

# December Newsletter

## Science Week

All the children participated in Science Week this year which took place from 13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> November. It was a very exciting week as all our students participated in a range of discovery-based activities and experiments. Throughout the week, the children learned to explore, question and investigate through science. Well done to everyone, especially to our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class students who put huge work into organising a Science Fair for our whole school to enjoy.

## Crib Visit

Each class will visit the crib in Ballyboy village on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> December, with their class teacher and SNA. The children will sing a song and say a prayer at the crib.

## Parent Teacher Meetings

Parent teacher meetings will take place at the end of January. All meetings will take place in person. However, if you wish to have your meeting over the phone, please contact your child's class teacher to let him/her know.

## School Closing and re-opening Dates

School will close for Christmas holidays on Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec. at 12:30pm. School will reopen Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> January.

## Christmas Jumper Day/Fun Day

Our annual Christmas Fun Day took place on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> November this year. It was a day full of celebration and fun. The children wore festive clothes and enjoyed hot chocolate, treats and a Christmas movie. Each child received a Christmas Annual which was very generously purchased for them by our Parents Committee. There was great excitement in anticipation for the Late Late Toy Show that evening. A great day was enjoyed by all.

## Creative Schools

We are delighted to announce that Scoil Bhríde, Ballyboy is one of 139 schools and Youthreach centres that have been awarded 'Creative Schools 2023'. The Creative Schools initiative supports schools to put the arts and creativity at the heart of children's lives and to build their artistic and creative skills. We are looking forward to embarking on this two-year programme.

## Tesco Community Fund

We are delighted to have been selected for the Tesco Community Fund in Tesco Bír Store. This campaign is running until Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024. If you are shopping in the Tesco Bír store, we would really appreciate if you could vote for us using your blue token. All funds raised will go towards purchasing special education resources.

## Fast Feet Competition

Boys and girls from Second, Third and Fourth class travelled to the Harriers in Tullamore to participate in this year's Fast Feet Competition. This was a wonderful event organised by Offaly Sports Partnership. The children had a great day and enjoyed participating. Well done to everyone involved.

## Book Fair

There was great excitement when the Scholastic Book Fair returned to the school at the beginning of December. The children had a great time browsing through the huge selection of books available. A love of reading is a wonderful gift to give our children, thank you for supporting.

## Christmas Nativity

Junior and Senior Infants are busy preparing for their Christmas Nativity Play which will take place in the Senior Infant Classroom on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December. 1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Class are also busy getting ready to perform at our whole school Christmas Assembly.

## Gifts for Kenya

A huge thank you to all who supported our annual 'Gift of Giving' appeal. A total of €1,489 was raised, all of which has been sent directly to the children of Baraka Kindergarten in Ewaso, Kenya. We very much appreciate your kindness and generosity. Your gift will help share the joy of Christmas from our school to theirs.

## Credit Union Quiz

We are really looking forward to the Tullamore Credit Union Primary Schools Quiz which will take place on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February in the Tullamore Court Hotel. Pupils from 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> have been selected to represent our school and are busy preparing for the quiz.

## Vex Robotics

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Class children are busy preparing for the VEX Robotics Championships which we hope will take place in March.

## Kilcormac Gun Club Visit

There was great excitement last year when the Gun Club returned to our school with pheasant eggs to hatch and four little pheasant chicks were born. The Gun Club returned to our school this year to allow the boys and girls to release the pheasants. There was great excitement, and we couldn't believe how big the pheasants had grown over a few months! A big thanks to all in Kilcormac Gun Club for providing us with such a wonderful learning experience.

A VERY MERRY  
**CHRISTMAS**  
and Happy New Year!