

October

NEWSLETTER

Dear Families,

Happy Halloween! We hope everyone is ready for an evening full of fun, laughter, and safe trick-or-treating. As the children head out in their costumes tonight, we also hope you've all enjoyed a lovely, restful mid-term break.

Well done to all our pupils on completing such a successful first half-term of the school year! October was a busy and exciting month here at St. Cronan's. We held two wonderful assemblies where we introduced our new anti-bullying policy, "**Bí Cineálta**" - *Be Kind*. Together, we discussed how everyone deserves to be treated well, kept safe, and included. We also spoke about the difference between a disagreement and bullying: while it's never nice to have a fight or fall-out, bullying is something that is **targeted, harmful, and repeated**. You'll find a helpful visual at the end of this newsletter that explains this clearly.

It's been a very special half-term. Our Nurture Room welcomed some chick eggs in an incubator and cared for them lovingly until they hatched - what an exciting day that was! A big thank you to **Mr Taaffe, Mr Farrell**, and all the children in the Nurture Room for sharing the chicks (and so much wonderful learning) with everyone across the school.

Our **2nd Class** children enjoyed a visit from the **Gardaí**, and **Ms Quinn's Class** had a fantastic session with author **Tarsila Kruse**. Throughout the term, many visitors have complimented our children's kindness, manners, and enthusiasm - something that fills us all with pride.

As we look ahead, I'm really looking forward to welcoming everyone back on **Monday, 3rd November**. The next half-term promises to be full of **learning, laughter, songs, poems, art, and excitement** as we begin preparing for our **annual Christmas performance**.

Wishing you all a safe and spooky Halloween night! 🎃

Warmest Wishes,
Edel Blake



Class Libraries

In 2024/2025 we worked really hard to increase the range of books available in our beautiful school library and in the Junior Infant and Senior Infant Class libraries. Children's Books Ireland and fundraising helped us achieve this goal. Now for 2025/2026 we will be focusing on improving our class libraries in 1st and 2nd class. This effort has been greatly helped by a Grant given to us from the daa Community Fund in August 2025. Thank you to daa. Our children's voices are important to us so the children's Library Squad will be collecting wish lists from classes in the coming weeks. We will also be welcoming our Champion of Reading - Shane Heggarty back to work with 1st classes on 5th November.

Dyslexia Awareness - October

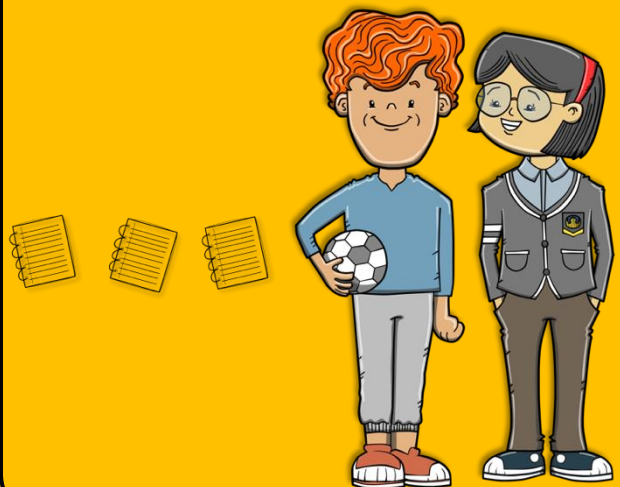
October was Dyslexia Awareness month. Many of our wonderful children are dyslexic. 15 - 20% of the world's children are dyslexic and it can cause significant difficulty for children in the area of language. It can vary from child to child - some children will struggle with spelling, some with reading and some with writing. Dyslexia can only be diagnosed by a psychologist. Nessy has some wonderful resources free for Dyslexia Awareness month - they are available here:

<https://www.nessy.com/en-us/free-resources/dyslexia-awareness-month-2025>

To all of our school community that are dyslexic please always remember that it does not define who you are, you are wonderful, worthy and bright. All of us in St. Cronan's Junior School are so proud of you and we see how hard you work.

