

30/11/'16

Nuachtlitir na Gaelscoile (3)

1. **COMÓRADH 35 BLIAIN**: The concert celebrating 35 years of Gaelscoil Eoghain Uí Thuairisc was a resounding success! With the standard of entertainment being of extremely high quality, it was a most enjoyable evening for all and a fitting commemoration of the school's success to date. Buíochas mór to all who contributed to the special evening, most especially **Bríde de Róiste**, founder and first principal of the Gaelscoil, who was instrumental in planning the occasion.
2. **COMHBHRÓN**: It was with immense sadness that we heard of the recent passing of **Brian Barr**, devoted Daddy to Seán (Rang 3), after a short illness. We offer Seán, his Mammy Caroline and the extended family our sincere sympathy and continued support at this very difficult time. Ar dheis Dé go raibh anam uasal Brian.
3. **CRUINNITHE TUISMITHEOIRÍ/MÚINTEOIRÍ**: Míle buíochas to all the parents (Naíonáin Mhóra – Rang 6) who attended the recent **Parent/Teacher Meetings** and to all the múinteoirí for the huge amount of preparation involved. Helping each child to reach their full potential - academically, socially and emotionally – is what we all aim for and the co-operation between school and home helps greatly in this regard. Please support your child in any areas which their múinteoir may have suggested for improvement and encourage them to continue doing their best. Maith sibh go léir, a bhuaichailí agus a chailíní!
4. **AONACH NA LEABHAR**: The School Book Fair ran very smoothly as always, due in no small part to **An M. Mícheál** who co-ordinated it and the wonderful help from **Cairde volunteers** who helped out as 'siopadóirí'. A total of €4,013.10 was spent during the week of the Fair, giving the school free books to the value of €2,407.86, a welcome addition to class libraries. The books were of very high quality with **Daidí na Nollag** requesting a private late night viewing to choose some lovely books for páistí of all ages who are doing so well at their reading!
5. **M.S. READATHON**: Many children in all classes wisely used the M.S. Readathon to set a little time aside each day for reading. As well as the thousands of books which gave great enjoyment to those children during that time, sponsorship raised for the M.S. Society amounted to €3,148.90, money which is greatly appreciated and which will be put to great use for those in need. Míle buíochas to all the buaichailí agus cailíní for their great efforts and to all their families and friends who encouraged and sponsored them.
6. **CUAIRTEOIR SPEISIALTA**: We are delighted to have the children's author, **Áine Ní Ghlinn**, visiting our two classes of **Rang 6** this week. Áine will discuss her own work, read from her books and give the páistí tips and guidance on their personal writing styles and techniques.
7. **PEACE PROMS**: The opportunity to take part in this wonderful choral collaboration has come our way again this year with **Rang 3, Seomra 9**, representing the Gaelscoil. Special thanks to **An M. Lísá**, who will shortly begin working with the páistí on the lovely repertoire involved. This work will culminate in joining with a number of other schools to perform with the **Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland** and a host of soloists in a concert which will take place at the **RDS Dublin** in early February 2017.
8. **CÚRSAÍ SPÓIRT**: Sporting activities continue to play a large part in the Gaelscoil. We have recently added **golf** to the list of sports available and are very grateful to the members of Carlow Golf Club who are currently providing a number of taster golf sessions for Rang 5 agus 6, with many pupils showing great promise! **Tag Rugby** with Wes Whitten of Carlow Rugby Club is continuing

with Rang 3 agus 4 while our Infant classes are thoroughly enjoying their **hurling** sessions with Leo Mc Gough of Setanta Hurling Club. The recent football blitz organised by O' Hanrahan's Club was a great success while Rang 2 agus 4 are making great progress at their weekly **swimming** sessions. Gaelscoil Hurlers and Camogie players will be taking part in the Cumann na mBunscol indoor competitions over the next few weeks and we wish them lots of fun and every success!

