



Scoil Mhuire Gan Smál New Inn

www.newingirlsschool.ie

Issue 70/15

November 2015

Dates to remember

• Christmas Concert

Monday & Tuesday

7th & 8th December

(7pm & 8.15pm)

• Tues 8th Dec

Closed Holy Day

• Tues 22nd Dec

Closing 12noon

Christmas Holidays

• Thurs 7th Jan

Re-open

• Friday 15th Jan

Swimming starts

(1st - 6th)

• Parent/Teacher Meeting

Monday & Tuesday

8th & 9th February

• Mid- Term

Thursday & Friday

18th & 19th February

• Easter Holidays

Closing Wednesday 16th March

• Monday 4th April

Re-open

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT 2015 - 2019

Our new Board of Management is now elected.

The following are the new Board members.

Chairperson: Breda Hickey

Patron's Nominee: Fr. Michael Kennedy

Principal: Fiona Ryan

Teacher's Nominee: Catherine O' Dwyer

Parent's Nominee: Thomas Nugent

Parent's Nominee: Lisa Hally

Wider Community Nominee: Mary O' Connor

Wider Community Nominee: Kevin Halley

We wish the Board every success and would once again like to thank the outgoing Board members for their hard work over the last four years.



MORE BABY NEWS!

Ms. Bourke will be returning to school just before Christmas but we will not be saying goodbye to Ms. Bailey just yet! Mrs. McMillan will be going on maternity leave after Christmas so we are delighted to inform you that Ms. Bailey will be covering her leave and will be taking Learning Support until the summer holidays. Well done to both ladies for keeping Ms. Bailey gainfully employed in Scoil Mhuire Gan Smál by having their maternity leaves working out so well for us!!

We wish Mrs. McMillan a safe delivery of baby number no.2 in January.



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Our School Improvement Plan (S.I.P.) is now in Year 4. This year we plan to consolidate what we have done to date.

English - Comprehension

Emphasis is still being placed on developing comprehension skills and reading for meaning. We will be using "The Building Bridges Programme" again in Term2

Maths - Measurement is the strand we are concentrating on with the emphasis on weight in particular this year.

Irish - Incidental Irish, "Gaeilge Neamhfhoirmiúil" is where we are putting the emphasis. So please encourage your child to use the "cupla focal" at home too.

We are pleased to report that the overall school average results in both English and Maths of the standardised tests have improved and both are well above the national average. Thanks to both the teaching staff and parents for working so well together to achieve this.



Údarás Um Shábháilteacht Ar Bhóithre Road Safety Authority

We always take the issue of "Road Safety" very seriously in Scoil Mhuire Gan Smál and have had speakers from the R.S.A. visit us before.

On **Monday 14th December** we will have a visit from a Road Safety Officer to speak to all classes. I would like to take this opportunity to remind Parents of the importance of ensuring your child **always** wears his/her seat belt while travelling in any car or bus. We have also had notification from Bus Eireann to say that school buses **will not run** in any area where there is a "Red Weather Alert" warning so please check weather alerts during adverse weather conditions.

CLOTHING COLLECTION

Irish Clothing Collections, Tipperary Rd., Cahir will hold an unwanted clothing collection in school on **Friday 4th December**. Items such as new & used men's, women's & children clothing, shoes, belts hand-bags, ties, linens, household textiles etc. (No Pillows or duvets) are accepted. Bags may be dropped into the school porch any day up to **12noon on the 4th December**.

VISIT TO CLONMEL

3rd - 6th class were offered a free bowling slot in "Hot Shots" in Clonmel on **Friday 13th November**. We decided to make a trip to the County Museum on the day as well. Children really enjoyed both venues and were very interested in the artefacts on display in the Museum and asked some great questions. Thanks to the Parents Council for giving us money towards the bus and enabling us to have a completely free day!

SCHOOL EXTENSION

We have no set date yet for the work to commence on our new class rooms. However work has been going on in the background and we have managed to secure some further funding from the Department. We are also making an application to update the heating system in the current building under the "Summer Works Scheme".

We will still have to fundraise in the New Year. The Parents Council have come up with some ideas and details of fundraisers will be outlined once the new Board of Management has had a chance to meet in the coming weeks.

SPLIT THE POT

Congratulations to our most recent winners!

23/10/15 - Louis O' Donoghue (1st) - €87

6/11/15 - Niamh & Eimear O' Brien (6th) - €82

13/11/15 - Maria Buckley (S.I.) - €94

Also Bonus Prize - 2 tickets to circus -
Evan Ryan (J.I.)

20/11/15 - Christina Rose Longworth (5th) - €81



SHOEBOX APPEAL

Thanks to everyone who sent in shoe boxes for the less fortunate children around the world. This year 72 boxes were collected in the area, 50 of these came from Scoil Mhuire Gan Smál.

Thanks again for your generosity



SWIMMING

Swimming lessons, in Clonmel Swimming Pool, start **Friday 15th January** (1st - 6th class) for 9 weeks @ a cost of €50. Rockwell College have advised us that their swimming pool is open to the public every Sunday, 4pm - 7pm on a trial basis. Children €4 and Adults €6. This may be an opportunity for children, especially those in 1st class, to get in some practice before lessons start in January and an opportunity for younger children to get used to drying and dressing independently!

A.S.A.P

After School Activity Programme is running for pupils 1st to 4th class on Wednesdays 3.10pm - 4pm. We have been getting great numbers and this is proving to be very popular with children. If your child hasn't been attending come along and join us! We only have two weeks left before Christmas - Wednesday 2nd & 9th December. This term our activities are games, outdoor weather permitting and indoor when we must. After Christmas we will be doing gymnastics, dates and details will be given nearer the time.

Thanks to Parents - **Elaine Cummins, Amanda Ryan and Helen Heaney** who are currently helping out. Also many thanks to **Ms. Bailey** who helps **Mrs. Ryan** who organises ASAP

ART COMPETITION

Congratulations to **Katie Durkan (2nd class)** who won an art competition with Supermacs!

Katie won a trip for her class to Supermacs in Tipperary Town to "make and bake" pizzas! While there pupils will not only make their own pizza but eat it too and get a drink to wash it down! Well done to Katie. Mrs. O' Dwyer's love of art seems to be rubbing off on her pupils! We hope all the pupils of 1st and 2nd class have a great time on **Friday 11th December**.

Congratulations also to **Niamh O' Brien (6th Class)** who won a Peace Poster Competition with the Lions Club in Cashel.