



NUACHTLITIR Ó SCOIL NÁISIÚNTA CHOLMCILLE NAOFA



Mean Fomhair 2015

> Dates for your Diary

Parent Teacher Meetings—Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st October

School Dentist will visit
2nd and 6th Classes on
Friday 23rd October

Halloween Break—
School closes 23rd October,
reopens 2nd November

Fancy Dress for Halloween—all children are
invited to dress up in
their favourite costume
for Halloween—Friday,
23rd October

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Ní neart go cur le chéile

Welcome Back!

Welcome to all students and staff, new and old! We hope that everyone had an enjoyable summer holiday and a relaxing break.

As usual, the start of the year has been very busy, settling in and getting organised. We welcome all the new Junior Infants and other children to our school and we hope that they settle in and are excited to meet their friends and enjoy the new surroundings.



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SPORTS NEWS... ..

Well done to all the children in Castlegar NS who continue to participate and be involved in all different types of sports. We are very lucky to have such a good success rate in sport and we hope to continue this for the coming year.

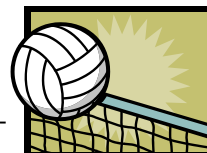
Boys and girls from 3rd-6th class competed in the Cross Country running recently in Renmore. Well done to Caoimhe Callaghan who won a medal and qualified for the

finals.

The Mini 7s competition will be coming up soon so best of luck to all the boys and girls who train so hard.

We will be starting our Handball competitions in the coming weeks, so if anyone is interested, get practicing!

Hurling training is back up and running so make sure your child has all the appropriate gear— helmet, hurl, boots.



SCHOOL NEWS...

Parents Classes in your local area

The Eastside Local Education Committee has organised a **Health & Wellness Programme for Parents and Grandparents**.

The Programme will take place in the Ballybane Library every Thursday morning from 9:30-11:00am. All parents and friends of the school are welcome to go.

There are lots of different classes to enjoy—nutrition, make up and skincare, hair and nail care, acupuncture, yoga and loads more! It is a great opportunity for taking time to look after yourself and get to know other parents.

If you are interested in joining a class in your local area, please contact Ms Doherty on 087 9403984—there are Computer, English, Cookery, Woodwork and many others to choose from.



Junior & Senior Infants—Mrs O'Connor's class are settling in very well together. The new children are really enjoying school and the Senior Infants are great helpers! Both classes are learning new songs, rhymes and are having great fun!

1st & 2nd Class—Ms Seagrave's class are doing lots of hard work already! They are revising their addition and subtraction and did a 2D shape trail around the school. Ms McMahon has set up the Literacy Lift Off programme with the children and they

are very enthusiastic about reading lots of books.

3rd & 4th Class—Ms Kelly has just completed a beautiful art project using Van Gogh's *Starry Night* as inspiration. There is lots of revision too—and new addition tables to learn. It's a busy classroom!

5th Class—Ms Gaughan's class are doing a great project on famous people from the 20th century. The children are learning all about their achievements and also the social history relevant to the person. They are learning Irish verbs and doing much more difficult sums.

6th Class—Ms Winston's class are revising multiplication and division in maths and problem solving. They have done a wonderful project on the Easter Rising and are integrating



Roots of Empathy

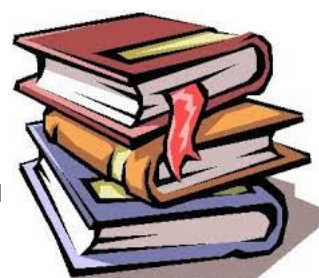
Mrs O'Connor's Junior and Senior Infants are embarking upon a new programme in their classroom called **Roots of Empathy**. The programme is designed to promote positive social behaviour, empathy, consideration and respect for others and prevent bullying and negative behaviour. The programme will be facilitated by Mrs O'Connor and a trained tutor with the funding organisation. We are certain that this will be a very worthwhile and engaging programme and we look forward to seeing



**Remember to
keep checking
our school
website
www.castlegarns.ie**

Book Rental

The Book Rental Scheme is up and running again and is a great success. Huge thanks to Mary Glynn who has been working so hard, organising the scheme, collecting money, covering and sourcing books. If you have not paid the rental fee, please ensure that you do so as soon as possible. The rental fee can be paid in installments if required.



