



Cliffoney National School

Nuachtlitir

Eanair 2017

www.cliffoneyns.com

0719166578

Catholic Schools Week

This week we have been celebrating Catholic Schools Week (January 29th—February 3rd). The theme of this year is **Catholic Schools: Learning with Pope Francis to Care for Our Common World**. It is hoped that this theme will help schools to gain an understanding of the harm humankind has caused on the earth. Pope Francis is asking us to work together to create a better world for future generations and to take care of, respect and value our common world.

Monday: Seeing the beauty of our common home

Tuesday: Caring for our common world

Wednesday: Grandparents: Watching over our common home

Thursday: Protecting our common home

Friday: Sharing our common home

Our Diocesan advisor, Sr. Annette, visited our school on Tuesday, 31st January. She spent time in every classroom speaking with the children and the teachers. She commended the warm, welcoming atmosphere in the school and our bright and friendly pupils. Sr. Annette talked to the children about being kind to and respectful of others and asked them to continue to thank God for everything he does for us.

Parental Involvement

A huge thank you to all the parents who gave up their time on New Year's Eve at the bag-packing event in Supervalu, Grange. People were extremely generous and a fantastic €930 was made for the school. We will be bag-packing again on Saturday, 15th April 2017, this time at Supervalu, Bundoran. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

The Parents' Association are organising a family quiz on Sunday 2nd April at the Pier Head Hotel. It promises to be great fun. More details to follow!

Dátaí don Féilire

Teacher training: New Language Curriculum	Wednesday, 8th February 2017 (school closed)
Enrolment Evening 2017	Wednesday, 8th February 2017 @ 7pm
Midterm Break	Thursday, 23rd & Friday, 24th February 2017
First Confession	Tuesday, 9th March 2017 @ 7pm
Confirmation	Tuesday, 23rd May 2017 @ 11am
First Holy Communion	Sunday, 28th May 2017 @ 10:30am

School Closed 8th February

The Department of Education has sanctioned a full day school closure on Wednesday, 8th February, in order to facilitate teacher training in the new Language Curriculum. Teachers will attend training at Sligo Education Centre on that day. School will re-open as normal on Thursday, 9th February 2017.

Enrolment Evening

Our Enrolment Evening will take place on Wednesday, 8th February at 7pm. Prospective students and their families are invited to come along on the night and have a look around our school.

For further information or an enrolment form, please visit our website.

School Website

Keep up to date with our school events and activities at:

www.cliffoneyns.com

New 'Stay Safe' Programme

Our teachers recently received training in the new Stay Safe Programme. The programme has been revised in order to reflect the changing world we live in. The changes are necessary and worthwhile and it is hoped that all children will benefit from their engagement with the programme. Stay Safe is mandatory and therefore, must be taught in all schools. As per our school policy for S.P.H.E., Stay Safe is taught on a two year cycle. The new programme will be implemented during the second term of the school year 2017/2018.

A little information on Stay Safe:

The Stay Safe programme is a personal safety skills programme designed for use with primary school children from Junior Infants through to 6th class. The programme seeks to enhance children's self-protective skills by participation in lessons on safe and unsafe situations, bullying, inappropriate touch, secrets, telling and stranger danger.

The programme aims to give children the skills necessary to enable them to recognise and resist abuse/victimisation and teaches them that they should always tell (an adult that can help) about any situation which they find unsafe, upsetting, threatening, dangerous or abusive.

For more information see www.staysafe.ie

Sporting Success!

Cliffoney N.S. competed in the first round of matches in the Indoor Hurling and Camogie Competition which was held in Grange Sports Complex on Friday, 20th January 2017.

The boys got their campaign underway with a comprehension victory over Carns N.S. Their next game was against Maugherow N.S. The boys knew that only a win would see them through to the next round as Maugherow also beat Carns. A fast and skilful game ensued and after normal time, the two teams could not be separated. As a consequence added-time had to be played. It was a case of whoever scored the next goal would go through. The boys dug deep and got that all important goal to clinch victory!

The girls were also involved in a tight encounter with Maugherow. After the end of normal time, it was level. A few nail-biting moments followed. However, on this occasion, Maugherow did just enough to go through.

Well done to all the boys and girls who were involved!

The Famous Fence!

A huge and most sincere thank you to everyone who turned out on two Saturday mornings in January to help cut back and clear the overgrown hedge/forest! It's true what they say—*many hands make for light work!* An incredible amount of work was carried out in a relatively short period of time and the goodwill and community spirit was unbelievable. Thank you to the Parents' Association also for providing tea/coffee and sandwiches. The Board of Management, the staff and pupils are deeply appreciative of your efforts. *Go raibh mile maith agaibh go léir!*

Of course, we are not quite finished! We will need your help again soon in putting up the new fence. Watch this space! Date and time yet to be decided.

Music Lessons

Tin whistle lessons continue with Margaret Byrne this term. Beginning Tuesday, 24th January, lessons will run for 10 weeks at a cost of €10 per child. Please note a slight change of time, lessons will begin at 2:50pm and end at 3:45pm.

Ann Marie Reilly will continue her fiddle lessons in the school also on a Tuesday afternoon.

Public Health Nurse

The Public Health Nurse screened pupils new to our school this month. If she had any concerns regarding your child, she will be in touch soon. If your child was not seen on the day, you will receive an appointment from Markievicz House soon.

G. A. A. Amigos

Tommy from Sligo G.A.A. did a skills test with our senior pupils earlier this month. Ryan, Ethan, Antoine, Fergus, Kiara, Nadine, Izzy and Laura will represent our school at the next stage of the competition in Sligo on Tuesday 7th February 2017. *Go n-éirí an t-adh libh!*

Notes

Some of our pupils are involved in the Rainbow Rhythm production of *Porridge* which takes place in Grange hall on the 11th February @ 7pm and the 12th February @ 3pm. Cost of admission is €8 for an adult & €5 for a child. All proceeds are in aid of Childline.

On Friday, 10th February @ 10am, all schools across the country are being asked to participate in a mass physical activity session—10@10. We look forward to playing our part in promoting health and wellbeing in our community.