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| **F**  **Friday 04th March 2016** |

**School Starts At 9, Be On Time!**

**IMPORTANT**

**School will close on Wednesday, 16th of March at 12.10pm for Spring Break. School will open again on Monday 4th of April at 9am.**

**Bus drivers know about this.**

**Assembly**

Yesterday was World Wildlife Day so Áine showed the children some clips from the National Geographic for Kids.

Áine also went through all the items in the lost property basket with the children at both assemblies. The basket has been overflowing in recent weeks with a large number of coats in particular. Some of these have been handed out this morning but there are still hoodies, cardigans, jumpers, coats, hats, scarves, gloves and even a tee-shirt remaining. All items will be donated to a local charity shop by the end of next week.

**Home school Community Liaison (HSCL)**

Hi all, this week I was busying meeting Junior Infant parents reviewing our reading workshops. Parents who met with me three months ago I am now arranging reviews to see how parents are getting on. The reading workshops are going so well. I am now offering one to one reading sessions with Senior Infants parents. Here I model how Verity reads with her class during Literacy. If interested please let me know and I can arrange a meeting. I have also got two maths slots on a Thursday if any parent is interested in learning maths skills with their child. Have a good weekend.

Máire HSCL

**Gaeilgeoir na Seachtaine:**

Comhghairdeas le Charlotte i Rang Lisa, le Nyko i rang Verity, le Meena i rang Louise, le Promise i rang Síne, le Odhrán i rang Mairéad, le Megan i rang Stephanie, le Amelia C i rang Nakita agus le Joe i rang Barbara.

**Fun Friday**

Next week’s Fun Friday is games. The children can bring some games to school but we have explained to them that tablets/IPads etc. should not be brought into school.

**Class News**

**4th class news**

4th class have been learning Mother’s Day Recipe Poems as part of their Learn Together work. The have tin whistle lessons every Thursday with Paul.

4th class are having gymnastics lessons for PE in the community centre.

In 4th class a lot of pupils dressed up for World Book Day.

By: Oscar Ponsonby & Toby Taylor

**Voluntary Contribution**

Information about voluntary contributions was sent home with your child this week. The amount requested was €70 per family. While the contribution is voluntary it is also very important to the running of the school and helps to pay for additional activities for the children during the school year.

This year there has been a substantial cost (approx. €10000) involved in taking the children to P.E. in the community centre each Wednesday and providing them with fully qualified dance and gymnastics teachers. This cost includes paying for the hire of the community centre and buses. Any money collected from the voluntary contributions will be used to help pay these costs so all donations are gratefully received.

**Carambola Drinking Bottles**

As you know Carambola are no longer providing drinks in the school lunches and children are receiving an extra snack instead. As a result of this the children were provided with non-spill drinking bottles. A lot of children are not bringing their bottles with them each day. Please ensure your child brings a filled bottle every day which can then be topped up at our filter taps.

**Moving On?:**

If any families have plans to move on at the end of this school year, please let Edwina in the office know as soon as possible. If we know places are becoming available we can offer them to other children on our waiting lists.

**World Book Day**

Thank you to all the children (and staff) who dressed up as their favourite characters for World Book Day.

**Leap Year Baby – Welcome TJ**

Welcome to Baby TJ who was born on Monday 29th February. Congratulations to Beau and Amy and we wish the whole family well at this special time.

**A note from Louise Ozbay**

There is a multi media  exhibition opening today in the RCC -( Regional Cultural Centre behind An Grianian Theatre) at 3.30pm. It is presented by a group called The Elephant Collective and is Titled Picking Up the Threads: Remaking the Fabric of Care. It is the first venue in a national tour of the knitted quilt dedicated to the memory of women who have died in maternity services in Ireland. There will also be a documentary film detailing what inspired the creation of the quilt. Some local people have also created a knitted/crocheted banner and there will be a programme of knitting/crochet talking workshops throughout the next week of the exhibition. There is an interactive element to this exhibition/campaign please come along and see what it is all about and join in if you wish.

For more details please contact Louise Ozbay tel: 087 9123512

A new charity shop called “Circle of Friends” has opened up beside the Women's Centre - funds will go to support 'Let's Get Talking Donegal' - a counselling service. If any members of our school community would like to donate good quality, clean  items of clothing, toys, books, childrens equipment I can receive in the school car park by arrangement  or can also  collect from your home. Please call me directly,tel 0879123512. Please do not bring donations into the school. Many thanks.

Louise Ozbay

**The Simon Community**

The Simon Community would like to thank our school community for the donations they received from us before the Winter Break. All support is greatly appreciated.

**Garda Quiz:**

Congratulations to Ezgi, Freya, Alexander, Roshni and Zuzia from our Senior classes who represented their school at last week’s Garda quiz. With their teachers Nakita and Barbara they prepared well for this event and kept the High 5 rule of “do your best” and “work together”. Well done to all!!

**Well Done Freya!**

Congratulations to Freya in 6th class for getting two 1st prizes at the Strabane Feis. She got a 1st in the 2 minute speech for 12 and over, and a 1st in Poetry Recital for Senior class

Year 8. For the 2 minute speech it’s the second year in a row! Freya brought in two fab trophies to show us all today.