Dear Parents,

What a busy month October has been. We have hardly had time to catch our breath and here we are at mid term already.

**OPEN DAY:**

Our Open Day on 20th October was a great success and I particularly want to congratulate our Student Council and friends who gave up their Sunday to talk to our visitors. They were wonderful ambassadors for our school and we really appreciate their help. Representatives from our Board of Management were there, as too were members of the Parents’ Association who provided a nice cup of tea and homemade cakes.

**ENROLMENT:**

Our enrolment offers will go out very shortly to our prospective Junior Infants 2020.



**THE BIG DIG:**

The Big Dig was absolutely fantastic. Many thanks to Ballyroan Library, South Dublin County Council and the Archaeological Society for organising it. The children were really excited to find so many treasures and to mint their own coin.

**KILMAINHAM JAIL:**

As part of their local History Project, 5th and 6th class visited Kilmainham Jail on 16th October. Our guide there was fantastic and Barbara Coughlin did a follow up imaginative writing session with the children in Ballyroan library the following week.

**COMMUNITY LINKS:**

On Tuesday 22nd October, our community garda came to deliver a talk to the senior children on safety around Hallowe’en time. On Friday 25th October, Christian Connolly, Pádraig and Ellen’s Dad gave all classes fantastic advice from the Fire Brigade about what to do in the event of a fire. We are very grateful for this timely advice.

**STEM WEEK:**

Space Week was a great success and we continue to strive for our fourth SFI STEM plaque of excellence. Check out the website for a flavour of the activities. Maths week was also great fun and the children opened their “Maths Eyes” as they went around the garden on maths trails. Well done to all the teachers and boys and girls on all their hard work.

 

**GREEN SCHOOL NEWS:**

We continue to strive for our 6th flag: “Global Citizenship – Biodiversity & Food Waste”. We encourage you to keep walking on Wednesdays and remember to bring your litter home. The children will have some workshops on the topic during November. Many thanks to Ms Brocklebank who keeps us all informed and organises all things green. Many thanks to Mr. Damien Gallagher who did a lot of work on our garden recently. We are very grateful.

**ETHOS:**

Our school mass on 3rd October was a lovely occasion. Many thanks to Fr. Lyng.

Thank you for supporting our recent Goal Jersey Day which raised € 181 for this worthy charity.

Bernadette Toal has started Meditation again with the children and we are very grateful. Sr. Anna will deliver a workshop to the Confirmation candidates in November.

 

**FOOD DUDES:**

The school will participate in Food Dudes from 6th November. This involves tasting various vegetable and fruits. If we are not already aware of any food allergies that your child has, please let us know.

**CHOIR:**

Our school Choir continue to rehearse for the Laudate Festival. We know they are enjoying it immensely. Thanks to Ms Wallnutt for her continued enthusiasm.

**CUMANN NA MBUNSCOL:**

Well done to the boys and girls from 3rd – 6th who took part in Cumann na mBunscol football leagues recently. Many thanks to Mr. Shane Egan, Mr. Michael Dunne and Mr. Robert Weldon for coaching the children. The girls made it to the quarter finals but all parties had great fun.

**PARENTS’ ASSOCATION:**

A Cash for Clobber event took place on Thursday 24th October. It looked like a huge collection (thank you to the Red Cow!) and we await the total with anticipation. Many thanks to Karen Morton for organising this.

**REMINDER:**

Just a reminder that full uniforms must be worn and nail varnish is not allowed. Please keep long hair tied back. Please remember to adhere to our healthy lunch policy (available on the website).

**ACTIVE SCHOOLS:**

Our new committee members have lovely bibs and are committed to organising daily Active lines and to increasing our physical wellbeing. They organised a wonderful Hallowe’en pumpkin bowling competition for the classes. Well done to them all and sincere thanks to Mr. Dunne who coordinates their activities.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

Parent Teacher Meetings: 21st & 22nd November from 2:30 – 4:30. Children will finish at 2:15 on both days.

Wishing you all a safe and happy Hallowe’en.

**Philomena Cleary**

**Principal**