

# SCOIL BARRA NAOFA

**Newsletter #6**

**20<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

A Chairde,

We are all looking forward to meeting you this week for your child(ren)'s Parent / Teacher Meeting next week. Please remember to be on time for your appointment and remember if you cannot make it for any unforeseen reason, please contact the school as soon as you can to reschedule. I hope you find your meeting a beneficial one.

Míle Buíochas,

Ciara Ní Bhuaigh & Foireann na Scoile

## Upcoming Dates

Wed & Thurs	21 <sup>st</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Parent / Teacher Meetings
Friday	23 <sup>rd</sup> November	3 <sup>rd</sup> Class Girls' GAA Indoor (Riverstick)
Monday	26 <sup>th</sup> November	3 <sup>rd</sup> Class Boys' GAA Indoor (Riverstick)
Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Santa Sunday 1pm-4pm
Friday	7 <sup>th</sup> December	School Closure
Thursday	20 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2018	11am Informal Christmas Show (Halla)
Friday	21 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2018	School closes for Christmas at 12midday
Monday	7 <sup>th</sup> January	School re-opens for Term 2
Monday	14 <sup>th</sup> January 2019	Additional Closure for Staff In-service
Friday	25 <sup>th</sup> January 2019	7:30pm Cookery Demonstration

## SAVE THE DATE – CHRISTMAS SHOW

This year's Christmas Show will be an informal medley of class performances, which should last approximately one hour. It will take place in the school hall at 11am on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018. All are welcome, but please keep in mind, as it is an informal affair, that there will be limited seating, with many of the audience standing!

## **PARENT TEACHER MEETING REMINDERS**

- School will finish for 1st – 6th Classes at **2:15pm** on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November for 2018 Parent Teacher Meetings
- School will finish for ALL classes at **12midday** on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November for Parent Teacher Meetings.

Please make every effort to be on time for your meeting. If you are late, your meeting will have to be rescheduled, as other parents will have appointments at that time. Each meeting will be **10 minutes long**. Should an issue arise which warrants more time needed to discuss it, the relevant teacher will only be too happy to schedule another appointment with you, to continue the discussion on another day, rather than impacting on other parents' appointment times. Please knock on the door on your allocated time, so that the teacher is aware that you have arrived. All of the above should ensure that the afternoons run to schedule. Thank you so much for your co-operation!

## **3<sup>RD</sup> CLASS CARRIGDHOUN GAA BLITZ**

3rd Class Girls will take part in an Indoor Football Blitz this Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November in Riverstick hall from 10.15am-11:25am. Girls will travel as per arrangements made with parents last week, departing Monkstown at 9:40am approx.

Boys will take part in Blitz the following Monday 26<sup>th</sup> in Riverstick Hall from 10am-11:15am. Depart Monkstown at 9.15 and depart Riverstick at 11.30am. Travel arrangements to be finalised this week.

Best of luck to all the teams competing! Go n-éirí libh!

## **STUDENT COUNCIL 2018/19**



**Christmas Cards:** Order forms were sent home for these last week. If you have not already done so and wish to purchase Christmas cards, please place the completed order slip and €7 in an envelope. Clearly write your child's name and class on the outside and return to school by Friday November 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you wish to buy 2 packs then please include €10. Please have exact money. All profits to be donated to school.

Watch this space for more information on our St. Vincent de Paul food drive, and our Cork Simon Christmas Jumper Day...

## **6TH CLASS DEBATING COMPETITION**

Well done to Sixth Class pupils, David McSweeney, Eve Gardner and Ellen Clarke who took part in the Concern Debating competition on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November. They put on a great performance and were narrowly beaten in a very close encounter with St. Luke's N.S. We are very proud of the children who put in a lot of time and effort into their preparation and represented the school so well. Maith sibh!

## **PARENTS' ASSOCIATION: SANTA SUNDAY**

Hi Parents,

It's that time of year again and Santa Sunday is fast approaching! Many thanks to those of you who have volunteered to help with the event, great to see so much support. **Santa Sunday doors open at 1pm - 4pm on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**

Our wonderful **SBN school calendar** will be available for sale €10 on the day - the perfect Christmas gift and a great way to support the school!

There will be a **best homemade cake competition** this year - please ensure child's name, age and class is on the cake. Please list ingredients on all homemade goods.

