CLASHMORE NATIONAL SCHOOL

Clashmore, Via Youghal,
Co. Waterford.
P36 ET78

February Newsletter 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the February edition of our Newsletter.

I hope that all of you had a well-earned rest over the midterm break. This edition will give a small glimpse into the wonderful learning as well as the many events that are on-going in our small school. I hope that you enjoy it.

1. **School Attendance- Our School Slogan *`Don`t be late, it`s going to be great!*** `

Being a DEIS Rural School, school attendance is a priority area for us and we are continually striving for improvement in this area. However, we cannot do so without your support. Remember that `*Everyday Counts*` in terms of attendance for your child(ren).

So if they are well, they should be in school. The overall attendance rate for the month of February was **94.4%.** A huge congratulations, goes to Rang a 3 and 4 who won Class of the Month for Attendance. Maith sibh a pháistí!

2. **Clashmore National School Parents` Association**

I would like to sincerely thank our wonderful Parents` Association who undertook 2 fundraising events recently: A Clothes Collection & A Quiz in May O`Rourke`s.

They raised €1625 from the quiz and a further €495 for the clothes collection, totalling €2155.

We are extremely grateful for all of their hard-work on behalf of the school and a heartfelt thank you to all of the parents and the wider community who supported these events, we are as always so very grateful.

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3. Clashmore National School Open Day Wednesday 6th March from 6-7pm

I am delighted to announce that we will be having our first ever Open Day on Wednesday 6th March from 6-7pm. **Please note the change of date**. You are cordially invited to come and see the school, meet the staff, have a cuppa and a chat. We look forward to seeing you there. All are welcome!

4. New Secretary Hours of Work

Thankfully the Department of Education has increased Laura our Secretary`s hours.

Please note that Laura will be in school from **Monday- Thursday from 9:20am until 1pm.**

She will be in from **9:20am until 1:10pm on Fridays.**

5. Enrolments for the 2024-2025 School Year

We are currently accepting enrolments for the coming school year. Please contact our secretary Laura Barron for enrolment forms by email clashmorens19@gmail.com or by phone on 024-96404.

6. Outdoor Mural

On the 6th February Magda our Waterford Walls Project Artist worked with 12 children in the school from 3rd-6th class on the outdoor mural. The children developed the concept for the mural which was entitled `A Bird`s Eye View of Clashmore` inspired by all of our local landmarks. Magda sent a draft sketch based on the concept which was approved by the children.

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On the day, Magda explored spray painting techniques with the children. Following this, both Magda and the children set about creating the Mural.

I have to say that as a Principal the children are continually surprising me, but on this day they truly inspired me as I watched their dedication & team-work as they all worked together to create the final product. To say that it is breath-taking does not do it justice. I am so very thankful that we had the opportunity to involve the children and partner with a Waterford Walls Artist to create something that will be in the school for many years to come. Míle buíochas also to Youghal Credit Union who funded half of the Mural €600 and to the Board of Management of Clashmore NS who funded the other €600.

7. First Penance Service 20th February

I would like to congratulate the boys and girls in second class on the occasion of their First Penance, which took place recently on Tuesday 20th February with Ballycurrane National School in Clashmore Church. Well done to the boys and girls and many thanks to Fr. Kelly for making it a truly memorable occasion on the night.

8. Swimming

Children from 3rd-6th class began swimming lessons on **Monday 12th February**. The children are thoroughly enjoying these lessons. They will have their final swimming lesson on 15th April.

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9. The Daily Mile- New Route

With the weather hopefully improving in the coming weeks, we have started a new journey from Clashmore to Paris in France. Each class aims to engage in daily running as much as possible. We will track our journey to Rosslare, across on the ferry to England, along the south of England and take the channel tunnel to France and from here to Paris. We hope to arrive in plenty of time to enjoy a croissant before the Olympic Games!!

10. World Book Day 7th March

World Book Day will be celebrated this year on 7th March. As always this is a wonderful opportunity to reinforce the importance of reading with your child. In honour of this occasion, the children will be allowed to bring their favourite book to school on 7th March and any props that they would like to show their class. Please note that we will be giving each child a book token received from The World Book Day Organisation. Please ensure that the children use the tokens. As reading for enjoyment is our priority area in Literacy, we are endeavouring to forge stronger links with our local library- Youghal Library. As a result, we have given parents a membership form for your children to join the library. All returned forms will be dropped to the library and we hope to bring the children for a visit to the library if possible in March.

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11. Important Dates for Your Diary-School Closures

- **Friday 8th March,** the school is closed as it is being used as a polling station.
- **Wednesday 13th March the school will close at 2pm** to facilitate a staff meeting.
- **Monday 18th March Bank Holiday,** the school is closed.
- **Friday 22nd March** the school will close at **12:00** for the Easter Holidays.

Le gach beannacht uaimse,

Yvonne Uí Fhlaithimhín

Principal of Clashmore National School

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