

NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTMAS 2025



CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL

A big thank you to all the families who donated to our Appeal this year. We had a fantastic response; it's getting bigger every year! www.teamhope.ie

GEANSAÍ'S FOR GAZA

We also hosted another Gaza appeal this year on Thursday 18th of December. We encouraged everyone to wear a Festive jumper and donate €2 to the appeal. We raised €470. The money will be donated to Unicef to support the children suffering in the conflict in Gaza.

<https://www.unicef.org/>

THE BLESSING OF BABY JESUS AND CHRISTMAS ASSEMBLY

Fr Nicholas attended the school on Tuesday 16th of December to bless Baby Jesus for our school crib. This is a lovely Christmas tradition at CBS. Then on the 19th of December, we will have a festive Assembly in the hall, including a Christmas sing-song.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:

The Parents' Committee will hold their annual Christmas Raffle on Friday, the 19th of December. Can I remind parents to ensure the draw cards are returned ASAP to ensure you are included in the draw. We appreciate your support.

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS:

Seeing such a huge turnout for our Christmas Concerts was terrific. The staff and children worked hard to pull them together. A big thank you for your generosity; we raised just over €1,000 we now have the money we need for the upstairs Sensory Pathway.

SCHOOL HOT DINNERS:

Please note that hot dinners will not be available on Friday 19th. Children will receive a treat bag from the company instead. Following a tendering process, we will be changing service providers at the end of January. This transition may take a little getting used to, but we will be here to support everyone; Glanmore was the successful company.

ATTENDANCE:

We want to remind parents that the Attendance Policy is available on our website, and our Education Welfare Officer (EWO) is Ms. Sinead McCourt. Attendance is being continually monitored, and issues will be raised early to try and reduce absenteeism. We are also encouraging families to please take holidays during school holiday periods and not during term time. The loss of school days due to holidays can be significant, and the days add up. Also, if you are leaving our school, **you must fill in a form in the office to provide the details of the next school** your child will be attending. Once this form is completed the places are free for the next child on our waiting list.

SCHOOL ABSENCE PROCEDURE:

Please be aware **that the roll book is called at 10.00am each morning, any child arriving after this time must be marked as absent**, but a note can be added to state that the child has arrived late. The roll book is a legal document and cannot be changed. When a child is absent from school, parents/guardians are asked to please send a note of explanation to the class teacher using the 'Aladdin Connect' System only. This is essential to complete the Daily Attendance Roll. Aladdin Connect provides us with the information we need to monitor attendance. We want to stress the importance of school attendance; however, it is important to remember that if a child is sick, they must stay home.

PARENT-TEACHER MEETINGS

Thank you for attending your child's parent-teacher meeting in November; we had a great turnout. Research proves that children achieve higher academically when they see strong links between school and home.

JUNIOR INFANT ENROLMENT 2026

Junior Infant places have been allocated for 2026. We received an extremely high number of applications. If you know someone seeking a place please tell them to fill in the online enrolment form and we will place them on our waiting list. The criteria for enrolment is available on our admissions policy.

ANNUAL FLAG DAY

A huge thank you to the volunteers that come to support us this year. We almost cancelled the collection; just over €1300 was raised. This money will go directly to our Sports and Physical Activity department, paying for buses to matches, swimming when needed and updating our sports equipment.

MUSIC GENERATION

Our 3rd class after-school orchestra will perform with Music Generation on Sunday the 15th of December in Dundalk Grammar School. The children will have the opportunity to perform for their families and showcase their musical development to date. This is a fantastic opportunity for our pupils; we can't wait to see them progress further.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS:

The school will close on Friday the 19th of December. School reopens on the 5th of January 2026.



WE WANT TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WISH YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY
CHRISTMAS AND A PEACEFUL NEW YEAR.
NOLLAIG SHONA AGUS ÁTHBHLIAIN FAOI MHAISE DAOIBH GO LÉIR.