and Language Therapist, who is working alongside our Junior Infants and 3rd Class teachers, and to Dearbhla O’Reilly, Occupational Therapist, who is supporting our Senior Infants, 1st Class, 2nd Class and 5th Class teachers. Their expertise is greatly enhancing inclusive practice across the school.

Restorative Practice

All staff members recently completed training in Restorative Practice and have begun implementing restorative strategies across the school. Restorative Practice is a

proactive and responsive approach that helps to build positive relationships, foster a strong sense of community, and resolve conflicts by repairing harm and encouraging understanding.

Sacramental Preparation

Our Second Class pupils have begun preparing for their First Holy Communion, which will take place on 23rd May. They have already attended two of the three “Do This in Memory” Masses and are engaging beautifully with the preparation programme. Thank you to Ms. Corbett who has been very busy preparing the girls for their special day.

Meanwhile, our 6th Class girls have been very busy preparing for Confirmation. They have been choosing their Confirmation names and completing projects on their chosen saints. We had a wonderful evening last Wednesday at their Service of Light celebration with St. Mary’s C.B.S., and we look forward to celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation with the girls on 12th March in St. Mary’s Church. Thank you to Ms. Keating who has worked tirelessly getting the girls ready for these special occasions.

Catholic Schools Week

We celebrated Catholic Schools Week in January and finished the week by welcoming the grandparents of our Junior Infants, as well as grandparents of children in our DLD/SSD and Autism classes, for Grandparents’ Day. It was a very special morning, and our visitors thoroughly enjoyed a cup of tea and treats in the lunchroom.

Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you all for your wonderful support of our recent Scholastic Book Fair. The children were delighted to choose new books, and thanks to your generosity we now have a credit of over €1500 to spend with Scholastic. A sincere thank you to the members of the Parents’ Association who

kindly volunteered their time to assist in the mornings and evenings.

Safer Internet Day

On 10th February, we marked Safer Internet Day across the school. Students from 2nd to 6th Class participated in an assembly where they learned about online safety and how to be respectful digital citizens. We were also delighted to welcome Community Garda Carol O’Leary today, who delivered an informative workshop for our 5th Class students on these important topics.

Rainbows Programme

Our school is now a registered Rainbows Centre. Mrs. O’Brien and Mrs. Wymbs have completed both Rainbows Facilitator Training and Rainbows Co-ordinator Training. Rainbows Ireland provides peer group support for children and young people (from age 7) who may be experiencing grief due to bereavement, parental separation, or family breakdown.

Our Rainbows groups aim to create a safe and compassionate space where children and young people can:

- Talk about difficult feelings
- Be heard, accepted and understood
- Connect with others their own age who have had similar experiences

If you are interested in hearing more about Rainbows Ireland or feel that your child might benefit from being part of a Rainbows group, please contact Mrs. O’Brien.

Ongoing Projects

We recently had the lunchroom floor replaced and are delighted with the fresh new look it has given the space. We are also currently exploring the replacement of our internal Wi-Fi infrastructure, as it needs to be updated to support multiple device use across the school.

Upcoming Dates

Wednesday 4th March – Green Flag Action Day (more information to follow)

Friday 6th March – World Book Day. Children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character and bring their favourite book.

Wednesday 11th March – Half-in/Half-out Staff Meeting. **All children will finish school at 1.50pm.**

Thursday 12th March – 6th Class Confirmation Day

9th – 13th March – Seachtain na Gaeilge. Children will engage in various activities throughout the week, finishing with our annual *Ceolchoirm Gaeilge* on Friday 13th March.

Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th March – **School closed for St. Patrick's Day**

16th March – Closing date for applications for our DLD/SSD classes

Sunday 22nd March – Final Do This in Memory Mass for Communion Class

Monday 23rd March – AsIAM workshop for 5th and 6th Class students focusing on understanding Autism and Neurodiversity

Thursday 26th March – Open Day for incoming Junior Infants and their parents at 1.45pm. **Current Junior Infants will finish at 12.30pm.**

Friday 27th March – All pupils will finish at **12.15pm** for the Easter break. School will reopen on Monday 13th April.

Thank you for your continued support and collaboration throughout this past half term. We are very proud of all that has been achieved and look forward to the many positive experiences ahead for our school community.

Kind regards,

Tanya O'Brien
Principal