

# SCOIL MHUIRE GAN SMÁL, CILL CHOIRLE

## NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2019

### Fáilte Romhaibh Ar Ais

Welcome back to everyone after the Christmas break. We hope that you enjoyed time with your friends and family.

Ms Mulholland and all of the children in 2nd Class were excited to be joined by a new pupil, **Zara Browne**, on their return to school. You are very welcome Zara!

### Junior Entrepreneur Programme

Thank you to parents **Jay Coleman, Ciarán Kirk** and **Caroline Mulligan** who attended a 'Dragons Den' event for the JEP on 8th January.



 Our budding entrepreneurs from 5th class presented their business plans to the Dragons. They gained valuable feedback from Jay, Ciarán and Caroline and have now chosen their product for this year's programme:

### PARTY IN A POT!

Our Junior Entrepreneurs are now working on Sales and Marketing. **Carol Browne**, Zara's mother visited the class on 15th January and gave them some great design tips. Thank you to Carol!

### Grandparents Day

Our annual Grandparents Day as part of Catholic Schools Week took place on Wednesday 30th January. Grandparents and older relatives of children in 1st and 4th class were invited to attend. We were also joined by a number of residents from St Mary's Nursing Home in Drogheda.

We enjoyed a lovely afternoon of music, poems and stories to pay tribute to grandparents and the role they play in handing on the faith to their grandchildren and in supporting the community of faith at home and in the parish. Thank you to all who attended. We hope you enjoyed the afternoon.



### Care Programme

#### Theme: Friendship

Our care programme theme for this month is '**Friendship**'.

Relationships play an important role in our lives from the minute we are born. Happiness researchers consistently find connections between the quality of our relationships and our level of life satisfaction. The children have been learning about how to make friends and maintain good quality relationships.

The Children's Interactive Prayer Station in the church ties has been designed to tie in with the school care programme. Please consider visiting it with your children this month.

### Basketball Blitz

Well done to our basketball team who competed in an inter-schools blitz in Dundalk Sports Centre on 14th January. They were accompanied by Mrs Curran-Butler and Ms Halpin.



### VEX Robotics Competition

Congratulations to our VEX robotics team of **Nancy Coleman, Oisín Donnelly, Eoin Larkin, Naoise Harris, Sadhbh McElroy** and **Alana Quigley** who won 2nd place in this year's competition in DKIT on 18th January.



This was our school's first year taking part in this competition. There was great team spirit evident in how the team supported and encouraged each other during the building, coding, driving and video editing parts of the programme. As one of the youngest teams in the competition, they proved they were up to the challenge and they did exceptionally well on the big day.



We wish to thank **Neil Larkin**, Eoin's Dad, and **Mrs Donnelly** for the tremendous work they put in with the team.

## **Come Outside!**

At school, we have been collecting information on all the ways we learn outside. We have noticed we are very good at getting outside to use lots of our outdoor areas. For our New Year's Resolution, we are challenging ourselves to get outside even more.



## **Child Protection Policies & Procedures**

Our Child Protection Policy and our Child Safeguarding Statement are available on our website. A copy of the Child Safeguarding Statement is available on request.

Our Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Mrs Lambert, and our Deputy DLP is Ms Fahy.

As part of our SPHE, we cover RSE (Relationships and Sexuality Education) and the Stay Safe Programme. You can go to [www.staysafe.ie](http://www.staysafe.ie) for further details.

We also teach the Care Programme, with monthly lessons on various topics, such as Friendship, January's theme. This programme is also outlined in our Anti-Bullying/Care Programme Plan which can be accessed on our school website, and information is also sent to you in our monthly newsletter.

## **Crafts Group**

We are delighted to be launching our Crafts Group. We will be making tablecloths and bunting, which we will then use at special celebrations, such as First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

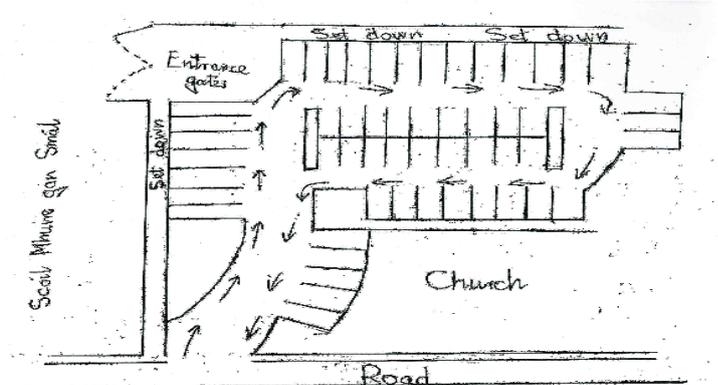


We have 2 groups of children taking part in our Crafts Group: **Alanna Conway, Lana Cunningham, Shane Deery, Megan Eaton, Anna Mulholland, Luke Mulholland** and **Cillian Turley** from 4th Class, and **James Cawley, Robbie Conlon, Abbi Cormican, Tadhg Fitzgerald, Rachel Gorman, Jessica Hoey, Caragh Kirk** and **Poppy Tennyson** from 5th.

Many thanks to **Geraldine Kirk, Ann McCabe, Lorraine Quigley, Mary Tansey, Claire Conway, Bernie Donnelly, Gillian McEntegart** and **Claire Morton** who volunteered to teach the children in the Craft Group.

## **RSA and School Car Park**

Our school has been selected to participate in a Road Safety Awareness survey. 6th Class students will be asked to complete a questionnaire based on key road safety messages delivered through RSA schools programmes. We would ask that everyone using the car park be made aware of our **car park safety rules** which are as follows:



1. Use the one-way system as shown on the diagram above
2. Observe the speed limit of 10km/ hour
3. Park in designated spaces only
4. Do not block the one-way system by stopping at the entrance gates when dropping children to school in the morning – use the spaces provided
5. Be vigilant at all times

## **6th Class Artists**

**"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up."** (Pablo Picasso)

Ms Fahy, Mrs Lambert and 6th Class attended the Highlanes Gallery, Drogheda on Wednesday 9th January. They had previously visited the exhibition 'Crossing Lines', with the themes of protest and dissent. The artist Clare Halpin

subsequently visited 6th class at school, and conducted workshops based on these themes. On this visit, the children were delighted to have the opportunity to view their own artwork on display in this exhibition.

## **Pre-Confirmation Presentation**

Ms Fahy and the children in 6th Class are busy preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on 15th February. Mrs Gemma Mulligan, Coordinator of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan in Ossory Diocese will give the pre-Confirmation presentation to parents on **Tuesday 5th February** at 7.30pm in the school.

