

20th December 2019

Dear Parents,

1. On August 30th school reopened and we welcomed all our pupils back. A special welcome to our new Junior Infants, Andrew Byrne & Clodagh McCarthy.
2. Swimming lessons commenced in Lahinch on 4/09/19 for 12 weeks. This was very successful again and it is great to see all the 2nd class children swimming in the deep end.
3. Àitbheo (8 week programme about flora, fauna, history & geography of the Burren) commenced on September 9th. This was a very worthwhile course and enhanced our knowledge of life around us delivered by Kate Lavender from Burren Beo.
4. On Thursday 19th we had a visit from the librarian in Lisdoonvarna, Emer Bowen to discuss books & reading. Emer organised a writing competition for the senior room. Prizes were won by Emily Costello, Daniel Irwin and Eoghan Burke.

October

5. After tough training on the beach for the month of September we got a bus to Kilnaboy on October 17th for the cross-country races. As these are extremely competitive races training paid off and children did very well. Trophies were won by Annie Hynes & Emily Costello.
6. October 8th our girls together with girls from New Quay school took part in Cumann Na mBunscoil football. This was a great overall performance. Noelle, Annie, Evelyn and Emily made their debuts and we managed to reach the final, beating Doora, drawing with Kilkishen & losing in the end by a point to St. Senan's, Shannon after extra time.

7. It was the boys turn on the 10th. We had no luck against Holy Family, Mountshannon and Mol an Òige. We're in the higher division this year but there is some very promising talent in 4th Class so the future looks good.

8. On 23rd October children in the junior room visited Lisdoonvarna Library before swimming to hear author Derek Mulveen.

November

9. We are now well used to using our new iPads. School has purchased IXL programmes for maths and english. They are a great addition to children's learning and we can monitor homework. Huge thanks again to Anu & crew who raised the money last Christmas.

10. Our new reading initiative began where older children are paired with younger children and read to each other three mornings a week. Children are enjoying this new experience.

11. Rehearsals began for our Christmas play "Hay Presto".

12. On November 13th Annual Shoe boxes were collected. This year the 7386 boxes for Co. Clare went to Eswatina (formerly known as Swaziland) in Africa. A huge thanks for making an effort with this worthy cause.

13. On November 21st children from 3rd -6th class attended a Social Media Talk in Ballyvaughan NS given by Dr. Maureen Griffin. There was a talk for parents at 6 o'clock in the evening.

December

14. On Sunday 8th December our superb cast of 29 children performed our play. Well done to all the children.

15. On December 12th Geraldine O'Sullivan visited to do lots of interesting craft work with the children. This is subsidised by the Heritage in School Scheme.

16. On December 18th we travelled to U.L. to see Aladdin. Amazing!

17. December 20th school closes for the Christmas Holidays.

18: Policies:

Note: Our Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment are available in school or on our website.

19. Gardening

Many thanks to Ali Hynes for her work in our school garden.

20: Ancillary Staff:

A big thank you to our ancillary staff: Pat McNamara, Ann Marie O'Driscoll and Eilish O'Donohue who worked very hard for the school.

21. Fundraisers:

Each year different fundraisers are held. The monies raised are primarily used for bus costs throughout the year.

To Date: Caravan Park €1181.00

Church Gate Collection €422.00

Fanore Events Club €400.00

Don't forget to check out our website www.fanorens.com. The above outings/events etc. can be viewed under the news section.

22: **Please take note of the following dates**

- . School re-opens on Monday January 6th
- . Mid Term Break: School will be closed from Monday 17th - Monday 24th of February.
- . School closed on 16th, 17th March.
- . Easter Holidays: School closed from Monday 6th April to Monday 20th April.
- . First Holy Communion is on the 10th May.

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A special thanks to our Board of Management who finished term of office in November and worked tirelessly for the good of our school. Our new board is up and running. The Parents Representatives are Anu Byrne and Stevie Hynes.

Reminder from Board of Management

Do not drop off children at school before 9.10am as children are not insured before this time.

Finally I would like to welcome Breda Coyle and Anna O'Connor to our staff. They are dedicated and hard-working and we are fortunate to have them on our team. We are in contact with Miss Scales regularly and she is planning a visit to the school with her beautiful twin boys & Naoise in the near future.

Congratulations to Sharon Howley on her wonderful achievement of title "Young Musician of the Year" and we wish her good luck as she heads to Belfast in February for the awards ceremony.

365 days with Tara.

Very proud of our young and not so young musicians who played so well on Tara's 339th day.

We would like to say thanks to all parents and members of the community for their help and support so far this year. Wishing everyone an enjoyable & happy Christmas. I look forward to seeing you all in 2020.

Thank you for your continued co-operation

Regards,
