

A Chara,

Welcome to the November and December edition of our school newsletter. We are thrilled to share the latest happenings, achievements and upcoming events in our school. This newsletter aims to keep you informed about the incredible accomplishments of our students, highlight all the great work that is done in each class, and provide important updates regarding various initiatives and opportunities. We hope that through this newsletter, you will feel connected to our vibrant school community and celebrate the remarkable achievements of our students together.

Child Protection:

D.L.P: Ms. Moloney

Upcoming Events:

Annual 5k Event will take place on 19th January at 11am.

Catholic Schools Week: 19th-25th January.

Grandparents' Day: This will be celebrated on Thursday 23rd January. Further details will follow.

BOM Update:

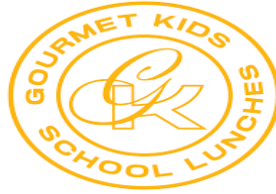
The following is a summary report of the Board of Management meeting on the 18th December:

- Child Protection Oversight Report was completed.

- School Uniform- see below for further details.

- Mr. Hyland: The Board and staff congratulate Mr. Hyland on his recent appointment as Principal of Ballygiblin N.S. Mr. Hyland will commence his new position in early February. We wish him much success and happiness in his new role and we thank him for all his dedication to our school for the past ten years.

- The Board wishes to congratulate the staff and pupils on their successful Christmas Show. The Board expresses its gratitude to all those who supported this. Míle buíochas go léir!



Hot School Meals:

We would encourage all parents/guardians to chat to your child about the food that they had in school every day to get an idea as to what food they like/ don't like. Please make sure to cancel your child's order if they are absent for a few days. We are trying to alleviate waste. We have now introduced a lunch box so parents can see how much food their child has eaten that day. We are hoping that this will help alleviate some of the waste that we are experiencing in school. Please ensure that the lunch box is returned washed out each day- thank you.



Supervision:

We wish to remind parents/ guardians that our school will open to receive pupils at the hour of 8.50am. No responsibility is accepted for pupils arriving before that time. Classes will commence each day at 9:00am. No pupils should arrive later than 8:55am.

Classes will end each day at 2.40pm (1:40 for Junior and Senior Infants). Parents who wish to have their children escorted home should make their own arrangements to have them met at the school gate and the person to escort them should be at the school not later than 2.40pm as the school cannot accept responsibility for looking after the children after that time.

Uniforms:

We are currently exploring the idea of changing the school uniform to a more a tracksuit based one. This has been discussed at Board and Parent Association level. A survey will be issued to parents in January to gauge opinions around this possible change- we would really appreciate your feedback.

Nut Allergies:

Please be aware that some pupils are allergic to nuts in the school. Therefore, we request that pupils refrain from bringing nuts into school.

Enrolment Reminder:

Enrolments for the '25/'26 school year opened on 2nd October. The closing date for our mainstream classes is 14th February and 24th January for our autism classes. Enrolment forms are available from the website or the school office.

Do It for Declan Fundraiser:

Thank you so much to everyone who supported our 'Do It For Declan' fundraiser. Between the bric a brac fundraiser, donations from the school and the proceeds of the Split the Pot draw for the month of October a total of €2809.30 was raised. This money is going to such a worthy cause, and it was heartwarming to see our community come together to support our 'Do It For Declan' fundraiser.



GAA Blitz:

The pupils in Mrs. McCaffrey's class participated in a football blitz in Ballyporeen in November. All the pupils gave their very best and had a great time- well done to everyone involved.



Olympic Handball Tournament:

On 16th December pupils from 5th and 6th Class participated in Olympic Handball Tournament in Clerihan. This was a fantastic experience, with great teamwork and enthusiasm on display throughout the day. Our pupils did themselves proud and had a great time- maith sibh go léir!



Science Week:

Science Week took place from 11th- 15th November. It was an action packed, and fun filled week for everyone with everything from experiments, Lego Spike to Bee Bots. Well done to the school staff for all their work in this.





Christmas Show:

Our Christmas Show took place on Wednesday 11th December in the Muintir Hall. Each class performed spectacularly and showcased their many talents. Well done to all the staff and pupils for all their hard work. Sincere thanks to Muintir na Tíre for allowing us to use their beautiful facilities. Thank to everyone for supporting this event- a total of €1065 was raised for the school. The Parents' Association are very grateful to everyone who supported their raffle on the night also. Congratulations to the following prize winners:

1. Robyn O' Loughlin
2. Bobby Kennedy
3. Gráinne Kelly
4. Anna and Aidan Healy
5. Lesley O' Dwyer
6. Jack Kelly
7. Edmond O Keefe
8. Roisín O' Keefe





Christmas Annuals:

A big thank you to our wonderful P.A. who gifted each child in the school a Christmas annual. The children absolutely love receiving these and were very busy in the weeks up to Christmas working away on these.



Tinsel Times:

Our Tinsel Times went on sale in December. Each child in the school made a fabulous contribution to the publication. As is tradition, our 6th Class chose a charity of their choice to which the proceeds of the funds will go directly to. Dogs Trust Ireland were the chosen charity. Once we are aware of the total funds collected we will let you know. A big thank you to Mr. McGrath and his class for all their work in putting this together- maith sibh go léir!

Junior Achievement in Infants:

Sincere thanks to Caitríona Kennedy for delivering the module 'Ourselves' with Ms. Hannigan's class in November and December. The class learned all about money and how to recognise coins up to 20 cents and to use coins up to 10 cents. They really enjoyed these fun activities.



St. Vincent de Paul Food Appeal:

Thank you to everyone who donated items to our annual appeal for St. Vincent de Paul. We were overwhelmed with the response and delighted to know that each hamper donated will be going to such a worthy cause. On 6th December we welcomed Kieran Stafford from St.Vincent de Paul to the school who spoke to pupils from 3rd-6th Class about the great work that this organisation does. We are very grateful to him for taking the time to visit us.





A huge thank you to our students, families, and staff for their incredible generosity in this year's **Hope Shoe Box Appeal**. Together, we collected over 50 shoe boxes filled with thoughtful gifts, bringing joy to children in need this holiday season.

It's inspiring to see the kindness in our school community. Your support shows the true meaning of giving, and we're grateful to be part of such a generous community.

Thank you for making a difference!

[The Three Little Pigs](#)

On 4th December pupils from Ms. Hannigan's and Mrs. McCaffrey's class travelled to the White Memorial Theatre in Clonmel to see a production of the Three Little Pigs by the Talisman Theatre Company. Despite the wet conditions, this was such an enjoyable event followed by a hot chocolate and gingerbread biscuits when the pupils returned to school.





[Curriculum Update for Term 2:](#)

The Stay Safe programme will be taught in January. This programme is part of the Social, Personal and Health Education curriculum which all primary schools are required to implement. Cooperation between parents and teachers is essential to the success of this programme. It is important that parents are aware of the content of the Stay Safe lessons and are able to discuss the lessons with their children. Your child may bring home worksheets which will inform you on the topics being covered in class and how you can reinforce the messages at home. Please find attached information for parents. Links to all content are included in at the link below:

[Stay Safe](#)

Weaving Wellbeing:

We are excited to be introducing the Weaving Wellbeing Programme into the school this term. The Weaving Wellbeing programme teaches children evidence-based skills and strategies to develop positive mental health and well-being. It is based on Positive Psychology, which is the science of well-being. The aim of the programme is to empower children to become active participants in creating, maintaining and boosting positive mental health throughout their lives. Further information will be sent home in January.