Dates for your Diary

We understand how busy all our families are. We try to give notice of upcoming dates as early as possible. On the next page we have a list of dates for upcoming events that we have. Please note that all dates are subject to change under circumstances beyond our control but changes will be communicated with you. Please screenshot them for your phone!



Date	Event	Time
Wednesday 5 th November	Parent's Association Meeting: Room 2A	7:30PM
Wednesday 19 th November	Staff Meeting. School Closed for Junior & Senior Infants at 1:30 and 1 st /2 nd Class at 1:40	1:30 - Junior & Senior Infants 1:40 - 1 st & 2 nd Class - please note senior school is closed at usual time
Friday 28 th November	Parent's Association Jumper Swap	
Sunday 14 th December	Parent's Association - Christmas Bingo	
Tuesday 16 th December	Annual Christmas Show in hall - no tickets: donation at the door	9:30 - Junior Infants 10:30 - Senior Infants 11:30 - 1 st Class 12:30 - 2 nd Class
Friday 19 th December	$\frac{1}{2}$ day for Holidays	11:45 - Junior & Senior Infants home 11:55 - 1 st & 2 nd Class home
Friday 9 th January	Enrolment for Junior Infants 2026 closes	
Thursday 29 th January	Grandparent's Day - Please note not all classes participate - invitation comes via Aladdin from Class Teacher	Junior & Senior Infants: 1PM 1 st & 2 nd Class: 2PM
Wednesday 4 th & Thursday 5 th February	Parent Teacher Meetings - Teacher will make appointment times available via Aladdin in January.	1 st & 2 nd Class will go home at 2:20 PM

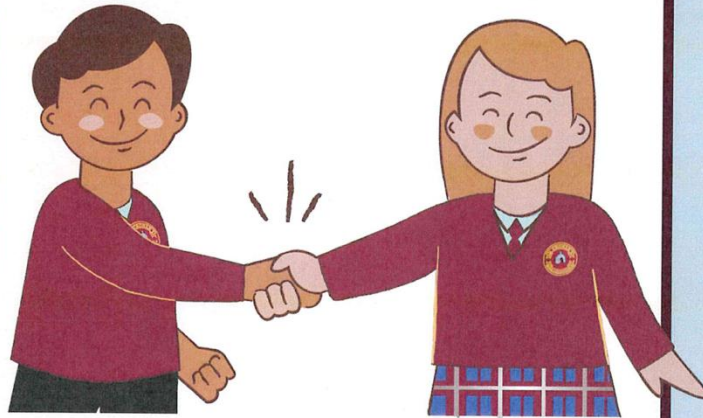
Date	Event	Time
4 th March	World Book Day - Fireside Read with teddy for Junior & Senior Infants	Evening Time - invitations will be issued
18 th March	Annual Spring Fair & Spring Hat Competition	2PM - 4: 30 PM
27 th March	$\frac{1}{2}$ Day for holidays	11:45 - Junior & Senior Infants home 11:55 - 1 st & 2 nd Class home
23 rd May	Communion Day - Please note Photos will be taken the next week - date is being arranged	
Monday 29 th June	2 nd Class Graduations	9:30: Room 2A & 3A 11:00: room 19 & 20

BÍ CINEÁLTA!

Our rules for a safe and happy school!

Get help!

Tell someone!



If you think that you are being bullied or someone else is being bullied, tell a teacher or trusted adult. They can help!

Bullying is when someone keeps being mean to others over and over.

IS IT
BULLYING?

1

TARGETED?

Is the behaviour targeted at a specific student or group of students?

2

HARM

Is the behaviour intended to cause physical, social or emotional harm?

3

REPEATED?

Is the behaviour repeated?

If the answer to each of the questions is **Yes**, then the behaviour is bullying behaviour and the behaviour should be addressed using the Bí Cineálta Procedures.

If the answer to any of the questions is **No**, then the behaviour is not bullying behaviour. Strategies to deal with inappropriate behaviour are provided for within the school's Code of Behaviour.