



# SCOIL BARRA NAOFA

**Newsletter #5**

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

A Chairde,

Welcome back after midterm break!! We hope you enjoyed it and are rested facing into the next few busy months.

We are all looking forward to meeting you this month for your child(ren)'s Parent / Teacher Meeting. At this stage all appointments should be on Aladdin. Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to ask.

Míle Buíochas,

Ger O Brien & Foireann na Scoile

## **Upcoming Dates**

Tues	12 <sup>th</sup> November	Green Schools Conference
Mon Nov 11 <sup>th</sup> – Fri Nov 15 <sup>th</sup>		Science Week
Wed & Thurs	20 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Parent / Teacher Meetings
Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup> December	Save the date! Santa Sunday!!!!
Thurs	12 <sup>th</sup> December	School Closure (Inservice)
Thurs	19 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Service
Friday	20 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2019	School closes for Christmas at 12midday
Monday	6 <sup>th</sup> January	School re-opens for Term 2

## **PARENT TEACHER MEETING REMINDERS**

- School will finish for 1st – 6th Classes at **2:15pm** on Wednesday 20th November for 2019 Parent Teacher Meetings
- School will finish for ALL classes at **12midday** on Thursday 21st November for Parent Teacher Meetings.

**If you have not made an appointment via Aladdin Connect you should contact the school office as soon as possible to organise your meeting time.**

Parent teacher meetings are an opportunity to touch base with your child's teacher, ask questions and receive feedback on your child's progress academically and socially. We appreciate that 10 minutes slots can be brief, however, in order to allow all parents have an opportunity to meet the teachers we ask for your understanding and cooperation in helping meetings run to schedule.

Should a matter arise whereby you feel you need more time this can be arranged for another date.

## **PARENTS' ASSOCIATION**

The Parents' Association's role is to work together to create a positive parental involvement in the school. The good news is that all parents of students in SBN school are members of the Parent's Association! The Parent's Association has an email address if you wish to contact the committee, please feel free to contact us on:

[pa@scoilbarranaofa.ie](mailto:pa@scoilbarranaofa.ie)

Many thanks to the Parent's Association for organising and providing a wonderful pizza party on the day of Mid-Term Break. The children were treated to pizzas from *Fast n Fresh* to mark the very exciting week that saw the winning of the Sciath na Scol and participation of the Big Little Choir in the Late Late Toy Show auditions. We are very proud of all of our children and thank the PA for helping us celebrate and mark these wonderful achievements.

## **SANTA SUNDAY!**

Our 'world famous' Santa Sunday will take place on **1st December**. It's hard to believe that a year has almost passed since our last Santa Sunday. We have had great support over the years and we hope to have plenty of volunteers on board again to make this years event even more special for the children.

The PA will soon begin organising hampers to be raffled off on the day. We are looking for donations for these hampers; chocolates, biscuits and Christmas food items as well as any unwanted gifts, donated gifts, etc. If you can donate it would be greatly appreciated. These items should be dropped into the school office during the month of November.

We will also run a food stall on the day. This is a wonderful opportunity for people to enjoy home baking or bought goods along with a coffee and a chat! We would ask people to drop their food items to the school on Saturday November 31<sup>st</sup> (More details on this to follow)

Donations for the second hand book stall are also being accepted for Santa Sunday. Any pre-loved books, in good condition, can be dropped to the school office during the month of the December.

Finally, the PA are looking for volunteers to help on the day. Volunteers are needed to help with set up or clean up. We are also looking for a volunteer to take the photos of the children as they meet with Santa. If you think you may be of assistance you can contact Paula Granby on 087 6373398.

Thank You in advance for your help and support. The PA work incredibly hard to make this event a success. Your support is very much needed and appreciated.

## **CALENDAR**

You can view your child's calendar on display in the lower corridor (entrance by halla). Calendar's can be purchased for 6 euro each. Your child will receive an order form this week. Please complete this and return to your child's class teacher. This will help your child's teacher keep track of how many calendars you might like to order. A separate payment link will be sent via Aladdin Connect once you return your order form.

## **STUDENT COUNCIL 2018/19**



Everyone looked amazingly scary and spooky at school on Wednesday, October 25th. Thank you all for the superb effort you put into your costumes. Everyone looked amazing and was deserving of a prize. The Student Council judges had a tremendously difficult job picking winners in each of the classes. Please take the time to have a look at the fantastic photographs and prize winners on our school website.

