

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.



October 2022 Newsletter

- Well done to our middle room and senior room on making **spooky scarecrows** for the Galway Pumpkin Patch competition. Both designs were very unique and thanks to all the boys and girls for bringing in the accessories.



- Lots of maths games and riddles took place during **Maths Week 2021**, which ran between October 16th and 24th. Girls and boys enjoyed the variety of activities.
- Halloween dress up** day always brings great excitement to our school! All pupils looked really well in their costumes and home clothes on Friday 28 October.
- Rugby with coach Paudge** is going well. Pupils from 1st to 6th Class have been enjoying it this month.
- Gaelic football training** has gone well since September with 1st to 6th Class. 1st and 2nd classes have been working on the skills. This will continue after midterm but all children

- Ferbane Library** will visit our Junior and Senior Infants on Wednesday 9 November for story time reading.
- Enrolment masses** for First Holy Communion and Confirmation pupils and their parents will take place over the next two weekends at 11.30am mass in Ballinahown. First Holy Communion enrolment will take place on Sunday 30th October. Confirmation enrolment will take place on Sunday 6th November.
- The school has booked in for 5 sessions of **swimming lessons in Clara Swimming Pool** in February 2023. This will be for 1st – 6th classes and we will encourage all children to take part in the Aquatics part of PE. The cost of the lessons/bus will be subsidised by the school to make it affordable for families.
- Parent/ Teacher meetings** will take place on the week of Monday 14 November. Your child's teacher will be in touch regarding a date/time for meeting after midterm.
- School uniforms** are looking very well this school year. Pupils are reminded to wear full uniform except for school tracksuit on PE/ football days.
- The school will have its annual November **Clothes Collection** on Thursday, November 24th. This proved to be a great fundraiser last year. Please spread the word to family and friends!
- The Board of Management undertook the annual review of the school's **Child Safeguarding Statement** at the BOM meeting on Tuesday 25th October. The **Swimming Policy** was also ratified. Please find these policies on our school website.
- The school will have a **Christmas Carol Service** this year, which will take place in St. Colmcille's Church, Ballinahown on **Wednesday 14 December at 7pm**. This

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will be required to wear **gum shields** to Gaelic football each week going forward in order to take part in the small games.

- There was a great variety of short stories written by pupils from 1st to 6th Class for our **Narrative Writing Wall**. The ideas were fantastic and the well-constructed stories were a joy to read! Well done all!



- **Music Generation's Zoe** teaches music to all our classrooms each Tuesday and this is going very well! The whole school visited Music Generation's 'Music Tent' in Belvedere House this month. The older classes took part in *Singfest* while the younger classes went to the *Musical Teddy Bear's* picnic.
- Junior Infants to 1st Class went on a very enjoyable trip to **Ferbane Fire Station**. The boys and girls had lots of fun seeing all the equipment and learned lots of helpful safety tips. Thanks to all the crew for having us!

promises to be a great evening's entertainment and ask all families to keep it free.

- **School Self-Evaluation** - This year the three areas to be covered as a school are-
 - Wellbeing
 - Impact of Covid-19
 - Review of Current SSE

Both Ms. Grehan and Ms. Moran attended wellbeing training in Athlone Education Centre. The Wellbeing Policy Statement and Framework for Practice will be used as a guide in our school in the coming years and we look forward to involving pupils and parents in this regard.

- Rashina Vintage Club gave a **cheque for €1,500** to the school from the threshing day. The bake sale totalled €1,130 and vintage club added €370 to this. The school greatly appreciates this support. Thanks again to families for the massive reaction, baking two weeks in a row after the weather forced postponement.
- The road outside the school is busy, especially at home-time. Thanks again to all parents for being **extra vigilant** at these times and ensuring the safety of all.
- School closes for midterm break **Friday, October 28th and will reopen on Monday, November 7th November.**



The BOM and staff would like to wish all pupils and their families a safe and enjoyable Halloween break.