

NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTMAS 2022



CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL

A big thank you to all the families who donated to our Appeal this year. We had a fantastic response; we even made the local papers! www.teamhope.ie

ADVENT COLLECTION:

The Parents' Committee would like to thank everyone for supporting the Advent Collection. The collected items were delivered to St. Patrick's Soup Kitchen, and the staff were delighted with the response.

UNIFORMS:

We have several festive activities planned for this week; therefore, children can wear a Christmas jumper over their school tracksuit for the rest of the week.

CHRISTMAS ASSEMBLY

On the 21st of December, we will have a festive Assembly in the hall, including a Christmas sing-song. Children will receive a selection box funded by the Parents Committee. If your child cannot receive a selection box due to ALLERGIES, please inform their class teacher.

THE BLESSING OF BABY JESUS

Fr Peter will attend the school on Tuesday 20th December to bless Baby Jesus for our school crib. This is a lovely Christmas tradition at CBS, and we have been unable to do it over the last couple of years.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:

The Parents' Committee will hold their annual Christmas Raffle on Tuesday, the 20th of December. Can I remind parents to ensure the cards are returned as soon as possible. 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 to the Students Council and their idea to collect donations. They collected €1000 over the two concerts; the Student Council will use this money throughout the year.

SANTA WALK:

Classes will be going on a Santa Walk tomorrow (weather permitting). The Student Council will be funding a Hot Chocolate for each pupil (from the funds collected at the Christmas Concert).

SCHOOL HOT DINNERS:

The hot dinners have proved to be a huge success. The children have had the opportunity to taste a variety of meals at this stage. I have asked the children to order what they like; please have a conversation with your child and find out what they like and don't like. We want to reduce waste and ensure that children eat dinner.

Please note that hot dinners will not be available on Wednesday 21st (half day). Children will receive a treat bag from the company instead.

PARENT-TEACHER MEETINGS:

Thank you for attending your child's parent-teacher meeting in November; we had a good turnout. They were the first face-to-face meetings since 2019. Research proves that children achieve higher academically when they see strong links between school and home.

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.

SCHOOL ABSENCE PROCEDURE:

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; it is important to remember that if a child is sick, they must stay home. We sent information from HSE regarding the increase in viruses and symptoms to watch out for.

JUNIOR INFANT ENROLMENT 2023

Application forms are available from our school website or the school office. We have received a high number of applications; therefore, if you would like your child to attend our school, please ensure that you complete the application form and submit it before the 27th of January 2023. Please note: A child must be 4 years before the 1st of July, the start year.

ANNUAL FLAG DAY

A huge thank you to the people that helped with our Flag Day this year. We raised just over €1,200. This money goes directly to our Sports and Physical Activity department.

MUSIC GENERATION

Last week, we had a special treat when our 2nd classes showcased their new string skills. They held a mini recital for their parents, and the sound of violins, violas, cellos and double basses filled the air. Our 3rd class after-school orchestra also performed for their families and showcased their musical development to date. This is a fantastic opportunity for our pupils, and we can't wait to see them progress further. Our dream of a full School Orchestra is coming to fruition.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS:

The school will close for a half day on Wednesday the 21st of December. School reopens on the 5th of January 2023. Half-day finishing times are
Junior & Senior Infants at 11.45am, 1st to 3rd Classes 12 noon, 4th to 6th Classes 12.10 pm



**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.