The Student Council have now finished taking contributions to the Hope Shoebox Appeal. We collected 62 shoeboxes for boys and girls less fortunate than our own and the children should feel very proud to have had such a positive impact on another's child's life.

Míle Buíochas from us all at SBN for your generosity.

## **TRAFFIC**

- Ongoing roadworks at Sandquay are due to finish next week. We hope that the traffic will again be able to drive up the hill to access the school. We ask you to be mindful of the children entering and exiting the school gates, particularly as the mornings and evenings are getting darker and often wet! And we ask you to keep our local residents in mind when parking or dropping/collecting children.
- The next phase of roadworks is due to begin on November 25<sup>th</sup> and will involve the closing of the Glen Rd. We have been assured by O Connor Utilities that the carpark will remain operational during this time, although you may not be able to access the carpark from the Glen Rd side. You will be able to access the carpark from the Sand Quay and dropping and collecting children to and from school should be unaffected.
- Finally, **it is preferable that anyone entering and exiting the school on foot do so using the pedestrian gate**. I appreciate that this is not always possible as people may have buggies etc, however, it would be appreciated if it could be done whenever possible. Having less foot traffic coming through the vehicle entrance would further eliminate any potential dangers to pedestrians and allows access

Thank you for your co-operation with all of the above. The health and safety of every member of the Scoil Barra Naofa community is of vital importance to the school and the Board of Management.

## **HEALTH AND HYGIENE**

We are now coming to that time of year when we need to be particularly vigilant in terms of health and hygiene. We want to keep our children as strong and healthy as possible and with this in mind we ask that each child has their own individual washbag coming to school including a little soap and handtowel (facecloth size is perfect). Sharing towels is not best practice when it comes to staying safe and healthy and as we are a *Green School* we do not use single use paper towels. Please take the time to talk your children about the importance of handwashing well, particularly younger children. We will be reiterating this message in school and placing reminders/posters in the bathrooms. We thank you for your cooperation in these matters.

## **INDOOR SOCCER BLITZ**

The boys of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> class will be taking part in an indoor soccer blitz on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> of November in Riverstick. The blitz will take place from 11.30 to 1 and the children will travel to and from the venue by bus. Participation is not compulsory, however, any boy wishing to attend must have a signed permission slip. This permission slip will be forwarded next week along with cost for bus.

## **CHRISTMAS PANTO; ALADDIN**

The West Midlands Theatre Company will visit the school on Wednesday December 4<sup>th</sup> and will perform Aladdin for children from Junior Infants to 4<sup>th</sup> class. The performance will take place in the school halla and we look forward with great excitement to this event.

## **CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE**

The SBN Christmas Carol Service will take place on Thursday December 19<sup>th</sup> at 11am. The service will be held in the church and all are welcome to hear the beautiful singing of our beautiful children! We look forward to this very special morning.

## **SCIATH Na SCOL DVD**

The DVD of our victorious Sciath Na Scol final is available to order via the school office. The cost of the DVD is 20 Euro and orders will be taken until Thursday November 21<sup>st</sup>.

## **COMMUNION PHOTOGRAPHS**

Christine McCarthy will be taking class group photos (7 by 5 and 15 Euro) and photos of children receiving the Holy Bread ( 6 by 4 and 5 Euro) on the day of the Communion Ceremony. Christine is also available to take family or sibling photographs before and after the ceremony. For further information or to make a booking please contact Christine directly on 021 4895872

## **DOUGLAS CREDIT UNION**

Douglas Credit Union Scheme will continue **every Wednesday at 10am in the school reception area**. Pupils are encouraged to develop the habit of saving small amounts regularly.

## **SHAMROCK INDOOR ACADAMEY**

Shamrocks have moved indoor for the Winter months. Fun, safe environment for your child to begin his GAA journey. Every Friday night in the Marine College, Ringaskiddy, 6.30pm to 8.30pm. Monkstown NS students welcome.

## **PIANO LESSONS**

Places have opened up for piano lessons with Maeve Hunter on Mondays and Wednesdays. If you are interested in availing of piano lessons please contact Maeve on; 0873386438.