We are currently making up the hampers which will be raffled on the day and would really appreciate any of the following - bottles of wine, cosmetics, chocolates, biscuits or unwanted gifts. *You could drop these into the shed at side of school from 8.30 - 9am every morning from Wednesday 21st November.*

**Christmas Food Stall** - this is a wonderful way to have people enjoy a cuppa and a treat on the day so all breads, preserves, jams, cakes, buns, tarts etc. are really welcome whether they are home baked or bought goodies. *Please bring your contributions to the school on Saturday December 1st between 10am - 1pm or on Santa Sunday December 2<sup>nd</sup> before 1pm.*

Donations to the **Second Hand Book** stall are really welcome - books are always in demand and a terrific way of swapping around your old books for new ones at bargain prices. *Please drop these into the shed at side of school from 8.30am-9am every morning from Wednesday 21st November.*

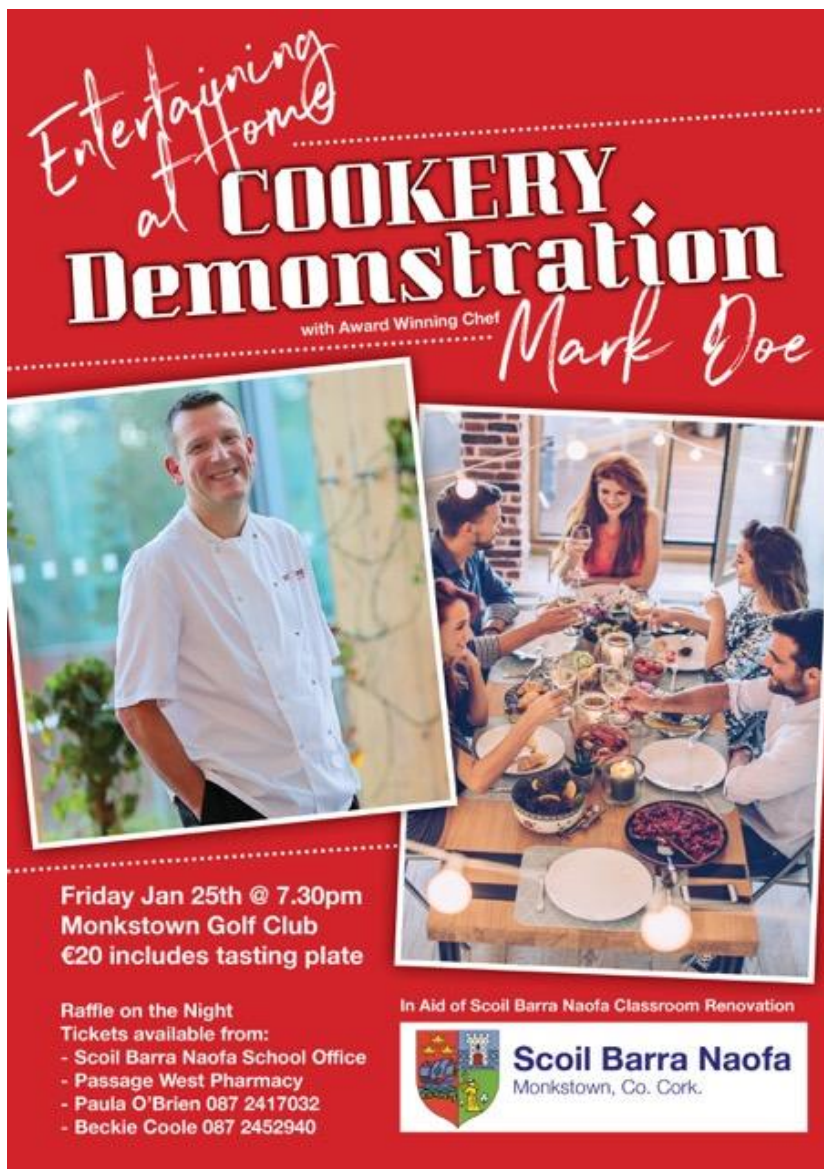
We are really looking forward to kick-starting Christmas with a great day on Santa Sunday and thanks in advance for all your support to make it one to remember!

