

# School Newsletter November 2017

Dear Parents,

- I would thank everyone for their support since the start of the year. With your support we look forward to ensuring that the pupils of Togher BNS are learning in a happy and safe environment.
- **Parent Teacher Meetings:** The school will close at 13:30 on the 21<sup>st</sup> & the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November to facilitate PT meetings.
- **Parents' Association:** The Parents' Association has been very active and has raised some very necessary funds for the school in the first term. The Fun Walk raised €3,180 and the school will be purchasing maths materials for the children to use during lessons. We are also looking to invest in board games for the children to play with during the wet days that they must stay inside. The board games encourage: Turn taking, losing and winning, sharing, maths skills and oral language to name but a few essential life skills. Your generosity is really appreciated.
- **After School Activities:** After the PA meeting in October there was a demand for after school classes. The staff discussed this and the following after school classes have started in the school.
- **The Adventure Academy:** This physical literacy class which is being run for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> classes on Mondays from 14:30-15:30 by Lisa Bolger, a Sports and Exercise Scientist from CIT. In January and February we hope to run these classes for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> classes if there is enough interest.
- **Scratch Programming:** Mr Kelly has started a Scratch Programming Class with 13 boys from fifth class. This class will run until Christmas. This class will run again in the January and February. Check out <http://scratch.mit.edu>
- **Chess:** Mr Murphy is running a chess class for the third classes until Christmas on Thursdays from 14:30-15:30. We hope to have chess classes running in the January and February as well.
- **Art Classes:** A Christmas Art & Crafts Course is being run by Ms. Mangan and Ms. O Sullivan on Wednesdays from 14:35-15:35. Cost €50 for five lessons. Contact office for details.
- **Be Active After School Classes.** Ms. Long, Ms. Edwards & Ms. Walsh will be starting Be Active ASAP classes in January for 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> classes. These classes are being targeted because children at this age make decisions regarding likes/dislikes on physical activity.
- We would like to thank all the teachers and parents for all their efforts.

## Activities occurring within the school:

- **Swimming:** We started swimming with 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> classes from the first week in September. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> classes will go swimming in November & December and 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> classes will be in February and March. We do ask that the full €64 is paid to the school by every child even if they do not attend. The school will pay over €1,200 out of its own finances to ensure swimming is available to all pupils. We require all parent to support us to ensure that it is viable.
- **Discover Primary Science & Maths Award.** The school is participating in the DPSM Awards this year and all the classes will be completing Science & Maths experiments. A PHD student from UCC is teaching the fifth classes 10 STEAM lessons during November, December and January. Mr. Murray's fifth class will also be participating in the RDS Primary Science Fair in January.
- **School Choir** – Pupils from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> participate on a voluntary basis in the school choir. We appreciate the work of Peter Stobart (Director of Music St. Finbarr's Cathedral) with the choir.
- **Christmas Raffle Spot Prizes required before the 5<sup>th</sup> of December.** Tickets will go on sale from the 11<sup>th</sup> of December. Your generosity is really appreciated. All proceeds go towards the Book Rental Scheme.
- **Volunteers:** Volunteers ensure that all pupils can avail of the best education and we would ask every parent to volunteer time or share their expertise with the school.
  - **5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> class parent volunteers required for cake sale on the 17<sup>th</sup> of Nov.**
  - **Junior & Senior Infant parent volunteers are required on Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup> of Dec to setup Santa's Grotto.**
  - **3<sup>rd</sup> Class parent volunteers required for Santa's visit on Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> of December**
- **Health Promoting School:** The school will become a Health Promoting School this year. This will add to the excellent work that our Active School Committee has done over the number of years.
- **Enrollment:** The school is processing applications for Junior Infants 2018-2019 at present. Places will be offered in the coming weeks. Due to the high demand for places we will be creating waiting lists once all offers have been accepted. Please complete application immediately if you require a place.

## November & December 2017 Calendar of Events:

| <b>Event</b>                           | <b>Date</b>                             | <b>Action</b>  |
|--|---|--|
| Parent Teacher Meetings                | 21 <sup>st</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov | School Closes at 13:30 both days   |
| Cake Sale: Supports Book Rental Scheme | 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov                    | 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Class parent volunteers required.  |
| Junior Infant Enrollment Offers        | 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov                    | Offers posted. Places must be accepted by 24 <sup>th</sup> of November. Waiting lists created after this date due to demand. |
| Spot Prizes Required                   | 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec                     | Please drop into office  |
| Pantomime                              | 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec                    | This will take place for all pupils in school hall.  |
| Christmas Play for Pre-schools         | 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec                    | Pupils from 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> class will perform for the pupils and parents from the preschools.             |
| Santa's Grotto Setup                   | 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec                    | Parent volunteers from Junior & Senior Infants required.   |
| Santa's Visit                          | 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec.                   | Parent volunteers from 3 <sup>rd</sup> Class required  |
| Christmas Concert - Church             | 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec                    | All classes will perform in the Church. Parents and grandparents are more than welcome to join us.                           |
| School Closes                          | 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec                    | School Closes 12:00 noon   |
| School Re-opens                        | 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2018                | School re-opens 8:50am   |

Please keep up to date with all of the events in the school by going to

<http://www.togherboys.com>