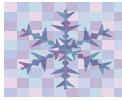


The Parents Association have some exciting fundraising projects for 2012.....we will tell you more in January e.g. a multi-cultural cookbook, world book day, a Ceili Mor and a Pub Quiz in April. To help or get involved in any of these events, please send an email to boothmancatherine@gmail.com. If you have any ideas of your own, please get in touch. The coffee mornings have started again every Wednesday morning , with the occasional Friday mornings for parents of children with special needs. Regarding participation in fundraising events, we require as much support as possible. Therefore, the P.A. will be issuing a survey in the new year. The school hopes to have some providers of After School Activities (ECAs) set up (for the short term) in January. The orders are coming in fast for the green hoodies. Contact the school if you haven't received your order form (also on the website www.greystoneset.ie).



Principal's Thoughts



We now have 213 children in the school. Thank you all for your co-operation and flexibility with regard to pick up and drop off times for the children, and especially for respecting the drop down area for the school bus. All of these matters are safety issues. Also, since the Gaelscoil now have their own school bus, parents from both schools are more conscious of this drop down area. The skipping workshop was a terrific experience for all the children. It would be great if we could put this on our calendar once a term. The health benefits are really worthwhile.

We appreciate the Voluntary Contributions, as all schools throughout the country have been affected by **Budget Cuts**. The Capitation Grant was reduced by 2%, which means that the amount of funding per pupil is less than last year.

Season's Greetings from the New School Board of Management.

GETNS has a new Board, which has begun its four year term. The membership is as follows: John Callaghan—Parent Rep; Lynnea Connolly— Patron Rep; Paul Dillon- Community Rep; Karen Flynn—Parent Rep; Emmett Hickey—Staff Rep; Catherine Sadlier—Principal; Steve Thomas—Community Rep; Michelle Thunder—Patron Rep & Chair.



Greystones December 2011 Educate Together



Well done to everyone for collecting enough mobile phones to earn us a new laptop from the Jack & Jill Foundation! Congratulations to Jack, in particular, who collected 14 phones. Please keep collecting over the Christmas period!



Thank you to all the marvellous parents who have been volunteering this term. Annarita for the beautiful Italian Carol, Nancy for Guitar accompaniment for the Infants, all the parents who helped with Athletics, Catherine, Nadia & Jo for curriculum support and Evan, Claire, Eilish & Marie who helped in the library. We will need more of this next term, especially for Athletics, a program the children are greatly enjoying. Also, thanks to Ross & Amy's Mum for the Xmas display on the bike rack.

The HSE will be doing vision & hearing tests in the school on the 18th Jan for Senior Infants and 6th Class. Junior Infant Vaccinations will be administered also at the school on the 9th & 10th February. Forms will be sent out in the new year for completion & your authorization.

The staff are delighted with their new dishwasher.



Many thanks to the PA for the fundraising. Other fundraising this term has been the €1,000 raised for Educate Together National Office. The bag pack which raised €1,365, the Christmas Cards, which raised app. €1,000.

Make a Wish are delighted with the €260 raised on Danny's birthday

Please be aware of how the budget cuts are going to effect education and make your voices heard!

The two new Junior infant classes have settled in really well. They have prepared for Hannukah and can sing lots of songs. Hope you enjoyed their performance in class and their Carol singing outdoors.

Aoife's Senior Infants had a great term. They made instruments from recycled materials. They had a visit from Nivel Tsumbu, Queinge's Dad, who played guitar for them and taught them some songs. Also, Issy's mum, Ruth, came in with baby Ellie and they learned all about babies growing & changing. Emily, an American student teacher, taught them about America, pirates & Thanksgiving..

Emmett & Roisin's first class have been hard at work this term across all areas, particularly with the two student teachers. They have done lots of science and art. Roisin's class planted daffodil blubs. They are looking forward to seeing them sprout in the Spring.

Louise's 2nd class, did lots of projects this term, they helped Louise with the Green School notice board. The class did a terrific project on Thanksgiving Day with the American students.

3rd Class have done lots of work this term with their new teacher Yvonne. They had a lovely trip to Avondale House & Gardens on Tree Day.

A big welcome back to teacher Mallaidh who is our English Language Teacher for the rest of the year. Please note that the Budget Cuts have had an effect on this post so that from Sept 2013, it will be combined with Learning/Support hours to make a full post.

Our Gross Motor Exercise Programme has taken place most mornings. We have been lucky with the weather! We all have skipping as our target for the New Year following the cool workshop from Skipie. The ropes used are available from the school @ €4 each, if you want your child to buy one. Children have access to the GMEP on a rotational basis. Any queries to our Resource Team. Happy Christmas and keep fit over the holidays.

GMEP



4th 5th and 6th Classes

This term has been particularly busy for Aran's Class. After having a great start with Mallaidh, the interesting projects continued when Aran started in October. The class bonded very quickly with their new teacher. They share his interest in music and history, and have already visited the National Art Gallery and the Electro Magnetic Show in Bray. They were very excited about preparing a Green Schools questionnaire on recycling . On **Action Day**, the whole class had the opportunity to survey members of the public outside Lidl.



We were privileged to have a visit from two individuals representing two different faith groups. First, we had a visit from a Lama who spoke to the children about mindfulness. We also had a visit from Howard Freeman, who brought a Menorah from the Jewish Museum to show the children.

Please note new swimming classes starting in the new year for 2nd Class and Roisin's 1st Class, begin 18th Jan. €38.00 for the six weeks. The Buddy System worked well between the two classes this term, with the older children helping the younger children.



Xmas Raffle Winners:

Ruby Breen (Jnr Infs): Christmas Cake
Jacob Redmond (2nd Class): The Painting
Six others won the lovely Xmas books.
Thanks to Edel's Mum and Richard's Dad for the fabulous raffle prizes. The school made approximately €200 from the raffle.

Well done Louise for all your hard work in preparing the Green Schools submission to An Taisce

PARKING TIP: Please on no account drive into the Staff Car Park to park.