

Scoil Náisiúnta Shliabh a' Mhadra



Christmas Newsletter

As our first term in this academic year of 2019/20 comes to a close we look back on another successful term. Here is a brief summary of some of the events of this term.

Parents' Association

The Parents' Association held their AGM on October 16th. A new committee was elected. The following were elected as officers:

Chairperson: Josephine Keane

Vice Chairperson: Aileen Nolan

Secretary: Elaine Carey

Treasurers: Joe Roberts, Liz O'Leary and Paul O'Connor

P.R.O.: Tina Egan

Míle buíochas to these parents for volunteering their time, skills and talents for the benefit of our pupils.

B.O. M. 2019-2023

Chairperson: Muiris Ó Laoire

Patron's Nominee: Fr. Brendan Walsh

Community Reps: Ailish Segal and Gerard Slattery

Staff Rep: Cathal White

Parents: Nora Diggins and Gerald Lynch

Principal: Breda O'Dwyer

We are very grateful to all our Board members for their willingness to pool their experience and expertise on behalf of Sliabh a' Mhadra N.S.

Cash for Clobber

We had a clothes collection on the 24th of October. We would like to thank everyone who donated bags of old clothes. It was a great success. We collected 1,280kgs in weight! Just a reminder for future collections – please do **not** include any duvets or pillows as they will not be taken and we will have to pay KWD to dispose of them.



Gymnastics

All children in the school attended gymnastics with Mr. Seamus McCarthy for seven weeks this term. These classes were funded entirely by the Parents' Association.

Cumann na mBunscol

The Boys' football team played Ballybunion and Lixnaw in the group stages. They advanced to the county quarter final and put on a great display of football just losing out to Cullina N.S. in the end.

Absences

If your child is absent it is very important to send in a note to the class teacher to explain your child's absence. For pupils from 1st to 6th, there are handy templates Towards the back of the Homework diaries.

School Uniform

Please ensure all students wear the full, correct uniform to school each day!

Traffic Management

Our traffic management plan is crucial to ensure the safety of everyone each day. Please wait in convoy in your car until a space becomes available in front of the school. When you pull in to that space, your child can be dropped off or collected. Please do not block the entrance to the teachers' carpark at any time during the school day. Also avoid the temptation to delay when you drop or collect your child as it is important not to inconvenience those parents who are waiting for a space. Child minders, grandparents or whoever is collecting/dropping should be informed of these arrangements.

Spanish Student

We were delighted to have Maria Garcia Diaz in our school for the last 6 weeks. Maria, who is from Madrid in Spain, was staying with a local family. While here, she joined 5th Class each school day and made many friends.

Christmas Card Photos

Anthony Kearney generously gave of his time on Monday 18th November to take photos for the pupils' Christmas Cards. Thanks to the Parents' Association for organising this event.

Credit Union Art Competition

We have a very artistic bunch here in Sliabh a' Mhadra with 18 winners in the Credit Union Art Competition! They are as follows:

Aodhán O'Connor, Keelin O'Connor, Gemma McDermottroe, Lily Quinlan, Caleb O'Rourke, Chloe Quinlan, Ruby Boyle, Oisín Flavin, Tara Kirby, Davina Galway, Niamh Condon, Grace Diggins, Adam O'Neill, Kate Fealy, Joshua Rochford, Alisha O'Grady, Sarah Carroll and Ellie Boyle.



They attended the prize-giving ceremony on Tuesday, 12th November in Causeway Comprehensive School. Well done everyone!

Ellie's picture won 1st. in Clanmaurice C.U. and so her picture went forward to Chapter Level where she won 3rd Prize. She received her prize at a special event in Manor West Hotel on 30th November. Maith thú Ellie!

Shoebox Appeal

Once again this year, the children brought in shoe boxes full of gifts for children in less well-off countries. We collected 120 boxes in total. We are sure that the children receiving the shoeboxes will be delighted with their gifts! Thank you all for your generosity.

Maths Week

We participated in Maths Week from the 14th to 18th October. On Thursday of that week, practical Maths Activities were arranged in stations in our Library. Sixth Class helped to run these activities for the younger classes. It was a busy but worthwhile project.

Christmas Jumper Day for Crumlin Hospital

Staff and pupils dressed in their Christmas Jumpers on December 18th. €362 was collected which was sent to Crumlin Children's Hospital.

Cake Sale

The Parents' Association held a cake sale in the school on Friday 13th December and raised €950. Thank you so much to the Parents' Association for organising it and thank you to everyone who baked lovely treats.

Halloween Dress Up Day

This year the children and some of the teachers dressed up for Halloween. The day was a great success. We raised €261 and this money went to Brú Columbanus a very worthy cause. Thank you to the students and parents for your generosity.

Swimming

5th and 6th class attended swimming in Ballybunion Leisure Centre for six weeks through November and December. They made great progress and enjoyed the experience.

Music

Ann Mahony came to the school every Monday to teach music to the children from 3rd to 6th. She teaches the reading of music, composition and rhythm

Chess

John Alfred came to the school to coach the pupils in 5th class in Chess. Sixth Class will avail of his expertise next term.



Hurling

Giles O' Grady visited the school every second Tuesday to train 3rd- 6th in Hurling/Camogie.

Football

John Dillon trained Junior Infants to 3rd class in the skills of Gaelic football every second Friday.

Science Week.

Each teacher organized events in their own classroom for Science Week. 6th Class organized a display of experiments and invited 5th to a "Science Show" in their classroom where they presented and explained their experiments. They were brilliant! Fifth Class finished their Science Week with a Science Quiz in their room.

Confessions

Pupils from 3rd to 6th availed of the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on 10th December when Fr. Brendan took time out of his busy schedule to hear their Confessions.

Christmas Mass

On Tuesday, 17th December, over sixty adults attended the school for our annual Christmas Mass. It was a really special occasion with the pupils singing the traditional Christmas Carols accompanied by Miss McCarthy on piano and Mrs. Goulding on guitar. Thanks to Fr. Brendan who celebrated the Mass and to Mike for his help. Tea, coffee and delicious treats were served afterwards by the very hardworking members of the Parents' Association.

Show Jumping

Congratulations to Sean Slattery who represented Sliabh a' Mhadra N.S. in a Show Jumping Competition in Clonshire, Limerick on November 1st. Sean did us proud on the day, coming 4th after a stiff competition.

Santa Claus

There was great excitement on 18th December when Santa visited the school and gave every child a selection box.

Gifts

No doubt Santa will be busy delivering gifts to the very good boys and girls of Sliabh a' Mhadra N.S. this Christmas. Books and board games make wonderful presents –so let's hope Santa remembers to include them in his sack!



Nollaig shona agus athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh!