Úi neart go cur le chéile

Hurling coaching

We welcome Tom and Gerry back to us, who are taking children for training every Tuesday and Thursday. We are very grateful to them for coming to us every year and we are getting great results.



Dina Schools Incredible Years

Junior Infants are participating in the Dina Schools Incredible Years programme every Monday morning. Good behaviour with positive behaviour management is working really well and all children love the activities. The children in 1st to 3rd Classes will be continuing the programme.



Digital Schools of Distinction Award

Castlegar NS recently received a Digital Schools of Distinction Award for all ICT work carried out in the classrooms. The award recognises the school's commitment to the integration of IT in teaching and learning in the school. It is a great achievement. Huge thanks to Ms McMahon who has done such hard work



F O G R A Í

Parent Teacher Meetings—these will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday, 21st & 22nd of October. All parents are required to attend to receive an update on their child's progress. It is also a good opportunity to meet the teachers and see what your child is learning.

Afterschool Clubs—The SCP Homework Club takes place every

Monday for specific children. We will be starting a general Homework Club on Wednesdays from 2:30-3:30pm. This will cater for children from 1st to 6th Class and will cost €2 per child.

Guitar lessons are continuing every Tuesday afternoon with Richie Byrne. The children love it and are learning so many tunes.

The Ogras Club will start in the coming weeks.

Green Flag—we are working towards our 7th Green Flag this year. The theme is Global Citizenship—Energy and Waste. We hope to organise events celebrating our



An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

Attendance, Absences & Punctuality

School starts at 8:50am. We request that children come to school on time as frequent latecomers disturb classes that are already in progress and they miss vital class time themselves.

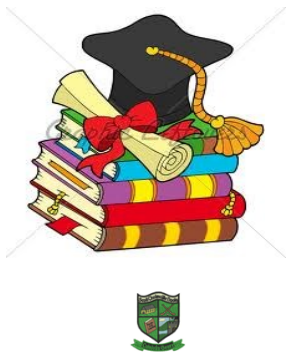
We require an explanation as to why your child has missed school upon their return to school after an absence.

Please note that we contact parents if a child has missed 15 days of school and again when absences have reached 20 days.

Linda Quinn, Educational Welfare Officer visits the school on a monthly basis and reviews and monitors all unexplained or unsatisfactory absences. We are required by law to furnish her with these details.

We will be promoting good attendance at our monthly school assemblies.





**SN Cholmcille
Naofa**



Parents' Association

A meeting will be held in the coming weeks to welcome new parents to the Parents' Association. We have always enjoyed having a very active and successful PA and we hope to continue in this way in the year to come. We welcome any new parents to the PA and we hope that you will feel welcome to join in. Remember—each parent is a member of the PA as each parent has a child in this school!



The Parents' Association has been very busy already this year—they have organised a small fundraiser by selling flower bulbs where half the proceeds will go directly to the school. This is a great opportunity to purchase something you may use

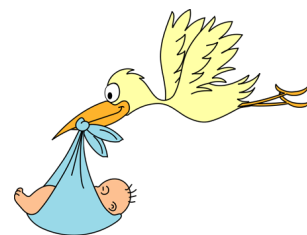
STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

There will be a newly elected Student Council this year in Castlegar NS. We hope to continue with the great work already in progress by previous councils. As always, the enthusiasm and energy from the Student Council is very much appreciated and applauded. Lots of fun activities are carried out each year that are organised by the Student Council and we are very grateful for their work.



Hello and Goodbye!

We would like to say Goodbye and Good Luck to Ms Fallon, who has moved to a different school and we welcome Ms Kelly to 3rd & 4th Class, Ms Seagrave to 1st & 2nd Class and Ms McMahon who joins our Learning Support/ Resource Team.



Congratulations to Mrs McCormack who has been blessed with a beautiful baby boy. We wish her all the