



## December 2017

Dia Daoibh,

Nollaig Shona duir



May I take this opportunity to thank you for all your support this term. It has been a busy few months, with lots of hard work, sporting moments and achievements in various aspects of school life.

It has certainly been a time when we as a school community have proven that Together

## Everyone Achieves More.

Go raibh mile maith agaibh as ucht bhur tacaíocht.

Nollaig Shona is Athbhlian faoi mhaise daoibh go léir.

May your homes be filled with joy and happiness this Christmas and may the New Year bring each and everyone peace and fulfilment.

Geraldine Hetherton
Principal

Basketball:	The basketball season has begun with amazing performances from both the boys' and girls' teams! With one more game for the girls to play next week, both teams have already done enough to progress to the next round in January. We are all wishing them the very best of luck as they go forward.
Soccer Success:	On Friday, 1st of December, eight boys from sixth class were chosen to represent Scoil an Linbh losa at a 5-a-side soccer blitz hosted by Scoil Uí Riada, Kilcock. The boys had to play a number of games and did so with great enthusiasm and grit. They won three out of their four games with a very convincing scoreline in each game. They were beaten by the ultimate winners and ran out runners up overall. They had a great day and showed very impressive skills on the pitch. These boys are definitely ones to watch!
Carol singing:	The choir will be singing carols in Super Valu in Clane, on Wednesday December 20th at 3:30pm. The money collected will go towards supporting music in our school and for St. Anthony's school in Darjeeling. Ms O'Rourke's third class last year became penpals with children from the school in India. Your support would be greatly appreciated.
Book club:	For the past six weeks, almost 50 children have been coming into school early to take part in the Book Club. Well done, especially on the cold wet frosty mornings. Our final club meeting finished with hot chocolate and a chat. Many thanks to the teachers who led the clubs- Mrs. Mc Intyre, Mr. O'Sullivan and Ms Rogers. Without you we'd have no clubs. Thanks to Aisling Farrelly and Margaret Mc Grattan for preparing the hot chocolate and also to the PTA for funding our new books.  Debbie Thomas, author of Monkey Business (one of our book club books) will visit our school in January. The Book Club really nurtures a love of reading, a gift for life.
Active Flag:	We are delighted to see our Active Flag flying high in the sky, after a memorable flag raising ceremony on Friday the 24 <sup>th</sup> of Nov. Thank you so much for all the hard work and enthusiasm. Well done to everyone involved, staff, parents and children in achieving this fantastic award. It was great to see so many of the Class of 2017 back to help us raise the flag. It wouldn't have happened without you.
Quiz:	Our annual Christmas quiz took place last week, with nearly 60 teams participating. It was a very close competition with Rathcoffey winning by a point! Well done to all the children and thank you to all the staff from our school and from the other schools who volunteered their time, and correction skills, for the children's enjoyment!! Over €1000 were raised, with a donation of €500 going to the local St. Vincent de Paul.

Artist in Residence:	The nine week Artist in Residence project (funded by Kildare County Council) is coming to a close next week. Ms. Keogh's second class and Ms. Casey's third class have been working with artist Alex Rosiak to produce puppet shows.  The classes are now putting the finishing touches to their work and they will be performing for other classes tomorrow.  The puppet shows will be available to view on the school website after that. The two classes also enjoyed a great show at the Riverbank theatre last Monday morning.
Art comp.:	We would like to congratulate Matthew Logan Pegley, on his achievement in the Croí Laighean Credit Union art competition. He won first prize in the 7 year and younger section of the competition and will now progress to the next level of the competition. Well done.
Scatter seeds of kindness wherever you go	We are truly blessed to have the parent body that we have. Your continuous generosity and kindness is never ending.  Thank you so much to all of you who went to see the pantomime, we are very grateful for your support.  We were delighted with your generous donations for our clothes collection.  Lastly, thank you for all of your donations of necessities for the homeless in our county, it is truly appreciated.
PTA:	We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated, hard working PTA in our school. They fundraise and help out significantly within our school community. They are always looking for new members to help and develop more ideas. Please inform us if you are interested in joining. You will be very welcome.
Intel mini scientist:	After our very successful in-school mini-scientist competition, which saw some fantastic projects and ideas, four girls from 4 <sup>th</sup> class progressed to the next stage. They went to Blanchardstown DIT for the day and represented the school fantastically well with their project on fresh air in the classroom. Well done girls. A great achievement. We are very proud of you.
Christmas concert:	Thank you to all to the staff who helped to make this year's concert a resounding success. The weeks and weeks of practice paid off to ensure it was a great performance. The children were fantastic in their various roles. Thanks to the PTA members who helped with the raffle. And thank you parents for your huge support on the night. Your donations helped to cover the costs of putting on the event. We do hope you enjoyed the show.
Astronomy talk:	On Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> of November, we had an astronomer, Kevin Sweeney in to talk to the children. Our old library became a gateway to the stars for the day, while Kevin showed the children the wonders that lie beyond the clouds. It was a super way to end our Science Week.
	Dr Rynne very kindly hosted an evening of song and carols by Clane Choir in his home, in aid of our children with Autism. We are particularly grateful for this most generous gesture, given the recent death of his wife Joan. The evening was filled with Christmas spirit. Beautiful.

The whole school community wishes to thank Mary Joyce, School Secretary, for all her years of service to the school. Mary, an absolute lady, will be sorely missed. We wish her many years of joy and fulfillment in the next chapter of her life. Enjoy Mary.

