



S.N. Naomh Góbnait  
Caisleán an Droim

## Nuachtlitir Scoile Samhain/Nollaig 2017



S.N. Naomh Góbnait  
Caisleán an Droim

**Back to School Prayer Service:** We wish to welcome our two new teachers, Miss McGrath and Miss McHugh, our new SNA Mrs Doody and our 22 new pupils to the school. We hope they will all be very happy with us. A short Prayer Service was held in each of the classrooms at the school on Friday the 1st of September to mark the beginning of the new school year.

**ICT:** The school recently purchased an Interactive Whiteboard for the new classroom. We are most grateful to David Griffin for sourcing extra ICT equipment for the school. Thank you.

**Primary Science and Maths Award:** As part of our application for our fifth award the children in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Classes carried out a forensic examination of our school environment as part of our Fieldtrip Day which was held on Thursday the 7<sup>th</sup> of September.

**Blue Star European Project:** Mr. Ryan made an application on behalf of the school to join this initiative on Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> of September. The aim of the Blue Star project is to heighten children's awareness of the European Union. This is our second time to take part in this project in recent years.

**GAA:** PJ Reidy of the Kerry County Board began fortnightly football training sessions at the school on Tuesday the 12<sup>th</sup> of September. Castledrum NS played Caragh Lake NS in the first round of the Mid Kerry 4-teacher school competition on Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September. Castledrum lost what was a very competitive game on a scoreline of 5-14 to 5-7. Castledrum also lost what was a very close encounter to Kilgobnet NS on Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> of September on a score line of 8-8 to 5-7. The school were comprehensively beaten by Castlemaine NS in the third round of the competition on Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup> of October.

**Roald Dahl Day** was marked at the school on Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup> of September. Well done to all the children who dressed up as their favourite Roald Dahl character for the day.

**Special Education Support Service:** The school applied for and received support in the whole area of Special Education Needs Teaching on Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> of September in an attempt to better improve and streamline the resources available to us.

**September Parent/Teacher Meetings:** Teachers held meetings with parents of new children in their classrooms during the month of September.

**Castledrum BOM:** held a meeting at the school on Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> of September.

**French Classes:** We are most grateful to Angela Cronin O' Shea for giving French classes to 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> class at the school this term. The first of these classes commenced on Monday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October.

**Old Clothes Collection:** We held our annual old clothes collection at the school on Thursday the 5<sup>th</sup> of October. Thank you to all who submitted clothes for collection. All proceeds from same will go to Castledrum BOM.

**Green Schools:** Mrs Griffin and the new Green Schools committee held their first meeting of the year on Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> of October to review our progress to date and begin planning for our 6<sup>th</sup> Green Flag on Citizenship. Congratulations to Róisín McCarthy 1<sup>st</sup> Class who received the citizen of the month award for September, well done Róisín.

**Castledrum Parents Association:** held a meeting at the school on Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> of October. This year's fundraising Table Quiz will take place at Murphy's Bar on Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> of November. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

**GOAL Jersey Day:** A 'No Uniform Day' was held at the school on Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> of October in aid of GOAL charity Ireland. A total of €155 was collected. Thank you to everyone.

**Maths Week:** was marked at the school between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of October, culminating with a whole school Maths Quiz on Friday the 20<sup>th</sup> of October.

**READaTHON 2017:** Children at the school are currently engaged in this year's reading initiative sponsored by MS Ireland. 90% of the funds collected will be forwarded to MS Ireland with the school receiving the other 10%. The READaTHON runs from the 16<sup>th</sup> of Oct to the 16<sup>th</sup> of Nov. All children are encouraged to read as many books as possible during this period.

**An Gaelbhrtach:** Bhí cruinniú tosaigh, coiste nua an Ghaelbhrtach fé stiúr Miss McHugh ann Déardaoin an 19ú Deireadh Fómhair. Deineadh athbheithniú ar obair an choiste le trí mbliana anuas agus cuireadh plean oibre le chéile don scoilbhliain 2017/2018. Táimid sa tóir ar an dara brat i mbliana.

**Active Schools/ Health Promoting Schools:** We are delighted to have the services of Ian Foley to help out with PE in our school for the coming year. Our new Active Schools/Health Promoting Schools committee held their first meeting of the year on Tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup> of October. Under the Chairmanship of Mr Ryan the committee discussed the various initiatives planned for the year ahead.

**School policies/Curricular plans:** The staff are currently working on our School Attendance Policy. All school policies and plans are available to parents to view on request at the school.

**Health Promoting Schools:** We have enlisted in the Health Promoting Schools Initiative again this year. We ask that all children pack a healthy lunch each day with a small treat allowed on Fridays only. No sugary or fatty foods are permitted on any other day.

**Art Competitions:** Children at the school participated in various Art competitions during September/October including the Credit Union Art Competition, Astellas' Art Competition, Sightsavers' Art Competition, Google Art Competition and the Road Safety Art Competition.

**Radio Kerry Story Competition:** Children at the school took part in the Halloween, Radio Kerry Story Competition.

**Halloween Fancy Dress:** A 'no uniform day' will be held on Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> of October, children at the school are encouraged to dress in their Halloween costumes, all proceeds from the day will go to Temple Street Children's hospital.

**Kerry Broadband:** We are most grateful to Kerry Broadband for providing their services to the school free of charge.

**Swimming Lessons 2017/2018:** have been provisionally booked for classes 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> at Killarney Leisure Centre for Jan/Feb 2018.

**School Uniform:** The children look really well in their uniforms, please try to ensure that full uniform is worn each day.

**School Website/Blog/Twitter and Facebook accounts:** We are thankful to Evelyn Langford for continuing to maintain the school website, to Miss Sheehan and the senior classes for maintaining the School Blog and to the middle classes for maintaining the Twitter and Facebook accounts.

**Opening/Break/Lunch/Closing Times:** School begins at 9:20am, with doors officially opening at 9:10am, formal supervision of children begins at that time. In the event of the morning being wet the doors will be open at 9:00am with formal supervision also beginning at that time. Morning break is between 11:00am and 11:15am with lunch being between 1:00pm and 1:30pm. Infant day finishes at 2pm, school closes at 3pm.

**Closures for 2017/2018 school year are as follows: Closures for 2017/2018 school year are as follows:**

**October 2017 Mid-Term Break:** Monday 30<sup>th</sup> of Oct to Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November inclusive.

**Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> of December.**

**Christmas 2017:** Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of Dec, school re-opens on Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> of Jan 2018.

**February Mid-Term Break 2018:** Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup> and Friday the 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> of March.**

**Easter 2018:** Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March, school re-opens on Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> of April.

**May Bank Holiday:** Monday the 7<sup>th</sup>.

**June Bank Holiday:** Monday the 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Summer Holidays:** Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June.