

NUACHTLITIR NA GAELSCOILE (4)

18/01/'17

1. **BLIAIN NUA**: Tá súil agam go raibh Nollaig álainn ag gach duine agus go mbeidh 2017 lán de shonas do phobal uile na Gaelscoile. As we begin another year, our wish for the entire Gaelscoil community is for happiness, good health and lots more worthwhile and exciting learning opportunities!
2. **IMEACHTAÍ NA NOLLAG**: The lead up to the Christmas holidays was very busy as always, with a host of seasonal activities taking place. Our annual Carol Service was very well attended and the páistí treated us all to a very special evening of drama, music and song, depicting the true spirit of Christmas. Míle buíochas to each of the múinteoirí who had their classes so well prepared and especially to An Múinteoir Emer whose class told the story of the Nativity through drama and to An Múinteoir Lísá who led the school choir. **Busking for Charity** was both enjoyable and successful with dozens of páistí, lots of múinteoirí and many tuismitheoirí joining in, helping to raise €426.16 for the local branch of the **St. Vincent de Paul Society**. **Jean Robertson** painted the windows at the school's entrance with festive artwork again this year, creating a lovely atmosphere for all those coming through the main door. The **Cookie Decorating** and **Christmas Raffle** were very successful as always, with a Céad Míle Fáilte in each classroom to the many tuismitheoirí who organised the cookie decoration. **Frosty the Snowman** made his annual appearance, much to the delight of all. **Rang 6** pupils took on the task of selling the raffle tickets with the main prize, the television, going to **Ciarán Ó Rinn** of Seomra 4. All raffle prizes were generously donated by parents and extended family members and we are very grateful for the ongoing support for this and for the many other school events throughout the year. Apart from creating a great sense of excitement throughout the school, a total of €1489.07 was raised, money which will be spent on sporting and other educational equipment for the children. Míle buíochas le gach duine a chabhraigh – many thanks to everyone for the wonderful co-operation from all, making these events possible. **Ní neart go cur le chéile!**
3. **CÁRTAÍ NOLLAG**: As always, we are collecting used Christmas Cards which will be re-used for art and craft projects in the local Delta Centre. These can be dropped into the school any day before the end of the week.
4. **FÁINNÍ CISPHEILE**: The basketball hoops which were installed in Halla na Gaelscoile over the Christmas break are a welcome addition to our sporting facilities and are in constant use, especially by the senior classes. These were purchased from the money raised by Bag Packing last term, done by parents, Rang 6 and Gaelcholáiste T.Y. volunteers. Míle buíochas leo go léir and also to Keith Gavin (Daidí Shauna agus Ailbhe) who arranged to have them installed.
5. **PEACE PROMS**: Preparations are well underway with our school choir for the forthcoming Peace Proms event, under the direction of An M. Lísá. This is a special cross border initiative involving many schools coming together for a series of concerts. Our choir will be singing in the R.D.S. Arena in Dublin on Saturday, 4th February at 2 o'clock and it is always a very special and worthwhile event. Míle buíochas to An M. Lísá for her time and commitment to the choir and to the choir members from Rang 3 for their enthusiasm and hard work in representing the Gaelscoil.
6. **DEARCÁN NA NDAOINE**: 'The People's Acorn' project which was commissioned for the garden on Áras an Uachtaráin and which will include writings for pupils in Rang 5 (An M. Cian) is now well underway. The outside bronze surface of this large Acorn will be made of 100's of real life **casts of people's pencils**. We have been invited to donate used pencils for this purpose and many

children have already done so. We would like to extend this invitation to the broader Gaelscoil community – pupils, parents and extended family members. It is a lovely way to be directly represented in this exciting project. Pupils from Rang 5 will collect the pencils from each class every day over the next week or they may be dropped into a special collection in Oifig na Gaelscoile.

