

The logo for COGAR! is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letters are slightly shadowed to give a 3D effect. The text is set against a bright yellow, wavy banner that curves upwards at both ends.

Friday 08th February 2019

School Starts At 9, Be On Time!

No Outsiders in our School!

This is the theme for assemblies for the coming terms. Áine will be leading this as assembly each week using resources that celebrate diversity and teach about equality.

Assembly

Áine shared the story titled 'How to be a Lion' at the junior assembly this morning. Áine began by discussing with the children how lions are expected to behave but as the children discovered Leonard is different.

Leonard is kind and gentle and writes poems. His best friend is a duck! The other lions try to pressure Leonard into changing but Leonard replies "Must I be fierce? Must I change? You be you and I'll be me".

The children talked about expectations that we have of each other to be a certain way. One of the examples that the children gave was how boys/girls are expected to dress in a certain way or play with particular toys. We will continue to chat about these important issues over the coming weeks.

At the senior assembly, Áine showed the children pictures of what snowflakes look like underneath a microscope. They discussed how no two snowflakes are the same and how the shape of each snowflake is formed as it falls through the air. Even if two snowflakes are formed at the same time, no two journeys are exactly the same, so each flake is unique.

Áine and the children reflected on this in the context of our own lives. How each of us are unique and are on our own journeys. They talked

about the richness that this brings to our school community and how diversity is celebrated in our school.

Fun Friday!

Next week's Fun Friday is 'Class Choice'.

Home School community Liaison (HSCL)

Happy Friday, I hope you all have a lovely weekend! ☺

Games room:

Yes, you read that right! We have turned an empty classroom into a games room on the top floor. We will use it as an extra space for children to go to when we feel it would benefit them. We have table tennis, a pool table, a foosball table, board games, memory games etc but we would like to ask our school community for donations of games if they are not being used at home. We would love an ice/air hockey table, drafts, chess, snakes and ladders, ludo, card games etc in good condition. If you think you can help us please speak to Lisa. As always thank you for your support with this!

Junk art room:

We are also hoping to set up a junk art store in our school and we are hoping you can help. Here is a list of some items we would like to receive:

Card and Cardboard: White/coloured or strong packaging cardboard

Paper & Foil: Coloured/patterned paper, pie foil trays, gold or silver paper, wrapping paper

Lids & Tops: Plain bottle lids (milk tops), lids from coffee tins/porridge tins

Spools Cones & Tubes: Spools or cones from Thread spools, tubes from tinfoil/clingfilm/blue roll/kitchen roll..... **no toilet roll tubes**

Fabric & Wool: Scrap fabric/fat quarter/hessian/netting/wool/ribbon/twine

Tubs & Trays Containers: Paper/plastic cups, mushroom trays, apple trays, courgette trays

Foam & Packaging: Any packaging foam

Micellaneous: Any other tubing/tiles/carpet tiles/lino tiles /artificial grass/bubble wrap/contact paper/old cds.

Also, any end of line materials that may be of no use to factories or companies.

If you have any of these materials you can **drop them to Ciara's room**. Thanks! 😊

Infant workshops:

Thank you to the parents who attended the maths workshop on Wednesday. That's the end of our Infant workshops for now. I hope you all found them helpful! Remember even doing 1 game a week can have a positive impact on your child's learning! 😊

3rd class:

I hope you all had lots of fun with your Make One Change projects at home. The work you have all done on them is amazing! Just a reminder that all projects are due back today 8th of February. We will be holding our presentation day on Friday 1st of March (Family Friday). 3rd class family members are invited to join us in the library at 9:30am and all the children will present their hard work. We hope to see you there!

6th class information:

Errigal College: Entrance exam 9th of March

Loreto Milford: Entrance exam - 5pm on Thursday 14th of February

Mulroy College: Entrance exam - 4:30pm on Thursday 14th of February

If you have any queries or questions you can contact me on 086 7232894 or at

hscl@letterkennytns.ie

Lisa 😊

Gaeilgeoir/Cairde na Seachtaine:

Comhghairdeas le i Marco Nakita, le Krishveer i rang Verity, le Viyona i rang Ciara, le Caleb i rang Louise, le Alannah i rang Rachel, le Devin i rang Jennifer, le Conal i rang Barbara, le Tilly i rang Mervyn, le Byron i rang Paul, le Marwin i rang Mary

Voluntary Contributions

Next week we will be sending home letters with the children requesting a voluntary contribution from our families. As with all schools, the budget given by the Department of Education is not sufficient to provide the children with all of the educational experiences and resources that we would love them to have. We are so delighted with our new

school but there are still lots of resources that we need.

Your contributions will allow us to invest in additional music and PE equipment to enhance the learning experiences of the children. The details of the contribution will be included in the letter next week and we would ask that all of our families support this request in any way that they can. As the saying goes "Every little helps"!

Inspection Report

In November our school inspectors visited us to undertake a curriculum evaluation in the area of English. We were delighted to say that they have published a wonderfully positive report on our school highlighting the fantastic teaching and learning that is taking place. It was great to see that all of the hard work that the teachers and children do in school every day has been recognised in this report.

The report can be viewed on the Department of Education website (www.education.ie) using the 'find a school' search tool. This will take you to the information for our school and to the report. We are also in the process of linking the report to our own website.

Open Day

We had a very busy Open Day here at the school on Tuesday. It was lovely to meet some of the new families who will be joining our school in the coming months/years and to hear all of the wonderful things that people in the community are hearing about our school.

Thank you to everyone who came to see us and to the staff who acted as tour guides for the day.