



Nuachtlitir Mheántearma

25/10/2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and filled with excitement as we journey through the school year. It's been an eventful time at Presentation Primary School, and I'm pleased to share some of the highlights and important updates with you.

Welcoming New and Returning Students:

On August 30th, we were overjoyed to welcome all our students back to their new classes. It was a day filled with warmth and enthusiasm, especially as we greeted 9 new students into our Speech and Language classes and 46 new junior infants who embarked on their educational journey with us.

Online Awareness and Safety Day: On September 12th, classes from 1st to 6th participated in an Online Awareness and Safety Day. The students had the privilege of attending informative workshops led by Jeremy Pagden, who delved into various ways to stay safe and responsible online. It is crucial that our students have the knowledge and skills to navigate the digital world safely.

Communion Enrolment Ceremony: On October 8th, our children who will make their Communion this year celebrated their enrolment ceremony at St. Mary's Church. This was a significant milestone in their faith journey, and we look forward to the year ahead.

Library Trip for 1st Class: On October 11th, our 1st class students had an enriching trip to

the library. They enjoyed listening to captivating stories and brought their favourite characters to life through art. These experiences are essential in fostering a love for reading and creativity.

Roots of Empathy Programme: Our 1st class children have been actively engaging with 'The Roots of Empathy' program this year, skilfully facilitated by our own Ms. Kennedy. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Ms. O'Connor, who visits 1st class students with baby Áine every month, creating a unique and meaningful connection for our young learners.

Maths Week Celebration: From October 16th to 20th, all classes participated in a vibrant celebration of Maths Week. Our students were immersed in a world of mathematics, exploring maths trails, quizzes, online webinars, and fun mathematical activities. Their enthusiasm for math was truly inspiring.

Parent's Council Coffee Morning and Halloween Swapathon: On October 19th, our Parent's Council organised a delightful coffee morning and a Halloween costume Swapathon. We want to express our gratitude to the parents who helped make this event possible and to those who attended. Your support is invaluable.

The Rock of Ages Musical: On October 23rd, our 5th and 6th class had the privilege of attending the musical 'The Rock of Ages' at the White Memorial Theatre. We commend our neighbours, the Presentation Secondary School and the High School, for their remarkable production. Our students were captivated by the show, and we look forward to the



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possibility of seeing our current cohort of students, grace that stage.

Sports and Physical Education: Our school has been bustling with sporting activities. We are delighted to report that our 3rd and 5th class students have made great strides during their swimming block. Maith sibh cailíní!!

Our athletes also demonstrated their prowess on October 11th with nearly 40 students participating in track events. Well done to all participants. Thank you to Mrs. Skehan and Ms. O'Brien for preparing the girls for this event.

Our Under 11 and Under 13 girls' football teams have been participating in the Cumann na mBunscoil Gaelic football competition during the past few weeks. Congratulations to our Under 13 Team who won the County semi-final yesterday against Upperchurch. The girls will play in the County Final after the mid-term break. Date to be confirmed. Thank you to Mrs. Skehan, Ms. Kirwan, Ms. Curran and Brian Whyte for coaching the girls. They have made huge progress and we are looking forward to the COUNTY FINAL!!!

Additionally, our junior and senior infants are thoroughly enjoying their hurling and camogie block with Richie Crowe, where they are mastering the basics and showing great potential. No doubt that we have some future All-Stars on our hands!!

Healthy Heroes Committee: Thank you to Ms. Kennedy and Ms. Walsh for leading our Healthy Heroes Committee once again this year. This year's committee consists of the following students: Lejla Lidjan, Hannah Jeo, Hayley O' Reagan, Jane Smith, Lilly Meehan

and Penny Coleville. The girls will lead the school in Healthy Eating practices and will oversee the planting of our new vegetable beds. Congratulations to Ms. Kennedy who won the beds for our school through the 'Grow it Yourself' initiative.

School Self-Evaluation: This academic year, we are dedicated to embedding the new Primary Language Curriculum across all classes. Our focus for this year continues to be Gaeilge Neamhfhoirmiúil (Informal Irish) to encourage the use of Irish in everyday conversations. Phonics in Irish will also be a key area of focus in all classes during this year.

During the 2023/2024 school year and beyond, Wellbeing will be another significant area of concentration for both staff and students. We are engaging with the Wellbeing Framework to identify key areas for improvement throughout the year.

In preparation for the introduction of the new Primary Maths Curriculum, staff will participate in training days throughout the year to ensure a seamless transition when it comes into effect next year.

Lastly, on October 24th, all our staff attended training with an EAL (English as an Additional Language) advisor, further enhancing our ability to support multilingual learners and celebrate their diverse linguistic backgrounds.

At Presentation Primary School, we remain committed to nurturing your child's growth and potential. We deeply appreciate your partnership and support in creating a thriving and inclusive educational environment.



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Upcoming Halloween Celebration: This week, on October 27th, we're all eagerly anticipating our Halloween celebration. All students will have the opportunity to dress up in Halloween costumes and participate in scavenger hunts and other exciting Halloween activities. We extend our gratitude to our 6th class students and Ms. Prendergast for organizing this event. It promises to be a day of fun and memorable experiences for our students.

Thank You to 5th Class: We would like to extend our gratitude to our 5th class students and Ms. Forristal for their hard work behind the scenes in collecting Christmas shoeboxes in aid of Team Hope. This wonderful project reflects the spirit of giving and generosity that our girls embody. We are proud to support this initiative year after year.

Stay Connected with Us: To get weekly updates and witness the wonderful work happening in all of our classes, we invite you to follow our school on Instagram: @presentationprimaryclonmel. It's a fantastic way to stay connected with the school's activities and achievements.

Important Dates for Your Diaries Next Term:

- **November 4th:** 6th class will commence their cycling skills block.
- **November 7th:** Information Session with Sr. Antoinette for all parents of children making Communion and Confirmation this year. This session will be held at St. Mary's CBS at 7:30 pm.
- **November 9th:** 5th and 6th class will attend a Science exhibition at the Presentation Secondary School.

- **November 9th:** 2nd and 5th class will begin their swimming block.
- **November 10th:** Scholastic book fair will arrive at the school.
- **November 13th:** 6th class will visit the museum to explore the palaeontology exhibition.
- **November 21st and 22nd:** Parent-Teacher meetings will take place after school.
- **November 21st:** Presentation Day.
- **December 3rd:** Enrolment ceremony for children making Confirmation at 10:30 am mass.
- **December 8th:** Junior and Senior Infants will visit the White Memorial Theatre for a show.
-More information to follow on the above events...

Thank you for entrusting us with your child's education, and please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Mar Fhocal scoir:

After a busy September and October and lots of hard work and learning, we wish our students a very happy and safe Halloween break. Please ensure that you are safe at all times especially if attending bonfire or private firework display events.

Warm regards,

Tanya O'Brien



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