



# Scoil Naisiúnta Rónáin Naofa Cluain Lua

St. Ronan's N.S., Clonloo, Boyle, Co. Sligo

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Dear Parents / Guardians,

20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

It was so good to see so many at 'Rock to the Flock' our bi-annual Christmas Nativity Play. What a show it was. The children were amazing and really enjoyed performing for you all. Thank you to all of you for your support in helping the children prepare and in particular to Ms. Jordan, Ms. McGovern, Collette and Noelle for preparing the children so well for their performance, it was wonderful and a great start to this beautiful season of Christmas. Thank you to the Parents Association for all the hard work that went into collecting prizes for the raffle and for the teas and coffees. Thanks too to the many individuals and companies who donated prizes, there were a huge amount of prizes collected. It was a very successful raffle so thanks to you all again for supporting this. Thanks to Andrew and Kathleen for the lights and backdrop and to Fr. Joe for the alb, microphone and bringing chairs to and from the school and to Clonloo Hall Association for the use of the hall. I think the children deserve a party and movie today after all that!

Children will finish school today at 12.00pm for their holidays and return on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> January.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very blessed and happy Christmas and every best wish for 2025.

## Staffing

We welcome Ms. Henry to Clonloo School. Ms. Gallagher has gone on maternity leave and Ms. Henry will work in SET (Jobshare). We wish Ms. Gallagher the very best and thank her for all the wonderful work she did with the pupils, parents and staff here in Clonloo.

## Monthly Assemblies

Children showcased and spoke about their work during our monthly assemblies. Congratulations to those students who received Students of the Month, Sports Stars of the Month, Bronze and Silver Awards. All children are continuing to work towards the Bronze, Silver or Gold awards.

## Students of the Month

Month	Class Room	Pupil
September	Junior	Dylan Queenan
	Senior	Ethan O'Dowd O'Neill
October	Junior	Olivia Hadzi Jovancic
	Senior	Alfonso Neary
November	Junior	Oleksii Bachu
	Senior	Illia Tarasov
December	Junior	Ava Tighe
	Senior	Violetta Shcheglova

## **Sports Stars of the Month**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Class Room</b>	<b>Pupil</b>
September	Junior	Anhelina Revutska
	Senior	Rohan Marshall
October	Junior	Ciaran Gallagher
	Senior	Antoni Zderkiewicz
November	Junior	Todor Hadzi Jovancic
	Senior	Sebastian Reynders
December	Junior	Adelina Revutska
	Senior	Laoise Moore

### **Parents Association**

The PA would like to ensure they have contact details for all parents and the necessary permissions under GDPR. In an effort to support this work, the school has distributed a letter from the PA to each parent. Any questions please contact Gráinne on 0858015578 or email [cloonloopa@gmail.com](mailto:cloonloopa@gmail.com)

### **Wellbeing**

The school is focused on Wellbeing this year through our DEIS school plan linking in our School Self Evaluation. Lots of activities will take place during the year to help promote Wellbeing throughout our school. Thanks to Ms. Conlon (Principal Admin Days cover) for heading up our schools' application for the Amber Flag which focuses on Wellbeing. This month the children created a Wellbeing Advent Calendar with a different activity each day such as hot chocolate on Monday, no homework on another day and no uniform on another.

### **Pupils Voice**

Pupils voice is very important in our school and we value input and feedback from our pupils. With that in mind every child from 1<sup>st</sup> class to 6<sup>th</sup> class is on one of our 4 pupil committees. Green School, Student Council, Active School and Amber Flag (Wellbeing). Children bring their ideas to the various committee meetings which are held each month. Each committee has various roles led by the children such as Chairperson, Secretary and PR. These give the children a wonderful voice in how we can improve our school and do things they like and enjoy.

### **Music Generation Classes**

Music Generation classes are continuing in both rooms and the children are very much enjoying their weekly classes.

The Senior Room children will take part in Music Generation Sligo Schools Celebration Concert 2025, on Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at the Knocknarea Arena, ATU Sligo at 12pm.

This annual event is a cherished tradition for Music Generation Sligo performing schools, providing a memorable platform for young musicians to showcase their talents and experience the thrill of performing on a large stage. It is an invaluable opportunity for students to develop their confidence, teamwork, and musical abilities to an audience of family, friends and school communities. This year there will be over 600 young performers from 17 of Music Generation's performing schools from 2024-2025. We are excited to celebrate the achievements of our students and look forward to a memorable performance. Family and friends will be able to attend the event and tickets will be available to purchase at an accessible rate prior to the event. Details will be sent at a later date.

