

Scoil Inse Ratha
Déan do Dhícheall
Newsletter December 2024

Dear Parents,

We have had a busy and exciting first term and 2024 has been a successful year in our school. Our success is built on everyone working together and playing their part. Thank you to our parents, Board of Management, Parents Association and staff for everything they have done during the year. Our students deserve special gratitude and praise for being so amazing every day. We are very lucky and privileged to be part of this wonderful school. We can all look forward with optimism to 2025 in the knowledge that we are building on the excellent work that has been done by our community in the years gone by. Here are some of the highlights from this month.

Christmas Performances:

Our students were the stars of the show this week as they took to the stage to perform for our parents and families. We are so proud of every one of them. Thank you to all the staff for preparing the children and for providing the opportunity for them to perform in public. Thank you to our parents and families for helping with costumes and for coming to support us. It is one of the highlights of the year and a good experience for everyone.

Christmas Raffle:

Our Parents Association ran their annual raffle this year. We are very grateful to all the local businesses and companies who supported us this year. Thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets and a special thank you to our PA who organised the whole thing. The funds raised in this raffle will help us to provide more opportunities for our students in the year ahead.

Santa:

Santa took time out of his busy schedule to visit the wonderful girls and boys in our school. He has assured me that they are all on the nice list. He reminded everyone to be in bed on time on Christmas Eve and not to forget to leave a treat out for Rudolph and him. Thank you to Santa's Helpers who arranged Santa's visit and delivered special treats to each class from Santa.

Creative Writing Workshop with Anthony Garvey:

Author Anthony Garvey ran online creative writing workshops this month. 3rd/4th, 5th and 6th took part and learned how to create a story that would captivate and enthrall their audience. Some very exciting stories were written after the workshop. Well done to all involved.

Swimming:

3rd to 6th Classes will start six weeks of swimming lessons on Jan 8th. A note has gone home to every family about it. If you can't find it, please email me at principal@littleislandns.com so I can send you another copy. Thank you to our PA who have subsidised the cost of the bus again this year, keeping the cost to the same as last year.

Attendance and Punctuality:

Every minute counts in school so it is important that your child is in school every day and on time as much as possible. Work starts in each class from 8.50am and important learning is taking place until the end of the school day. The core subjects like Maths, English and Irish are very important but the learning that takes place in other settings that you might call "just playing" help your child to learn key skills that are as important for life as the core subjects. **Every day, every minute counts!**

Phones, wearable devices:

As per our Acceptable Usage Policy, phones and wearable smart devices that can record, take pictures and make calls are not allowed in school. If your child needs one of these for before or after school then they have to hand it to the teacher at the start of the day and they can have it back at the end of the day. Please bear this in mind. Our school insurance will not cover these devices if they are lost or broken at school so if you send it into school, you are accepting that risk.

That's all for now.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from everyone in our school.

All the best,

Micheál Rea

Up Coming Events:

Friday Dec 20th: school closes at 12.15pm for the Christmas Holidays.

Monday Jan 6th: Staff in-service – Sherpa Kids open.

Tuesday Jan 7th: school reopens for Term 2 for all classes.

Wednesday Jan 8th: swimming for 3rd to 6th starts

Monday March 31st: school closed for staff in-service training