



## Coaching



Jim Corbett is nearing the end of his ten week coaching block with all classes. This coaching was jointly funded by the **GAA club and the school**. We hope to receive a block of coaching with Clare Development in either Term 2 or 3. **Thanks to Jim – the children have really benefitted and enjoyed their weekly hurling slot.**

## Curious Minds/STEM



We are putting a **strong emphasis on developing our engagement levels of STEM** with all classes throughout the year. We had a very successful science week in November. **Children are working on STEM projects in all their classes every month.** Thanks to parents for your continued support and engagement with helping children with their projects at home.

## Swimming



Swimming classes for 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class will begin in **Term 2 in The Lady Gregory Hotel**. The **senior** room will attend their lessons starting on Wednesday January 17<sup>th</sup> for five weeks. The **middle** room will begin their five week block on February 21<sup>st</sup>.

## Hot Meals for Schools



The school has been accepted into the **Hot Meals for Schools program**. This program provides a free hot lunch to every child in participating primary schools. It will be rolled out in **Term 3 of this school year**. We are currently in the process of securing a contract to run the program (The Lunch Bag/Fresh Today/Carambola are all possible companies – you can look at any of their websites to see sample menus).

## Say Yes to Languages



Regine has been the visiting French tutor for the last eight weeks. She finishes this week with the pupils from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class. They **received two hours tuition every week** under the programme. It was a great way for them to get exposed to a European language.

## December 8<sup>th</sup>



Children will attend mass in the church on Friday morning at 11am. **December 8<sup>th</sup> is a Holy Day of obligation.**

## Shoebox Appeal



Well done to all involved who brought in a shoebox or who donated towards the Team Hope Shoebox Appeal. **Forty-one boxes** were collected from the school.

## U21 Team



**CONGRATULATIONS** to the **U21 Team** who won the County U21A Final last Sunday. We hope to have them visit us shortly.

# Scoil Mhuire an Fhiacail

## Creative Schools



Our creative associate Brian Fleming was with us on November 20<sup>th</sup>. He spoke to the children about creativity and completed some drumming with the children. Part of creative schools is **having the children lead and decide what areas they would like to focus on**. Currently we are looking at a focus on drama. Brian will be back to us to co-ordinate the programme throughout the year and to complete more drumming workshops.

## Clare FM School Run



This week we are featuring on **Colum McGrath's School Run feature**. Colum has said he will send us a link of the full feature at the end of the week. We will upload this to the school website. While he was here he told us how he uses technology in his job – and how he records and edits. **Well done to all the children who sang and chatted so well – great ambassadors for our school!**

## Christmas Outings



All classes are going to be brought on a **Christmas trip on Friday December 15<sup>th</sup>**. The middle room will go the Planet Ennis for soft play and bowling following a class prize won by Aoife O'Grady. The junior and senior rooms will go to the cinema. **Monies raised through the sale of the Christmas cards and annuals are going to help to reduce the cost of the trip.**

The cost of the trip will be **Middle Room = €5 (soft play-bowling-drink-treat); Junior / Senior Room = €13 (cinema ticket – drink – popcorn)**. Children can wear their Christmas jumpers if they wish.

## Christmas Nativity



**Our Christmas Nativity 'A Magical Christmas Jigsaw' will take place in the church on Thursday December 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm**. All families are welcome to attend – we would love to see as many of the community there as possible so spread the word to neighbours and grandparents. There is no entry fee.

**We will hold a raffle on the night. If parents would like to donate anything towards the raffle or know of anybody who would please let us know.** Raffle prizes can be sent into the school before Tuesday December 19<sup>th</sup>. We appreciate your support as always. Tickets will be sold on the night.

**All are welcome to the Hall afterwards for Christmas refreshments.**

## Outdoor Classroom Area



We received funding of €4,600 from the **Irish American Partnership**. The grant was made in honour of Partnership ambassador Leona McGuire who competed in the Irish Open in Dromoland in late August. **This funding will be used to purchase seating and other outdoor equipment for the children. It is hoped to have this ready for the spring.**

## Parents Association Christmas Family Day



**Thank you to the PA for organising another lovely Christmas Family Day** in the hall last Sunday. A really enjoyable afternoon for all who attended.