



October 2018 (Available on website, read it in colour)

Dear parents and children,

This has been a busy half term for us all here at school. The children are well settled now and deserve a good rest as do we all. School closes this Thursday the 25th of October as our school is a polling station for the presidential election and then half term starts. We open again on Monday the 5th of November.

The children are invited to dress up tomorrow and donate €1/€2 in aid of Temple St Hospital. They can bring 1 or 2 treats to enjoy. It will be a lovely day to mark the beginning of half term. Clowns are not allowed.

In general if you wish to speak to a teacher please make an appointment as it is very difficult for a teacher to concentrate on a discussion when a class is waiting for their teacher. It can be disruptive and a more appropriate time would be more productive.

The children are a credit to you with their lovely healthy lunches. Thank you for your co-operation in this respect. It is wonderful to see the children eating lovely sandwiches and fresh fruit. Keep up the good work.

The Parents' Committee held a movie afternoon last Sunday and it was very successful. Pumpkins are for sale at the school gate €3.50.

The Gardaí gave a safety at Halloween talk to 5th and 6th class.



I wish you all a safe and happy half term.

Ms M Murphy



Maths Week 2018

The pupils in 3rd/4th class and in 4th class took part in a Lego workshop entitled Brickz4Kidz. They looked at time in terms of measurement then had to follow instructions to make a clock. They really enjoyed this and it made maths fun!



Classes took part in maths trails on the school grounds. Older pupils made maths trails for younger pupils.

Christmas Card fund raiser

This week the children had great fun when they each got to design their own Christmas card. Families will be able to order Christmas cards of their own child's design for this year's card writing.

A sample card of your child's card and an order form will be sent home in the coming weeks. This is a new fundraising initiative in the school so hopefully you will all love the cards, something very special to post to family and friends this Christmas!

We will hold our Christmas Carol Service on the 13th of December at 7pm in St Peter's and Paul's church. Pupils from all classes will sing a variety of songs. Guaranteed to get us all into the Christmas spirit.

Marathon Kids and Cross Country:

Marathon kids training is ongoing. The pupils are getting fitter and fitter. Mr Callaghan, Ms Byrne and Ms Andrews will travel to Santry in November 14th to take part in a run. Other classes are running a mile a day. It's a great initiative and will support a feeling of well being in our pupils.

Green School Committee: Ms Markham and Ms Gleeson and the committee have researched our food miles and organised a very successful WOW and COW day.

Choir:

Mrs Callaghan and Ms Farrell are training the choir up to take part in the National Choir of Ireland programme. They will travel during the second week in November to take part as a larger choir all singing the same songs. A number of schools come together for this. All in preparation for a big event in March. They sound wonderful, the acoustics in the hall with the new wooden floor is working brilliantly.

Cooking All Stars: Thank you to Supervalu Balbriggan for their extra support with ingredients.

Ms Andrews class are taking part in a healthy living project. They are learning how to cook healthy simple meals. Joyce and Suzanne are supporting. This will give the pupils life skills and encourage them to think about what they are eating.



Science week 2018

The teachers are busy planning science week which runs from the 11th to the 18th of November. We are looking forward to Science Week

Visit from Education Secretariat: Two representatives from archbishop's house visited the pupils in 3rd, 4th and 5th classes to see how we are getting with the new Grow in Love religion programme. The pupils sang, said prayers and shared their knowledge of stories from the bible. The representatives were very impressed by the pupils. 2nd class have started their preparation for their first holy communion. They had their enrolment ceremony last Sunday.

Our target areas for the next term are: Oral Language: The Environment Gaeilge: An Teilfís. We are looking at learning outcomes 4,5 and 6 in the New Primary Language Curriculum. Procedural writing is our focus of writing genre.

Music: Singing Numeracy : Problem of the Week, tables, mathematical language

Inclusion Games: Mrs Callaghan and Mr Callaghan brought a group of children to the Inclusion games in Trinity College.



Tree project

Ms Andrews' class are involved with a project to develop a tree trail in the village. Margaret Haugh from the Balrothery Community Group is leading this. The pupils will research native trees, write a short description which will be printed onto plaques and then onto trees. It is a super idea and we will be able to use this tree trail for educational purposes.