***The Parents Association***



## **SAVE THE DATE – COOKERY DEMONSTRATION**

“Entertaining at Home” – A Cookery Demonstration, with award winning chef, Mark Doe, will take place in Monkstown Golf Club at 7:30pm on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018.. Tickets €20 will be on sale very shortly.

Many thanks to the group of parents who are organising this event – all proceeds will be going towards the ‘Classroom Renovation’ Fund.




*Entertaining at Home*  
**COOKERY Demonstration**  
with Award Winning Chef *Mark Doe*



**Friday Jan 25th @ 7.30pm**  
**Monkstown Golf Club**  
**€20 includes tasting plate**

**Raffle on the Night**  
Tickets available from:  
- Scoil Barra Naofa School Office  
- Passage West Pharmacy  
- Paula O'Brien 087 2417032  
- Beckie Coole 087 2452940

In Aid of Scoil Barra Naofa Classroom Renovation



**Scoil Barra Naofa**  
Monkstown, Co. Cork.

## **AIRPORT SAFETY POSTER COMPETITION**

Well done to 6th Class pupils, Eve (1st), Sarah (2nd), Laoise (3rd) and runners up Tara and Ellen who were winners in a recent 'Airport Safety' poster competition. The posters will be professionally copied and enlarged and will be on view during the coming months. Comhghairdeas!

## **6<sup>TH</sup> CLASS JUNIOR ENTREPRENEUR PROGRAMME**

Good luck to Sixth Class who are involved in the Junior Entrepreneur programme. They were delighted to recently welcome Colm O' Toole to talk to them about setting up a business and his experience during the last thirteen years. Colm gave generously of his time and delivered a very inspirational talk followed by a question and answer session. Projects are well underway, and it will be a tough decision for the dragons today!

## **PAYMENTS**

Thank you again to those of you who have made payment for Class Expenses already and generously also made Voluntary Contributions – we are extremely grateful. The link for payments will be issued fortnightly, on the same day of the newsletter, for those with outstanding payments. As always, if you have any questions, please call Jen in the office on 021-4842159 to discuss. Míle Buíochas ó chroí.

## **CRAFT CLUB – NOV & DEC**

Reminder :NO craft club tomorrow Wednesday 21st November 2018. Thank You!

## **DIGITAL LEARNING**

As part of our School Self Evaluation process, staff will be engaging with the Digital Learning Framework for schools. The framework is designed to help schools manage the transformation of Teaching and Learning with digital technology and will help staff to upskill in order to effectively apply digital technologies to the learning process.

As part of the process, we are collecting information regarding the use of Digital Technology in our school and we would greatly appreciate your input on this. We would very much appreciate if you could take the time to complete the survey before **Fri 30th November. This is the link to the survey:** <https://goo.gl/forms/x9vYyEcA3jclhaFr1>

If you have any difficulties accessing the link, please do let us know in the office. Many thanks to the parents who have already completed the survey! Míle Buíochas!

## **“FORTNITE” & ONLINE GAMES**

“Fortnite” is an online game sensation with children all over the world. The multiplayer survival action game has become the world’s largest game due to it being free to download, and having a silly, cartoonish and off-beat sense of humour. We want our parents to be fully informed about the game to help their children be safe.

The game is an example of the popular Battle Royale genre. In this genre of game, 100 people gather, either as individuals, or in teams to play against each other in a shootout to be the last person/team to survive. It is influenced by movies such as The Hunger Games Series (12A) and the Japanese gory film Battle Royale (18).



**The game is rated PEGI 12, meaning that it isn’t suitable for children under 12 though its larger than life graphics and goreless cartoony gameplay mean that a lot of parents think that it is suitable for a younger child to play.**

There are lots of fun features, but there are also some risks parents should be aware of. Please see <https://www.webwise.ie/parents/explainers/explained-what-is-fortnite/> for further explanation about ‘Fortnite’, and advice for parents. Please also see the attached leaflet: <http://bit.ly/forniteleaflet>.

**SBN & ‘Fortnite’:** Here in SBN, we are aware that many of our pupils, as young as 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, are playing ‘Fortnite’. Pupils in 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Class are interacting with other pupils in the school (as well as strangers) who are MUCH OLDER than them, exposing them to attitudes and language that is inappropriate for their age (& inappropriate in general).