7. **ÓCÁIDÍ EAGLASTA**: Míle buíochas leis an **Athair Conn** who celebrated a special Mass for us on December 8th, the Holy Day. **Catholic Schools' Week** takes place from Sunday January 30th to Saturday February 5th and we in Gaelscoil Cheatharlach will be celebrating in a variety of ways, beginning with a special **Mass** to be held at 12 noon on Monday February 2nd in **Askea Church**, in conjunction with the Gaelcholáiste. Parents and other family members are most welcome to join us. **Rang 2** are looking forward to having lots of seantuistí/grandparents visiting their classrooms during that week when they will share lots of stories and memories of their schooldays and their childhood. **Rang 6** are currently preparing for their Confirmation on February 18th. They will spend Friday next, as a **Lá Oidhreachta/ Heritage Day**. They will begin with a visit to Carlow Cathedral that morning and continue to Old Leighlin, where they will visit the Holy Well and Old Leighlin Cathedral. There, they will be met by a guide who will give them a talk on the history of the Cathedral and the local area. They will continue their preparations on 14th February, a **Lá Spioradálta/Retreat Day** with the Graigucullen Youth Ministry Team. Buachaillí agus cailíní from Rang 2 are also busy preparing for their First Penance on February 28th (Séipéal Easca, 7p.m.) Míle buíochas to all the múinteoirí for the huge amount of preparatory work for these special occasions and to the tuismitheoirí who support the children in preparing for these important milestones.
8. **CRUINNITHE**/Parent/Teacher Meetings for children in all Naíonáin Bheaga/Junior Infant Classes will take place during the week beginning 13th February. Appointments will be sent home the week before then.
9. **CUAIRTEOIRÍ SPEISIALTA**: We were delighted to welcome the **Nore Valley Park** back to the Gaelscoil today, bringing with them a special incubator with eggs which we expect to hatch fluffy chicks over the next couple of weeks! They have taken up residence in **Seomra 4**, causing great excitement, and their progress under the special lamps will be closely monitored by all classes in the coming weeks. All classes from Rang 1 – Rang 6 will be treated to a special production of the Irish legend 'Diarmuid agus Gráinne' by visiting theatre group **Clan Cluana Theatre** in Halla na Gaelscoile on Tuesday, February 7th. Special performances such as this are made possible by the continued support of parents through the **Voluntary Contributions** and through supporting fund raising initiatives. The páistí benefit greatly from these extra treats - **míle buíochas le gach duine**.
10. **AONACH NA GAELSCOILE**: A date to be included in the diary is **Sunday, 2nd April** when the annual Gaelscoil Fete takes place. **SAVE THE DATE!**
11. **BÁIBÍNÍ NUA**: Comhghairdeas to Múinteoirí Aisling agus Jill, both of whom had baby boys recently.
12. **ÉADAÍ SCOILE**: As we regularly need changes of clothes for our smaller páistí in the event on little accidents, we would be grateful to receive **plain black tracksuit bottoms** which you may no longer require.
13. **TINNEAS**: This time of the year always sees a rise in incidents of sickness with flu and other illnesses. While we always strive to have high levels of attendance for all our pupils, please do not send your child to school if they are clearly not well enough to be in class. A day in the leaba often helps to avoid longer stints of absence and can prevent the spread of infections etc.
14. **SOS LÁR-THÉARMA**: A reminder that this term's mid-term break takes place from 20th – 24th February. This may suit some families when planning holiday breaks.

GLÓR CHEATHARLACH NEWS January 2017

- **RANGANNA GAEILGE**: Spring series of Irish Classes for adults begins in February. Elementary level on Mondays commencing 6th February. Intermediate levels on Tuesdays commencing 7th February. All classes from 7-9pm in County Council Offices, Athy Road for 10 weeks. Fee €180.

Details and registration online on www.gaelchultur.com. Enquiries to Glór Cheatharlach 085 1340047, 087 2857048

- **COMHRÁ GAEILGE:** Informal Irish conversation for adults. Every Wednesday morning in **Carlow Museum**, College Street from 10.30-11.30am. No charge. Also in **Reddys**, Tullow St on the first Thursday of each month at 9pm and in **Teach Bar**, Tullow St. on the last Thursday of each month at 9pm.
- **SEAN-NÓS DANCING:** Sean-Nós Classes with champion dancer Irene Cunningham in Carlow Town Hurling Club on Tuesdays. Children and adults – all ages. Basic level at 6pm followed by intermediate level at 7pm. Details: 087 2857048, 085 1340047.
- **AIFREANN:** Sunday Mass in Irish in Carlow Cathedral at 6.15pm on the 1st & 2nd Saturdays of each month. Singers and musicians required for the choir. Readers also. Tel: 087 2857048.

Le gach deaghuí,

An Múinteoir Aingeal (Príomhoide)