

### Out and About

- 5th classes had a guided tour of St. Conleth's Community School on Thursday, October 9th, which they enjoyed very much.
- Children from 5th class went to play Maths Games with 1st class during Maths Week.
- 5th & 6th classes walked uptown to Bord na Móna on Tue. last to watch pupils from the Patrician Primary re-enact the departure of soldiers from Newbridge Barracks 100 years ago to fight in WW1.

### Class News

- Several classes have been performing at weekly assemblies. Acts included 'Ceisteanna' and 'An Haka Gaelach', by Rm. 6, 'All My Great Excuses' and 'A Shaighdiúirín a Chroí' by Rm. 5 and 'Footloose' by Rm. 1.
- The lovely Hallowe'en artwork in the foyer was created by 2nd classes, Rms. 16 & 17. Well done to all.
- Rms. 13, 14 & 15 are busy learning guitar and using percussion instruments in preparation for their performance for the rest of the school in November.
- Rm. 8 did projects on Ancient Greece and enjoyed presenting them to the class. In art they learned about construction and made a sweet shop, a castle, a small village and a hotel..
- Rm. 15 enjoyed learning about Picasso and designing their own funny faces.
- Rm. 5 started Readers Theatre with an extract from Charlotte's Web. They did surveys and created Bar Charts to mark Maths Week. They have begun to learn to do cross-stitch.
- Rm. 1 went on a Nature Walk to the park in September. They decorated the class and windows for the All-Ireland Football Final. In Science they made 'potato heads'.
- Rm. 20 have begun learning the recorder.
- Rm. 14 are holding a Hallowe'en Cake Sale for Charity on Thursday.
- Rm. 3 have been busy making Hallowe'en books which they read for Rms. 13, 16 & 17. They are looking forward to starting cooking lessons after mid-term.



Dear Parents,

As this is the first newsletter of the new school year I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all well for the coming year. By now we have all settled back into the routine of school and hopefully it will be a successful and productive year. I would like to welcome all our new pupils in second class and all newcomers to other classes in the school. I hope you will enjoy success and happiness during your time in St. Conleth & Mary's. Welcome back, also, to all the staff and thank you for the commitment, dedication and enthusiasm you show in carrying out your duties both curricular and extra-curricular.

I believe we have got off to a good start for 2014/2015. Our attendance rate for the month of September was 96%. The majority of our pupils are working hard, are keen to do their best, wearing the correct uniform / tracksuit and are abiding by the rules. We greatly appreciate the co-operation and support from parents in relation to homework, schoolwork and uniform.

I would like to wish the Parents Association all the best for the coming year and to thank them for all their hard work on behalf of the school and for their support.

Hopefully, we will see you all at the Parent/Teacher meetings in November.

**Could I appeal to all to check for head lice over midterm and to treat if necessary.**

I hope you all have a safe and enjoyable mid-term break.

Sheila O'Neill.

### Sacramental Preparation

2nd and 6th classes have begun the home and school based programme of preparation for First Communion and Confirmation in 2015. We wish them well.

### Anti-Bullying Week

In September we spent a week focusing on ways of behaving more positively towards others and making St. Conleth & Mary's a bully-free zone. Lots of lovely posters were created in many classes. We'll be revisiting this topic each term with the children to remind them of the importance of kindness to their classmates.

### Guess the Score

Many thanks to all who supported our annual Guess the Score competition so generously again this year. The money will be put to very good use for the benefit of our pupils. Among other things, this money is used to subsidise buses and pay referees for matches.

**Reminder: School is a nut free zone**

### Sport

- A huge thanks to the boys' football squad for all their hard work. Training will resume in the New Year. To mark the end of the current season, a number of Under 11 boys will take part in a Blitz in Scoil Mhuire on Thursday. Good luck to all.
- Congratulations to the U-11 Girls' panel on a great turn out this year. The girls showed great enthusiasm and were unlucky not to progress further in the competition. We hope that they keep up their skills and interest for next year.
- Thanks to all who participated in basketball training. Girls are finished now until Spring but the boys' panel will play in the League next month.
- 6th classes and Rm. 1 have enjoyed their weekly swimming lessons in Energie Pool.
- 5th and 6th classes have benefitted greatly from gymnastic classes with Aisling over the past 6 weeks.
- 2nd, 3rd and 4th classes have been learning to play Volleyball and are looking forward immensely to taking part in the Blitz on Friday morning.
- It will be the turn of the other classes to try their hand at swimming, gymnastics and volleyball after midterm.

### Reach for the Stars

We have introduced an incentive scheme to promote good behaviour when lining up after breaks. Classes are awarded from 1 to 5 points every break time and the classes in each yard with the highest points at the end of the week win a prize, often a night off homework. So far, most classes have been winners.

### Active School Flag

We have begun working towards our first Active School Flag. Trainers from Energie Fitness came to work with the children on National Health and Fitness Day in September. You will have noticed a Supertroopers insert in the Homework Journals, outlining simple ideas for becoming more active, which children are asked to do for about 10 mins each night as part of their homework. If we step up our fitness level and document our progress, we're hoping to qualify for the Active Flag in 2015.