



Scoil Naomh Chaitríona

Newsletter - November

College Street,
Ballyshannon,
Co. Donegal
Tel : 071 98 51062

Email: officescoilchaitriona@gmail.com

Dear Parents

Despite an unprecedented and worrying start for us all in returning to school I am delighted and proud to congratulate our entire school community on an excellent first half term. The children have settled in wonderfully well, are following all our rules, and are working hard in class.

I hope you all have had a lovely Mid-Term Break and your children enjoyed a well earned rest. We have another busy two month in store and a few exciting projects in the pipeline in the lead up to Christmas.

November is Well-Being Month in Scoil Chaitríona

As I mentioned above, we are blessed with the kind, considerate and hard working children in our school. In Scoil Chaitríona we wish to not only develop life long learners but to also develop happy, healthy and confident children. Pupil well-being is at the core of all we do here and this month we are placing a particular emphasis on highlighting the importance of being healthy both mentally and physically.



Ms O'Reilly has put together an exciting programme of activities which our school will participate in over the next 4 weeks. Each week we will focus on a different theme. I have attached the details at the end.

School Lunches

The lunches we provide here in school are done so by Carambola, a government approved company. This company have their own in-house nutritionists who ensure that their lunches are of a high-quality, are healthy and provide our children with the correct amount of calories they need. Even the snacks provided are all high in fibre to promote healthy hearts and digestive systems. The lunches are very popular among our children and there is a great variety of healthy foods to choose from. If you are having problems with your log in details you can call carambola at **1850 812 300** or enter your email address at their website www.carambola.ie and they will reset your password for you.



News and Upcoming Events

Fundraising

On Friday the 9th October we hosted the GOAL Jersey Day fundraiser to raise money for vulnerable communities around the world. I am delighted to announce that we raised **€185**. Well done!

We are hoping to go ahead with our Christmas Hamper Draw this year. This draw brings in vital funds for our school each year which ensures your children get the best experience possible in school. We will be in touch with more information in the coming weeks.

Science Week

Next week (Monday 9th) is Science Week. Each classroom will carry out some interesting scientific experiments to explore the exciting side of Science. A big thank you to Mr. Bracken who helped co-ordinate an excellent Maths Week in October.

Creative Arts Programme

Last year we applied to participate in the Creative Schools Programme and we have been successful. A Creative Associate has been assigned to our school and she will work with our children to help develop their creativity, their artistic skills and work on a whole school project.

ICT

This is a very exciting school term with regards to technology. We have just purchased 9 new iPads which have been a big hit with our children. We feel these iPads will be a fun and novel way of helping our children learn. So far some children have worked on creating their own E-books on the devices and others have enjoyed playing games as a treat for their good behaviour.

This month we are also hoping to have Fibre Broadband installed and we are currently working on a new school website.

Congratulations!

We are thrilled to announce that Agnieszka Radzik in 1st Class came 3rd place in the Junior Section of The Allingham Art Competition. Her artistic flair runs in the family as her older sister Kasia had success in this competition and in the Michael O'Cleirigh Art competition last year. Well done. We're all very proud of you.

Improvements to the school grounds

In 2015/16 the school applied to the Department of Education for funding to make improvements to our playground. This year the application has been accepted and funding has been granted. In the near future we are planning to resurface our play area with tarmac and to enclose our grounds with gates and fencing to make it safer.