



SCOIL MHUIRE GAN SMÁL

Green Lane, Carlow

Principal: Bernie Murphy

Tel 059 9142705

Deputy Principal: Mary Woods

Assistant Principal: Máirín Lambe

Charity No. 20109363

e-mail smgscarlow@gmail.com

Roll 18363m Tax no. 3289700U

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am pleased to share the following school news updates with you!

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Christmas Holidays commence Friday Dec. 20th at 12 noon. (Pupils wear clothes of choice.)

School re-opens Monday Jan. 6th 2020

SOME CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES.....

Christmas Concerts: The standard of the shows just continues to soar! Thank you for all the words of congratulations and appreciation we received! It truly means a lot to have our work recognised! Great credit to all the teachers for their incredible work with their classes.

Please note: Donations of costumes are always welcome!

Grateful thanks to all the members of the Parents' Council who worked on the door and who organised the raffle at all six concerts!

Concert DVD: Copies of the DVD are available from the office for €10.

Carol Singing: Both 6th Classes paid the annual visit to the Sacred Heart Hospital, accompanied by Mrs. Walshe, Miss Redmond and Miss Dunne. As usual the girls were wonderful on what is always a truly special visit.

Carol Service: Pupils from 3rd-6th Classes are invited to participate in next Sunday's Carol Service in the Cathedral **at the new time of 7.30pm**. It is a lovely lead-in to Christmas. (*Admission is free.*)

Christmas Eve Mass: Our school will again take part in this special Mass for children. Some pupils from 3rd Class will be involved in acting out the Gospel while all pupils from 3rd – 6th are invited to sing. Mass is at 7pm and we look forward to seeing many families on Christmas Eve.

Christmas Raffle: *Yet again, huge thanks to our immensely supportive Parents' Council!* We are very grateful for the generous donations received for the Christmas Raffle. Sincere thanks and appreciation to all of our sponsors too! The fantastic hampers made up by the Parents' Council are spectacular again and will cause lots of excitement in the school tomorrow! (*P.S. If you are lucky enough to win a hamper and do not need the basket, the Parents' Council would be grateful if you would return it to school for the next raffle!*) 1st Prize: Girl's Bike. 2nd Prize: Monster Hamper. Lots more prizes of hampers also available!

Christmas Annuals: Grateful thanks to our SNA, Miss Byrne, for her work in organising the sale and distribution of the Christmas annuals to classes.

Christmas Cards: This year, we selected some of our pupils' bottle-top art for our school Christmas cards!

Christmas Shoebox Appeal: Sincerest thanks to all the families who assembled the **233 shoeboxes** for *Team Hope*! Thanks to Ms. Rogers for organising the collection and huge thanks to all parents and pupils for these special donations. *Míle buíochas!*

SPLIT-THE-POT: Our Parents' Council have had a very successful run of draws.

Special thanks goes to chairperson, Eileen Doran, for her tireless work on our behalf!

CYBER-BULLYING and INTERNET SAFETY: It was wonderful to have over 70 parents join us for the workshop run by *Ger Brick*. Again, it meant a lot to us to meet so many of you there and to hear the positive feedback! Ger also worked with individual classes (4th-6th) over two days and held a workshop with all the staff after school.

(The workshops were funded through the proceeds of the Parents' Council's *Split-the Pot*.)

CELEBRATING SUCCESS:

Someone Like Me: Congratulations to Indie Mai Byrne from Mrs. Uí Bhroin's 1st Class who won the Co. Carlow junior section of this competition which focuses on disability. Indie Mai, her mother and her teacher enjoyed a wonderful day of celebration in Dublin City Hall earlier this month. She won €100 for herself and €200 for her school!

ROBOTICS: Thanks to Mr. McEvoy who is leading the initiative in our school this year!

SPORTS PROGRAMME: Thanks to Brian Dunne and the coaches from O'Hanrahans who have been working with 1st & 2nd and to Don Walker who has been coaching 3rd & 4th this term.

Cumann na mBunscol: Congrats. to our footballers who had some great wins in this year's competition! Grateful thanks to Mrs. Lambe, Miss McDermott and Miss Byrne for their work with the team!

Gymnastics: Ramona will again teach a 6-week block of gymnastics to all classes, starting the first week back in Jan.

Futsal: Well done to our girls who won all their matches in the Futsal Soccer League for 3rd and 4th Classes.

GREEN NEWS: *Such creativity!* Congrats. to all who entered the *Bottle-top Art Competition!* ***The standard of creativity displayed by families is again so impressive!*** After much deliberation, it was decided to recognise *all* the entries and a lot of prizes were presented today. *Míle buíochas to Ms. Hourihane for all her work!*

(Please remember to recycle old Christmas cards, stamps, batteries and old phones in January.)

Finally, on behalf of the entire Scoil Mhuire gan Smál team, may I wish all our families a truly happy Christmas and a bright, healthy and prosperous New Year!

Bernie Murphy

Bernie Murphy
Principal