

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 Newsletter

It has been a busy month in school. The classrooms and hall look really well with all of the great Halloween and autumn art on the noticeboards.

- A lot of work is being done in school for the **Student Council**. Local County Councillor Frank Moran spoke to the children about representing others and giving people a voice. He also gave some practical campaign tips. Boys and girls from 3rd – 6th classes are finalising their speeches and campaigns. Elections will take place after midterm.



- Our first **Assembly** took place in October. We plan on having a monthly assembly for all pupils. It will give all pupils a chance to gather and showcase their interests and talents. The **WOW Board** is full and look forward to this changing each month. Children have represented the school at equestrian, won photography and karate awards, dancing competitions, hurling medals etc. this month. Well done!
- There was a lot of maths talk and activities in school during **Maths Week**, which ran between October 13th and 21st. 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 27th October.

- There was a great variety of short stories written by pupils from all classes for our **'Story Writing Competition'**. There was great imagination on show, neat writing and fantastic illustrations in the spooky tales! **Narrative Writing** was taught in all classes during October.



- **Enrolment masses** for First Holy Communion and Confirmation pupils and their parents took place during October at 11.30am Sunday masses in Ballinahown. Well done to all the girls and boys for taking part.
- **Parent/ Teacher meetings** will take place on Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th November. We will send schedule options on Aladdin after midterm.
- We collected over 1,100kg clothes at our **Clothes Collection** this month We should have a total raised next month.
- The school will have **Christmas Plays** this year, which will take place in the school on the evening of **Wednesday 13 December**. Preparation will start after midterm and we ask all families to keep the date free.
- The Board of Management decided to ask families for a **Voluntary Contribution** this month to help with the running of the

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- **Rugby with coach Paudge** is going well. Pupils from 1st to 6th have been enjoying it this month. It takes place every second Thursday.
- **Cricket** for 1st – 6th classes with Bernard has been a success this term. There is one week left after midterm.
- We narrowly missed out on reaching the **Cumann na mBunscol Gaelic football** final this month. Well done to all the girls and boys from 3rd – 6th classes who represented the school so well.
- Many pupils enjoyed **Nature Walks** this month. They saw lots of autumnal signs and colours around Rashina.
- **Garda Lisa** visited 1st – 6th classes to discuss on Thursday 26 October to talk about the dangers of Halloween. She also spoke to the Senior classes about online presence and cyber bullying.



- 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. The understanding and support of families is greatly appreciated.

- The Board of Management undertook the annual review of the school's **Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment** at the BOM meeting on Monday 16th October. The **Code of Behaviour** and **Anti Bullying Policies** were also ratified. Please find these policies on our school website.
- The new Board of Management needs to be in place before the end of November. The process of electing **parent representatives** will take place after midterm.
- The school has booked in for 5 sessions of **swimming lessons in Clara Swimming Pool** in April/May 2024. This will be for 1st – 6th classes and we will encourage all children to take part in the Aquatics part of PE.
- **School Self-Evaluation** –
 - Wellbeing – The school polled both pupils and parents on student voice. Findings from surveys will be shared on Aladdin. Student Council is being set up and lots of opportunities for interactions between senior and junior pupils are being provided.
 - Covid-19 survey of families that needs to be carried out by all schools will be carried out before Christmas.
 - We have adopted a *Frása na Seachtaine* in the last few weeks and we will further promote this going forward.
- School closes for midterm break on **Friday, October 27th** and will reopen on **Monday, November 6th November**. Wishing all families a lovely midterm break.



Mandatory Template 3: Notification regarding the Board of Management's review of the Child Safeguarding Statement

To: THE RASHINA NS SCHOOL COMMUNITY

The Board of Management of RASHINA NS wishes to inform you that:

- The Board of Management's annual review of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement was completed at the Board meeting of 16/10/23 [date].
- This review was conducted in accordance with the "Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement" published on the gov.ie website

Signed Shane O'Regan Date 16/10/23

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed Les Guinan Date 16/10/23

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management