### **Yes to Languages Programme**

Children in the Senior Room took part in 10 weeks of French lessons delivered by Carol Conlon a French Tutor. The children prepared a project showing all they had learned and then presented to their teachers last Friday. It was wonderful to see how the children had really engaged and enjoyed the programme. Très Bien! This programme was funded by The Department of Education through the Yes to Languages Programme.

### **Creative Clusters and BLAST Arts Project**

The two creative programmes of Creative Clusters and BLAST Arts Project will be delivered in Terms 2 and 3. Thank you for returning the photograph permission forms in preparation of our schools' participation in these programmes. Further details will follow.

### **Stay Safe**

All classes are currently being taught the Stay Safe programme.

### **Lego Spike**

Lego Spike is part of Lego Education programmes - a series of fun, real-world engineering tasks with lesson plans; easy-to-use app; block-based programming. Children in the Senior Room will engage with Lego Spike for 2 weeks in January. Staff attended training during the summer on this programme and as a result of this training can rent the kits from Sligo Education Centre.

### **Parent Teacher Meetings**

Parent Teacher Meetings take place each February in our school. Staff will be in touch with you before the mid-term break to arrange a meeting. If you would like to discuss anything with your child's teacher(s) at any time, please phone the office to arrange or send in a note in your child's homework diary.

### **Tales to Scales Writing Workshop**

Children from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> classes will take part in a writing workshop in February through the Tales to Scales programme which links DEIS schools and the Fighting Words project. Fighting Words offers workshops which are designed to promote creativity and writing as a fun and powerful means of self-expression. The workshop will be fun and interactive, whilst also supporting different skills useful for inside and outside the classroom! Team work, presentation, writing, confidence-building and independent creation. Many thanks to Heather Rose for highlighting this programme to us.

### **Attendance Rewards**

As we are a DEIS school, promoting attendance is one of the key areas of focus in our DEIS plan. Monthly attendance awards are given at assembly. These monthly draws allow each child who has attended school for all 5 days in a particular week have their name entered into draw - up to 4 times each month. This is proving very popular with the children and causes great excitement each month as they get to choose their reward.

We also have the termly attendance rewards where those children who have not missed any days that term/half term receive an award. 4 children received an award yesterday.

### **Pupil Absences**

The school is obliged, by law, to inform Tusla when a pupil is absent for a total of 20 school days in one school year. Teachers have to fill in the category of absence when informing Tusla. **Any absence must be explained to the class teacher by either a written note in the homework journal, text to the school mobile, message on Seesaw or email.**

You can contact the school on the day of the absence or send in a note when your child returns to school. If your child is absent for 3 days or more without an explanation the school will contact you to discuss the absence. Any explanation must come from the parent and we cannot accept an explanation from a child. The reason for the absence is then recorded on the Aladdin system and unexplained absences are marked as such on the system. A letter will be sent to you if your child is absent for 15 days and again if they reach 20 days to confirm that Tusla will be notified.

#### **Information from Board of Management Meeting, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

- Child Protection Policy and Risk Assessment was reviewed and ratified. Policy is available on the website. A hard copy of the policy will be given to the Parents' Association and is available upon request from the office.
- Annual Children Protection Review was conducted.
- Bí Cinealta - Staff will attend training in January on the new Anti-Bullying policy which the school will be implementing. Pupils and Parents will be consulted in due course regarding the new policy in preparation for it being ready to be implemented in September 2025.
- Stay Safe - Stay Safe is currently being taught in all classes
- The Board welcomes and are pleased to hear of all the good work and initiatives that the school are taking part in and would like to thank all staff for their hard work and commitment to the pupils.
- The Board would like to thank you the parents for your continued support of Cloonloo N.S. and to wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas and New Year.
- The Board would also like to thank the Parents Association for organising the prizes for the raffle and refreshments after the Nativity Play.

#### **Important Upcoming Dates**

**Christmas Holidays** - Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December at 12pm

**Back to school** - Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> January

**Lego Spike** - Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> to Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> January

**St. Brigid's Day - Bank Holiday** - Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February - no school

**Mid-Term break** - Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> and Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February

**Tales to Scales Writing Workshop** - Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> February - 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> classes

**St. Patrick's Day - Bank Holiday** - Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> March - no school

**Easter Holidays** - Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> April to Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> April

**Swimming** starts for 6 weeks on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> April

**Bank Holiday** - Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> May - no school

**Communion Day** - Cloonloo Church 11.00am

**Bank Holiday** - Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June - no school

**Music Generation Concert** - (Senior Room children), Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> June, ATU Sligo, 12pm

**Summer Holidays** - Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> June

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Surlis

Principal

c.c. Staff and Board of Management members