We have already seen a big changes in behaviour in some of our pupils and parents are also reporting changes in their child’s temperament, since they have started playing ‘Fortnite’. In some instances, we have noticed a deterioration in social relationships; increased ‘unkind’ comments and behaviours; increased tension amongst some pupils; pupils losing their tempers easier with each other & a deterioration in concentration skills and focus. Like any online game, ‘Fortnite’ is highly addictive. **These are alarming trends.** Teachers are working with classes to support pupils in this regard.

We would appreciate if parents closely monitored their children’s online activity. It would be our preference that pupils only engage in AGE APPROPRIATE games, under supervision. Please talk to your children about games they are playing and use the information attached to set boundaries and limits.

If you have any questions in relation to any of the above – please do not hesitate to contact me in the office.

## **SCIENCE WEEK**

Last week was Science week in Ireland and the pupils of Scoil Barra Naofa engaged in lots of experiments and projects! Check out our Twitter and Facebook page to see some of the experiments in action! We look forward to our pupils taking part in upcoming workshops to continue the great work started during Science week!

## **CLASSROOM RENOVATION & FUNDRAISING**

7,000 €



The Classroom Renovation of 1<sup>st</sup> Class is almost complete with just a few finishing touches. Don't forget to pop in and visit the room on Santa Sunday, and see all the positive changes made!! We are re-launching our fundraising drive, with a target of €7,000 so that we can undertake renovating our next classroom in 2019.

- Thanks to a private donation, the cost of the blinds as already been covered. Mile Buíochas!!
- The Clothing Collection that took place before midterm, will raise approximately €200 for the fund.
- We are thrilled that Douglas Credit Union has kindly donated €500 towards the classroom renovation fund.

The Board of Management is continuing to explore more private and corporate donations. As always, if you the parents have any leads in relation to these, do let Ciara know and she will follow them up!

As always thank you so much for your support and contribution. Upcoming events in the school – the sale of Christmas Cards, Santa Sunday, the Cookery Demonstration, will all add to the fund further!

Ní neart go cur le chéile!!! (There's no strength without unity!) Mile Buíochas!

## **IRON ON SCHOOL CRESTS**

Following feedback from parents, the school has order a quantity of iron on crests, which are available to purchase through the office. The crests are available in navy (to iron on to generic navy school jumpers/hoodies etc, and white (to iron on to generic white polo t-shirts). **The crests cost €3 each or 2 crests for €5.** Many thanks.

## **DOUGLAS CREDIT UNION**

Douglas Credit Union Scheme will continue **every Thursday from 12:45pm-1:15pm in the school hall.**

**THANK YOU:** We are thrilled that Douglas Credit Union have donated €500 towards the school's classroom renovation fund! We are indebted to the Board of Douglas Credit Union for this donation, especially Gary Wade, who visits us every Thursday and Roy McKnight, CEO. Míle Buíochas ó chroí.

## **SHAMROCK BOYS' ACADAMEY**

Shamrocks boys Academy continues every Friday night from 6.30pm to 8.30pm in the Marine College Ringaskiddy, Monkstown NS student welcome.

## **SHAMROCKS LADIES FOOTBALL CLUB**

Looking for an indoor winter activity? Training moves indoors this week for our underage ladies on Thursday 6.30-7.30pm at the Maritime College, Ringaskiddy for all ages from age 5 up. Junior Ladies training from 7.30 -8.30pm - looking for mums to join us this season. No prior experience needed and new members are always welcome! Follow us on Facebook or Text 0872280425.

## **PASSAGE WEST GAA**

Fun Packed GAA Training - Under 6 & 7 Boys and Girls -All Welcome

**UNDER 6  
BOYS AND  
GIRLS**

**CONTACT:  
ADRIAN WHYTE  
086-2272979**

**HURLING - SUNDAYS 10:30  
FOOTBALL - FRIDAYS 7:00**

**UNDER 7  
BOYS**

**CONTACT: CONOR QUIGLEY  
087-2777959**

**HURLING – SUNDAYS 11:30  
FOOTBALL – FRIDAYS 6:30**

**UNDER 7  
GIRLS**

**CONTACT:  
DAVE MAXWELL  
087-9879604**

**CAMOGIE - FRIDAYS 5.30**

**UNDER 7  
GIRLS**

**CONTACT:  
KAREN ALLEN**

**FOOTBALL - MONDAYS 4.45**