



## PA Family Day



The PA are this SUNDAY running their annual Family Day in the Community Hall with Santa. Always a fun start to the Christmas celebrations.

## Concert

Reminder our Christmas Concert will take place on **THURSDAY 19 DECEMBER at 7 pm** in the Community Hall. All are welcome to attend. Admission for over 16s and adults is €5 - children go free.

We will hold a raffle at the end of the night. If parents would like to donate any prizes for the raffle or have contacts with businesses that might give a prize it would be appreciated. We are contacting all of our suppliers and will have a hamper and some vouchers up for grabs on the night.

## Christmas Jumper Day



We will have a Christmas Jumper Day on the day of the holidays - **Friday 20 December**.

## Holidays

School will close **12 noon on FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**. There will be no hot lunch that day - instead a treat bag will be provided to all pupils. School will **RE-OPEN on MONDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY**.

## Clothing Collection

We normally hold two annual clothing collections but most companies are currently not doing any collections. We have secured a date for a collection in the New Year so we'd ask that you could try to hold on to any clothing until then. **Clothes can be dropped to the school from early February**.

## Lees Road Athletics



Well done to our U8 girls and U8 boy's teams who ran in the County Cross Country on 19 November. Sadhbh Daly and Jack Hogan qualified as individual medal runners for the day also. Thank you to parents who drove children to the event and helped out on the day.

## West Midlands Theatre



On November 20<sup>th</sup> the whole school attended a production of Snow White in the community hall. This event was paid for by the PA. It was a lovely show and had lots of audience participation.

## French Classes

Children from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Class have been availing of French class through the **Say Yes to Languages Program** since early October. They will receive 10 classes in total up to Christmas. Their tutor is Claire Kavanagh.

## Attendance

Please note that all schools must report absences twice yearly - at the end of **Term 1 and again at the end of June**. If children have reached 20 days absent this will automatically be reported to the NEWB (National Educational Welfare Board). We will send notice to parents if any child has reached or is nearing this number of days.

# Scoil Mhuire an Fhiacail

## Picker Pals



Children in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Class are participating in the **Picker Pals Program**. This is an environmental program that encourages children to look after their surroundings. They will take turns bringing home a litter pick pack at weekends. This links very well with the Community Council and their efforts with Tidy Towns. It was lovely to see the school get a mention in the Tidy Towns report this year. We are very proud of our school building and gardens and will continue to work on improving them.

## Science Week



We are continuing our work that earned the school a **Platinum Award** last year for **STEM**. We had lots of science week activities - the senior room led a science fair showing Science in Nursery Rhymes & Fairytales. Some activities included Humpty Dumpty; Twinkle Twinkle; Rudolph; Mary, Mary Quite Contrary; Pied Piper and Hickory Dickory Dock to name a few.

The senior classroom had a zoom webinar last week with Anyone 4 Science looking at forensic science and this week they attended a workshop in TÚS Limerick for 'Fantastic DNA' workshop. Both were really enjoyable!

## Liam McCarthy School Visit

We are very excited that the Liam McCarthy Cup will be visiting the school next week on **WEDNESDAY at 12.30 pm**. Children can wear their Clare jerseys or county colours on the day. We look forward to celebrating the Clare Team's wonderful achievement.

## Wellbeing



This year the school is focusing on wellbeing. As part of this one of the initiatives that we are participating in will be the **Amber Flag Program**. The program recognizes efforts to create healthy, inclusive environments that support the mental well-being of our pupils and staff.

We will also participate in the **Active Homework Challenge** that **Clare Sports Partnership** run in **January**. We always aim to provide a selection of sports to children across the whole school year. This year, Jade will be taking all classes for a block of gymnastics lessons in Term 2. The Middle and Senior Rooms will attend swimming lessons in Term 2 also. We have already completed a block of hurling coaching in October with Jim Corbett and hope to have another block with Clare GAA last in the year.

## Staff Welcome

Ms Nicola McMahon has joined our support team and will be working one day a week with us from January.

## Canon Hamilton Cup

We had great excitement when members of the Feakle Senior team and management came to visit the school with the senior cup on November 8<sup>th</sup>. We sang the songs we had prepared for Clare FM and we got lots of photos and autographs with our local stars!

## Peace Proms

The senior room had their workshop in UL arena on November 13<sup>th</sup> ahead of the concert in March. We will be busy rehearsing in January again. We hope parents have secured their tickets!