



Scoil Mhuire na Trócaire, Ardee, Co. Louth



NEWSLETTER
NO. 3



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*We wish all our pupils and families a very Happy Christmas & New Year.
Nollaig Shona agus Albhluain faoi mhaise daoibh*



We close for Christmas holidays at 12.20pm on Thursday 22nd December.
We re-open on Monday 9th January 2017.



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Our Parents' Association held their annual Christmas Raffle yesterday. We are very grateful to all the local businesses who donated raffle prizes ~ we encourage all families to shop local and to support local businesses. A list of all prizes and winners is enclosed with this newsletter.

OUR SCHOOL'S 60TH JUBILEE 1956-2016

We celebrated our Diamond Jubilee last Wednesday with a truly inspiring and uplifting Mass of Thanksgiving in the Church of the Nativity of our Lady. We were greatly honoured that Archbishop Eamon Martin came to Ardee to celebrate our mass. The mass opened with the joyful hymn "Sing & Dance" and a special celebration dance performed by the pupils of 3rd & 4th classes under the direction of Mrs. Rust. The choir from 4th, 5th and 6th classes were outstanding under the direction of Ms. McClean. It was a time to look back and give thanks to all the staff, pupils, parents and Board of Management who have made our school the special place it is today, to celebrate the present and to look forward to a future where we continue to build on our fine reputation and ethos.

As principal I am very grateful to our entire school community for the work put into celebrating our Diamond Jubilee.

SANTA'S VISIT

Santa took time out from his busy schedule to visit all classes this morning. He brought tickets for the visiting pantomime "Robin Hood" on 26th January for all pupils and lots of sweets for each class too. We are so proud of all our classes and we know Santa will be very good to all the girls.



GREENER CHRISTMAS POETRY COMPETITION

Congratulations to Aoibhinn Cunningham, 5th class who came 3rd in the Louth Co. Council "Greener Christmas Poetry Competition". Aoibhinn's poem will be broadcast on LMFM over Christmas to remind people to reduce waste and recycle at Christmas time.

A Greener Christmas

The festive time has begun
And no doubt it will be fun
From Santa Claus to bows and stars
Twinkling lights and glowing jars
Remember when the gifts are given
and the turkey is all eaten
Remember the green recycle bins
for all your paper and your tins
Brown for bones and peels and skins
all put in the recycle bins
Try not to use the black bin much
And have the green recycling touch!



Credit Union Art Competition

Congratulations to our winners in the recent Ardee Credit Union Poster Competition:-

Category 7 & Under

1st - Abbie Marie Taaffe
2nd - Kelsey Martin Clarke
3rd - Emily Lynch

Category 8-10 Years

1st - Emma Courtney

Category 11-13 Years

2nd - Laia Rose Keogh
3rd - Amy Kerr



*Merry
Christmas*

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

The spirit and joy of Christmas is all around our school with Christmas plays, carol-singing and of course Santa's visit. The wealth of talent on show in each Christmas play is truly outstanding and great credit is due to teachers for the work put in to each show.

- This week classes will visit Moorehall Lodge to bring the Christmas spirit to our neighbours there, 6th class sang at the annual Christmas mass in the Day Care Centre and senior pupils sang at the Parish Carol Service on Sunday.
- In preparation for Christmas, classes from 3rd to 6th attended a Penitential Service on Wednesday 7th December with the priests of the parish. Classes also attended mass on 8th December, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.



Class	Name of Play
Junior Infants (Mrs. Rust)	Angel Express
Junior Infants (Ms. Mason)	We Three Kings
Senior Infants	The Nativity
1 st	Born in a Barn
2 nd	Countdown to Christmas
3 rd	Straw and Order
4 th	A Midwife Crisis
5 th	Fifth Class Festivities

Parents' Association Activities

- Our recent Book Fair was the most successful to date with sales of €3,350. We are very grateful to the Parents' Association members who looked after sales for the week.
- Christmas Cards for Schools: Thank you for your great response to the Christmas Cards project with 306 packs of cards ordered.

GAA Quiz

Well done to our GAA Quiz Team members: Katie Farrell, Laia Rose Keogh, Maya Chanda, Alannah Cunningham, Suzanne Colreavy and Ava Grace MacCormack who participated in the Cumann na mBunscol quiz on 15th Nov. Thank you to Mrs. Rust for all her work with quiz club.

CHRISTMAS FOOD & CRAFT FAIR

Once again our Christmas Food & Craft Fair was an outstanding success. A huge amount of planning and organisation was involved and we are very grateful to the "Friends of the School Committee" for their hard work:- Peter Callaghan, Maeve O'Malley, Edel Farrell, Donna Kirby, Sarah Chanda, Belinda Rogers, Ann Hennessy, Pauline Sharkey, Lucy Kerin, Mary Dunne and Deirdre Sweeney.

Thank you to:-

- Our main sponsor Peter Callaghan both for his financial support and event management skills!
- Our "Ready Steady Cook Teams" of chefs Richard Luckey and Sarjit Chanda, ably assisted by teachers Donna Greenan and Sinéad Farrell - they were such good sports and certainly rose to the challenge!
- The 40 fabulous stall holders who exhibited: Feedback from them was very positive about the level of organisation and the brisk trade all night.
- Our Parents' Association who served complimentary refreshments all evening.
- Our School Staff for all their help and for assisting on the night.
- Our Car Park attendants: Thanks to Finbarr Gillespie and his staff who supervised car parking all night.
- Lidl Ardee for sponsoring all the mince-pies, teas, coffees etc.
- Chef Adrian
- Ardee Parish Centre: Nicholas, Mickey, Philips and all the staff who facilitated and helped us so willingly.
- Our promoters: LMFM, local shops and Ferdia Print.
- 6th Scents: Well done to 6th class and Mrs. Kirby on their fabulous stall "6th Scents" which was a sell out with sales of €800.00 from their handmade organic lip balms, hand-cream and body scrubs and hair and nail studio.
- Thank you to Breda Keogh who made the "Ready, Steady Cook" aprons for our four chefs.
- Thanks to all who sponsored raffle prizes:-
Win a "Tradesman for a Day" - Sponsor: Mickey Giggins
Win a Dinner Party for 6 hosted in your home by - Chef Sarajit Chanda
Fruit & Veg. Hamper - Sponsored by Meade Potato Co.
Glow @ Envy Beauty Voucher - Sponsored by Nicola Roe
Positive Health Therapy - Sponsored by Joanne Smullen
Yummy Little Bakes - Gift Voucher
Featherhead Designs - Gift Voucher
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UPCOMING EVENTS

- School Re-Opens: Monday 9th January 2017
- Family Mass: Sunday 15th January
- Peace Proms Workshop in Swords on 18th January for 3rd class
- Pantomime "Robin Hood" Thursday 26th January.

