

Newsletter – December 2021



Cahergal N.S.
Scóil Náisiúna An Chathair Sheal



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Principal's message

Dear parents/guardians,

How quickly the first term has flown! Our classrooms are busy with Christmas activity as we celebrate this special season. How lovely it has been to hear the singing of Christmas songs and toots of tin whistles again this year, sounds that we sorely missed last year. A small note of thank you for your continued support and cooperation as we work together in these unprecedented times. On behalf of the staff, I would like to wish all of our pupils and families every good wish for a safe, peaceful and healthy Christmas.

Le gach Dé-ghui

Alastair Breegan (Príomhoide)

School Closures to note:

Christmas Break – We finish the term with a **half day closure at 12.30pm** on Wednesday, 22nd December. The second term commences on **Thursday, 6th January**.



Christmas News



St. Vincent De Paul Food Collection – We are running a small food collection in each classroom for St. Vincent De Paul. If any of our families have spare non-perishable food items that they would like to contribute, pupils can bring them in and place them in the dedicated boxes in each classroom until Tuesday, December 21st. As always, there is no pressure on any family to participate. Last year 5th and 6th Classes organised this collection in their room and we were overwhelmed by the generosity of families. Small items make a big difference to the lives of those less fortunate at this time of year, so please give what you can.

Credit Union Art Competition – Congratulations to Monica McGoven, 5th Class, who won Second Place in the St. Jarlath's Credit Union School Art Competition, 11 – 13 age category. We are very proud of Monica's wonderful achievement.

Design-a-Card – Well done to all of our pupils on the beautiful Christmas Card art work. A massive thank you to Evelyn Carr from our Parents' Association Chairperson, for coordinating this initiative. €225.50 was raised for the school.

Congratulations – Huge congratulations to our own Mrs. Moran on the birth of her baby girl, Elena. All the boys and girls (and staff) were delighted to hear the good news and send our best wishes.

Christmas Raffle – Our annual Christmas Raffle Draw will be held in the school tomorrow, Thursday, 16th December. A huge thank you to all of our families, staff and wider community for supporting the raffle and I extend a word of sincere appreciation to the generous groups and individuals who donated so many fantastic prizes. This school tradition is such an important fundraiser each year and as always, the kindness and generosity of our school community is something for us all to be proud of.

Special Visitor – The North Pole elves have been in contact to let us know that we can expect a red-suited visitor to Cahergal N.S. very soon!

Christmas Video – We are putting together a little video for our parents to show all the Christmas fun in the school. Can we ask that pupils wear a Santa hat in this Friday, 17th December.

Christmas Party in each room - We invite all our pupils and staff to wear their favourite Christmas jumpers (socks/hats/gloves) on Wednesday, 22nd December and help raise our festive spirits ahead of our holidays. Pupils can bring two treats and a drink and there will be a small party in each room. This year we ask that pupils who want to give a gift to their teacher, donate to a charity of their choice instead.

Active Flag - Thank you to the pupils on our Active Committee who helped choose the winning entry to the Active Slogan Competition. Well done to Freya in 6th class with her winning slogan "GET UP AND EXERCISE, I'M SURE YOU'LL BE

SURPRISED Each of the winning class entries are displayed on the front window of the school for the whole school community to view.

Marathon Kids – Well done to the pupils in 5th and 6th Class, who have been taking part in the Galway Sports Partnership “Marathon Kids” programme. Each week they have been working towards running a marathon distance by completing laps of our astro turf. In class they have learned about the benefits of running and received online warm-ups and advice from David Gillick, former Olympian.

Science Week – What a fantastic week of learning we had during Science Week. Each class undertook lots of fun experiments. We received some wonderful science resources from Galway Science which really added to the fun. Scribble Bots, Mechanised Colour Spinners, Red Cabbage Ph Indicators, Lava Lamps, Volcanoes were all enjoyed and 3rd and 4th Class were able to share their experiments with Junior and Seniors using our Apple iPad TV.

Thank you – A huge word of thank you to Marion Fahy, who has departed her role as school cleaner after nearly 4 years. Marion has gone above and beyond to ensure our school building is a clean and well-presented environment for pupils, staff and the wider community. Over the past year and half, we have rested easy in the knowledge that Marion’s attention to detail and care was at work, as we strived to make the school as hygienic and safe as it could be. With heavy hearts we bid farewell to Marion and wish her and her family every good wish for the future.

Condolences – The Board of Management and staff of Cahergal N.S. would like to extend our deepest condolences to the Jennings family on the passing of Valerie. During her time as a member of our parent body, Valerie gave so generously of her time and worked so hard to ensure many school events went smoothly. In particular, her contribution to the publication marking the school’s 60th Anniversary was exceptional. A wonderful, fun-loving and supportive lady, her loss to the greater community is immense. We will keep Shane, Sean and Michelle, in our thoughts at this difficult time. *Go ndéana Dia a mhaith uirthi.*



Our beautiful school crib donated by our former Principal, Mrs. Sally Flynn and family. Every year it reminds us of the true meaning of Christmas.

Merry Christmas and best wishes to all our pupils and families as we look forward with hope to 2022.