

Opening Time : 9.00 am - 1.40pm for infant classes and 9.00am - 2.40pm for all other classes.
School opens to receive pupils from 8.50am onwards.

November Newsletter

It has been another busy month in school. Girls and boys are fitting in Christmas play practice around their classwork.

- The **Student Council** is in place. Elections took place this month. Pupils from each of 3rd – 6th classes are represented on the council and they have already had their first meeting with Ms. Moran.



- The **WOW Board** has lots of photos about boys' and girls' exploits outside of school. Due to all the news, we might have to change it to a Wow Wall!
- All classes were treated to a day of experiments with John in the Halla during **Science Week**. A very memorable day for all!



- Past pupils and current Gallen CS students Josh, Clodagh and the two Conor's

- Well done to all who entered the '**Story Writing Competition**'. They were very entertaining reads. Congratulations to the prize winners!



- **First Holy Communion preparation mass** took place on Sunday 26th November at 11.30am mass in Ballinahown. Well done to all the girls and boys for taking part.
- Dates for **Sacraments 2024** –
 - Confirmation, Wednesday 20 March at 3pm.
 - First Holy Communion, Saturday 27 April at 3pm.
 - First Confession TBC for early February.
- **Parent/ Teacher meetings** took place on Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th November. Thanks very much to all families for attending.
- The school will have **Christmas Plays** this year, which will take place in the school on **Wednesday 13 December**. There will be a matinee at 12pm and an evening performance at 7pm. Preparations are underway! We look forward to welcoming lots of family and friends on the day. As we have limited space and expect the evening show to be busier, in order to take pressure off the Halla we encourage some family members to come to the 12pm show if it suits.

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returned with their science teacher to demonstrate and perform a fascinating **experiment on the lungs** with the older classes. Always lovely to welcome back our past pupils!



- **Rugby with coach Paudge** was rained off this month. It will continue for pupils from 1st to 6th class every second Thursday until March.
- **Cricket** for 1st – 6th classes with Bernard finished in November. It was great fun and all pupils learned new skills.
- The **in-school soccer competitions** are currently taking place. Great excitement on the Astro-turf and some semi-finals were decided by sudden death penalties! The finals will take place on Friday 1st December. There will be over 50 pupils showing off their skills on the day!



- Clothes Collection in October **raised €452** for the school. Thanks to all for the support!
- Thanks to all for the response to the **Voluntary Contribution** request to help with the costs of running the school. The understanding and support of families is greatly appreciated.
- Thanks to all those who helped with process of electing **parent representatives** for new Board of Management. It is expected to finalise the new board in the next week and circulate the names of BoM on Aladdin.
- We are currently looking to form a **Parent Association**. Parents who are interested are encouraged to get involved.
- The school will be **closed** for all pupils on **Monday 11th December** for staff training in Athlone for Primary Maths Curriculum training. All schools have to attend a full day training this school year.
- **School Self-Evalutaion** –
 - Student Voice - Student Council has been elected and already has had its first meeting.
 - Covid-19 survey of families that needs to be carried out by all schools will be carried out before Christmas.
 - *Frásaí na Seachtaine* for September and October are on our website. Starting from December, we will share the *Frása na Seachtaine*, its translation and pronunciation on Aladdin.
- School closes for Christmas break on **Friday, December 22nd** and will reopen on **Monday, November 8th January**.