

Scoil Phádraig Milltown Ns

Newsletter- 2023/2024

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11/1/24

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please note the following:

Christmas Raffle and Plays: Many thanks to you the parents, for your support of our Christmas Raffle and Plays. We took in a fantastic € 3,000. We are very fortunate to have such a supportive school community. Thank you very much for your generous support of our school.

Enrolment for September 2024:

Enrolment application forms will be available from the school office/website from Friday January 19th. Forms should be returned to school on/before Friday 9th February. I would ask that you encourage people, who you may know who are seeking a primary school, to seriously consider Milltown National School. A bus service runs from Mullingar and Ballymahon each day. If you have any queries about enrolment, please contact the office. **It is vital that we keep up our strong pupil numbers, otherwise we would be in danger of losing a teacher. All your assistance regarding this important matter is much appreciated.**

Mullingar Voices

5th and 6th class are taking part in Mullingar Voices this year. The children have been practicing every Tuesday for the past few weeks and the programme will culminate in a performance in the Mullingar Arts Centre on February the 3rd. Tickets for the event are available to purchase in the Arts centre, over the phone or online via this [Link](#) (please ensure you purchase tickets for SATURDAY February 3rd).

Confirmation

Confirmation this year will be celebrated with a ceremony in the Cathedral of Christ the King, Mullingar on February the 6th at 2pm.

STEM Grant

Our school was lucky enough to be chosen as one of the recipients of a sizable STEM grant before Christmas. These funds will be used to purchase equipment/devices to further our childrens' learning in the area of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

Stay Safe and RSE

An email was sent this week outlining how the Stay Safe and RSE programmes will be taught throughout the school in the coming weeks. Please contact the school if you have any queries or issues.

Catholic Schools Week 2024:

Catholic schools week will be celebrated on the week of 21st January. This year's theme is '*Catholic Schools:Communities of Service*'. We will celebrate a special school Mass on Tuesday 22nd January to mark this special week. All parents/grandparents are welcome.

Swimming Lessons:

Swimming lessons for pupils in 3rd to 6th class began on Wednesday 10th January in Mullingar Swimming Pool. Parents are asked to ensure that all pupils bring the appropriate swimming gear each Wednesday throughout the seven weeks of swimming lessons. The use of deodorant sprays is prohibited.

School Half Day Closure

As part of our ongoing training for staff in the Primary language Curriculum the school will finish for all students at 12pm on Friday March 1st, to allow for staff to partake in said training.

GAA Coaching:

GAA coaching for Junior and Senior Infants, First and Second Class also began on Wednesday and will run for the next 6 weeks. Children are asked to wear runners and gumshields if possible for the coaching sessions.

Online Safety:

Some pupils may have received electronic devices as presents over the Christmas. Online safety for children is a concern for all of us. Keeping up to date with changes in technology can be quite difficult. At present the TikTok app is being widely used. **I strongly recommend that you take the time to visit <https://www.webwise.ie/category/parents/advice/> .The parent hub outlines tips on how we can keep our children safe online. Our School Safer Internet Day will be celebrated in February.**

February Bank Holiday/Mid Term: School will be closed on Monday 5th February for a Bank Holiday. Mid term break is the 15th and 16th February. An interactive school calendar and school year planner can be downloaded from our school website www.milltownns.ie.

New Year:

As we begin 2024, we wish all parents, pupils and staff a happy and prosperous new year.

Yours sincerely,

Ronan Scally

Acting Principal

