



*Scoil Náisiúnta Mhainistir Mhaigh Éo,
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School Newsletter - December 2022

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEETING AGREED REPORT

There was a Board of Management meeting on Tuesday 29th November. This newsletter contains all the information in the agreed report from that meeting and will be posted up on the Parents Noticeboard in the school porch.

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY

This year our Christmas Nativity will take place in the Church in Mayo Abbey on Monday evening 19th December at 7.00pm. All children in the school are involved in the Nativity and we are looking forward to reenacting the story of the First Christmas. Children should be at the church at 6.45pm on that evening and come dressed in their costumes. All are welcome!

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

The school will close on **Wednesday 21st December at 12.30pm** for Christmas Holidays.

On the day we close we also have a small raffle for the children. If they wish to be included in the raffle children can bring in €1.00 to take part. School will reopen after Christmas on **Thursday 5th January 2023**.

SCHOOL NEWS / ACTIVITIES

- **Cross Country:** The Cross Country Schools Competition took place on Sept 22nd in Ballinrobe racecourse. Children from 1st to 6th attended. We had a number of runners do very well with Henry and Philip Griffith progressing to the next levels. Well done to all who took part at school and on the day!
- **Cuman na nBunscol:** Mini-7's football was in Began on September 28th. Children from 3rd to 6th attended and had some exciting games.
- **Athletics:** The senior classes took part in Athletics in AXSOM sports on Sept 30th.
- **Garda Centenary Project:** Community Garda Olive Lafferty, and two colleagues visited the school and met with 3rd-6th classes to talk about the job of the Gardaí. The children entered projects into the Garda Centenary Project, which were displayed in Castlebar library. Following their participation in the Centenary Project, Community Garda Olive and Superintendent Joe McKenna visited the school and presented each child with a medal for their efforts. Well done everyone!
- **Junior Performance:** The Junior and Senior Infants put on a great show of poems and songs for their parents in a small classroom performance on October 27th.
- **Credit Union Art Competition:** Congratulations to all of our students who took part in this competition. We had winners in each category: Eleanor Dyer, Luke Flynn, Cathal Cook, Luke Byrne, Henry Griffith, Clodagh Kenna, Emma Nestor, Fionn Leslie, Maria Gibbons and Morgan Pitto. The winners were invited to the Parochial Hall, The Neale for prizes on Nov 19th last.
- **Ceol na nÓg:** Music lessons are taking place weekly for the children in Junior-2nd classes. These lessons are facilitated by Gráinne Hambly and the children are enjoying them immensely. Thanks to the Parents Association whose fundraising has covered costs.



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- **Sacramental Preparation:** Children in 2nd Class are taking part in the Do This In Memory Programme. This is a parish- based programme for First Holy Communion.
- **Charitable Donations:** Many thanks to all the children and their families who donated to various charities through participation in the following initiatives in our school: The Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal and the MS Readathon (MS Ireland).

SWIMMING LESSONS

Swimming lessons will begin on the following dates;

3rd and 4th Class; January 12th

5th and 6th Class; January 13th

1st and 2nd Class; March 3rd

Each group will attend Castlebar Swimming Pool for 6 weeks, The cost of swimming is €11.50 per child per week. This covers the bus (€7.50 per child) and lessons (€4.00 per child).

GYMNASTICS

This year, Junior and Senior Infants will attend Gymnastics lessons in Castlebar beginning February 22nd. This will be for 6 weeks and will cost €11 per child per week. This covers the bus (€5.00 per child) and lessons (€6.00 per child).

SCHOOL CLOSURES/ PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

There is a staff meeting listed on the calendar for Tuesday 24th January. Therefore, school will close at 12.30 for all pupils on January 24th. Parent Teacher meetings will take place on January 25th and 26th next. More information will follow in January.

RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

On October 28th we had a retirement celebration for Mrs Quinn. There was a prayer service followed by some speeches and presentations to mark the occasion. Earlier in the week the children made their own presentations to say goodbye and good luck. Thanks to everyone who helped out in the preparations and on the day itself. We wish Mrs Quinn all best wishes in retirement.

Reminders:

- The school has been asked to bring the information from the HSE regarding the significant increase in viral infections and Group A Strep infections to the attention of parents. This can be found on the school website.
- Thanks to all who have paid the School Book Rental bill. If you have not received a receipt, please contact the school office.
- If for any reason parents need to speak to a teacher during the school day please contact the secretary to arrange an appointment.

A copy of this newsletter can be found on the school website: www.mayoabbeyns.com