

NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTMAS 2023



CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL

A big thank you to all the families who donated to our Appeal this year. We had a fantastic response; the best so far! www.teamhope.ie

ADVENT COLLECTION:

We want to thank everyone for supporting the Reverse Advent Collection. The collected items will be delivered to St. Patrick's Soup Kitchen.

GEANSAÍ'S FOR GAZA

Thank you for your generous donations to our Gaza appeal. The money will be donated to Unicef to support the children suffering in the conflict. <https://www.unicef.org/>

CHRISTMAS ASSEMBLY

On the 22nd of December, we will have a festive Assembly in the hall, including a Christmas sing-song.

THE BLESSING OF BABY JESUS

Fr Stephen will attend school tomorrow to bless Baby Jesus for our school crib. This is a lovely Christmas tradition at CBS.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:

The Parents' Committee will hold their annual Christmas Raffle on Friday, the 22nd of December. Can I remind parents to ensure the cards are returned by tomorrow. We appreciate your support. The prizes are €250, a hamper, Smyths Vouchers and a voucher for Tony Kiernan's butchers.

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 for your generosity; we raised €1075 over the two concerts.

SCHOOL HOT DINNERS:

Please note that hot dinners will not be available on Friday 22nd. 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. 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 online pre-enrolment form and submit it before the 26th of January, 2023. Please note: A child must be 4 years old before the 1st of July, the start year.

ANNUAL FLAG DAY

We had a low turnout for volunteers this year, and we would like to thank those of you who helped us collect money; just over €520 was raised. This money goes directly to our Sports and Physical Activity department.

MUSIC GENERATION

We had a special treat when our 2nd classes showcased their new string skills. They held a mini recital for their peers, 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; 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 on Friday the 22nd of December. School reopens on the 8th of January.



**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.