9. **SEASTÁIN CHISPHEILE**: We have recently invested in indoor basketball boards and rings for Halla na Gaelscoile, adding to our extensive array of indoor sports equipment. Funding for this was made available through our recent **Bag Packing at Tesco** and through the great co-operation between Rang 6 buachaillí agus cailíní, a team of Transition Year students from Gaelcholáiste Cheatharlach and the large group of parents who volunteered to supervise and help out. A total of €1,481.82 was raised, with remaining funds from the Bag Packing being set aside to add to our beautiful Infant Playground.
10. **BÁIBÍN NUA**: Comhghairdeas to **An M. Aisling** on the recent birth of her little son, Iarla. Fáilte mhór to **An M. Charlotte** who has recently replaced **An M. Jill** who is on maternity leave.
11. **TEAM HOPE**: A total of **187 shoe boxes** were donated by Gaelscoil families, each filled with lots of carefully chosen gifts which will make many less well-off children very happy this Christmas. Comhghairdeas le gach duine a chabhraigh, maith sibh go léir!
12. **GEAMAIREACHT**: As has been tradition here in the Gaelscoil for many years, we are beginning the run in to Christmas with a visiting pantomime, always a very popular event. This year's production of **Pinocchio** was thoroughly enjoyed by all classes (agus na múinteoirí freisin!). Special events like this are made possible by the continuing support through the **Voluntary Donation**. Míle buíochas le gach duine.
13. **AIFREANN SPEISIALTA**: Thursday, December 8th, is a holy day of obligation (Feast of the Immaculate Conception) and **An tAth. Conn** will say a special Mass here in the Gaelscoil at 12 noon. We invite parents, grandparents and extended families to join us. There will be a special blessing of the Infant Jesus from family cribs during the Mass and children are invited to bring their crib figures of Jesus to school on that day for this purpose. Preferably not priceless versions and depending on the child's age to be responsible for them! Please label clearly with your family name to avoid confusion when returning same to the children.
14. **SEIRBHÍS CHARÚL NA NOLLAG**: We will be gathering in **Askea Church on Thursday, 15th December**, at 7.30 for our traditional carol service. Rang 1, Seomra 8, will dramatize the story of the First Christmas and all classes from Rang 1 – Rang 6 will add to the occasion with various Christmas carols. Páistí from the infant classes and their families will be most welcome to attend this special event as always.
15. **FAOISTIN NA NOLLAG**: Christmas Confessions for páistí from Rang 3 - Rang 6 will take place in the Gaelscoil during the week before the Christmas break.
16. **BUSCÁIL**: Our annual busking for the local branch of **St. Vincent de Paul** will take place on **Monday and Tuesday, 19th and 20th December**, from 4 – 5:30p.m. Our school musicians of all ages will be welcome to come along and join in. Parents and other family members may also wish to join in, even to rattle a tambourine and add to the atmosphere.
17. **CÁRTAÍ NOLLAG**: As always, we ask that children **do not** exchange '**bought**' Christmas cards – this is an unnecessary expense and is unfair on children who may not receive any.
18. **MION AONACH NA NOLLAG**: We will again hold a **Mini Christmas Fair**, involving cookie decorating, candy canes and a raffle for wonderful prizes, including a television, donated as always by Michael Curran (míle buíochas leat Michael). Any money raised will go towards extra facilities for the Junior Playground. Tickets for the raffle will go on sale from Monday 11th at 50c each and candy canes can be bought for 20c. €1 will cover the cost of the Cookie Decorating Workshop (and the joy of eating the delicious results!). This will take place on **Thursday 15th** for Naíonáin Bheaga – Rang 2 and on **Friday, 16th** for all other classes. Buíochas mór to the **Cairde group** and their band of Christmas helpers for organising these lovely activities.

- 19. FÉASTAÍ NOLLAG:** All classes will have Christmas Class Parties on Wednesday, **21st December**. The páistí may bring in a small lón deas/treat lunch on that day. No food containing nuts or nut traces, no fizzy drinks or chewing gum please!
- 20. CRAINN NOLLAG:** Christmas trees (Noble and Nordman Fir) will be for sale at the Gaelscoil on Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th December. Very competitively priced at €30/8'; €28/7'; €26/6' and €24/5', with a donation of €3 to the school for each tree purchased. As many families traditionally put up their Christmas decorations at this time, it may be convenient to get the tree through the school.
- 21. LÁ OILIÚNA:** A reminder that all classes are free on **Friday, December 9th**, as the staff have a training day for the new Primary Language Curriculum.
- 22. GLÓR CHEATHARLACH - CÓISIR NA NOLLAG:** Céad míle fáilte to the Christmas Party being organized by Glór Cheatharlach and Spraoi family group on Saturday, 17 December from 3.00 - 4.30pm in the Cathedral Parish Centre, College Street. All Gaelscoil families (pre-schoolers, primary school children and parents) welcome to an afternoon of bilingual Christmas fun and games, storytelling, refreshments provided and of course a visit 'as Gaeilge' from Daidí na Nollag. The event is in co-operation with Glór na nGael so there's no charge but please let the organisers know if you are coming. Phone: Emma 085 1340047 or Bríde 087 2857048.

A reminder that school holidays begin on **Thursday, December 22nd**, with all classes free at 12 noon. The school reopens on **Monday, 9th January**.

Tá súil agam go mbeidh Nollaig shona, shíochánta ag gach duine. Wishing everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas.

Slán go fóill

An Múinteoir Aingeal

