



Scoil Mhuire, Clontibret

Tullybuck, Clontibret, Co. Monaghan. Roll No. 18539A

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6th October 2022

October Newsletter

Dear Parent/Guardian,

School Closing

Please note that the school will be closed on **Wednesday 19th October**.

This is to facilitate whole Staff training in the Primary Language Curriculum, which is being delivered by PDST in the Department of Education.

Confirmation

Confirmation for the pupils in the Parish of Clontibret will be celebrated on **Sunday 7th May @ 3pm in St. Mary's Church Clontibret**.

School Policies

- The Child Safeguarding Statement has been reviewed and updated in line with the Children First Guidelines.
- The school's Anti-Bullying Policy has also been reviewed.
- The Child Safeguarding Statement and the Anti-bullying Policy are available on the school website, www.scoilmhuireclontibret.ie.

Dressing Up Day

As Mid Term and Hallowe'en approaches at the end of the month, we are inviting the pupils to dress up as any character they wish or as they would for Hallowe'en on **Friday 28th October**.

We ask parents to be creative and to use what you have already at home.

This is NOT to be an extra expense on anybody! Just a bit of fun to lift the "Spirits".

Boys Football League

The fifth and sixth class boys have been taking part in the Cumann na mBunscol football league over the past few weeks. They have had mixed fortunes with one victory and one defeat to date. They continue their league campaign this week with a match against Edenmore NS. Keep up the great work boys!

Gymnastics

Gymnastics for all pupils will begin on Thursday 10th November. This is a six-week programme, which will cover elements of the Gymnastics strand in PE. The programme is being delivered by Lisa Boyle of LA Gymnastics, Monaghan. This is a new venture for us and we hope the pupils will thoroughly enjoy it.

FAI Football for All Inclusion Programme

The pupils of our three Cairde classes will participate in a Monaghan United Football for All Inclusion Programme over the course of six weeks, beginning on Monday 7th November.

It proved to be extremely enjoyable for the pupils and staff involved last year and we look forward to the great fun again.

The programme will be delivered by Paul and Euan, FAI Primary Schools Coaching.

Teaching & Learning

As a school, we have identified the following as areas for greater emphasis, focus and attention.

Literacy:

- Motivation, Engagement & Choice
- Reading & Comprehension
- Vocabulary Development

Gaelige

- Gaeilge Neamhfhoirimiúil / Teanga ó Bhéal – Conversational Irish

SPHE – Social Personal & Health Education

- Relationships & Sexuality Education - RSE
- Well Being & Resilience
- Anti – Bullying

We need your support in recognising that the Learning and Reading Homework is as important as the written homework.

Tables, Spellings, Maths Facts and Reading are the foundation blocks for all other learning and need to be practised regularly.

Accelerated Reader

We are excited to announce that we have invested in the Accelerated Reader programme for the coming school year.

Accelerated Reader is a motivational tool to encourage and develop independent reading. The children will do an online reading assessment, which gives us a detailed overview of their comprehension ability. Based on this assessment each child will be provided with a book range from which they can select independent reading books from.

With over 40,000 books available for Accelerated Reader, every pupil can select books of an appropriate difficulty that also interest them. The children will take fun motivational quizzes to test their comprehension of the books they have read. The children will be set an individual points target to act as a form of motivation and they may receive a small prize for reaching their target each term.

In school, we will provide the children with time to read independently and take their quiz on their book. We will be asking that children also read at home as part of their homework.

The books they read can come from a variety of sources including the school and class library, local library, books they have at home, bookshops etc. You can search for suitable Accelerated Reader books via this free online tool: www.arbookfind.co.uk

You can also learn more about Accelerated Reader by visiting:

<http://www.renlearn.co.uk/accelerated-reader/>

As with any new programme it will take time to develop it within the school, so we thank you in anticipation of your continued support and understanding.

Music Programme – Dabbledoo Music

We are introducing a whole school music programme to all pupils called Dabbledoo Music.

Dabbledoo Music is an online programme for primary schools, developed over ten years of working with teachers, parents and children across Ireland.

The unique interactive resources, using existing classroom technology and simple classroom instruments, weekly lessons and planning content ensures that music is fun and engaging for all pupils.

There is a free parents' programme for music making at home at the following link:

<https://dabbledoo.com/p/parents>

Children's Book Festival – Monaghan County Libraries

We are delighted to announce that a number of classes will be participating in the livestreams with authors, Joseph Coelho, Paddy Donnelly and Dan Freedman as well as participating in the Big Book Quiz on 28th October. A fun filled month of books and reading!!

Donation of Apple MacBooks

On behalf of the pupils and staff, I would like to sincerely thank Derek Mc Cabe, Yahoo Dublin and Lorna Morgan for the very generous donation of 10 Apple MacBook Pro's to Scoil Mhuire.

I can assure you that the pupils will indeed get great use and benefit from them and indeed a lot of fun. Many thanks for your generosity.

Christmas Card Fundraising

With the weeks flying by, we decided to be extra creative again this year and have all our wonderful pupils design and create their very own Christmas card.

The children will be very busy completing their cards on or before **Thursday 20th October** when they have to be submitted for printing.

Every child will receive a free sample card with their very own barcode.

Packs of your child's card will be available for you to purchase if you wish.

Information on how to order will be sent home with the free sample card after the Mid Term Break.

Lotto

Many thanks to all who have participated in the Clontibret Development Association Lotto during the last school year. This fundraising activity raised €5,000 for the school.

We are planning to have the next cycle of the Lotto up and running in the next couple of weeks. Further details will be sent out next week.

In conclusion, please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any assistance to you.

I thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth Moorehead

Principal