



Samhain 2019



# Scéalta Scoile

Dear parent,

The mornings are getting colder and darker; the stove is being lit; woolly hats and gloves are being taken down from the attic; winter is nearly upon us. The ancient festival of Samhain marked the pivotal time of year when autumn became winter, and Halloween now resides in that position, a mixture of Celtic customs and American marketing. It is also the time of year when we remember our dead on All Saints Day and All Souls Day. This is where the word originates: Hallowed Evening (e'en) – the evening before All Hallows (or All Souls) Day. As our American cousins say, Happy Halloween!

Mark Kelly, Príomhoide.

## Halloween Disco

A former pupil of SN Seosamh Naofa, Cormac Kehoe, (a TY student in Meánscoil Gharman), will be hosting a Halloween fancy dress disco on Fri. 25 Oct from 3-5pm. Cormac and his class will travel to Bucharest to work in an orphanage with young street children. All money raised will go directly to the orphanage in Bucharest. All support greatly appreciated.

## Halloween Dress Up

Children are invited to dress up for Halloween on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> of October. No killer clowns (or clowns of any description) please!

## In-service Date

There will be no school on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November due to staff in-service on the new primary language curriculum. The new curriculum for Gaeilge and English will now be taught up to 6<sup>th</sup> class.

## Parents Association

All parents were invited to a meeting of the PA recently and those present discussed issues such as: the Christmas raffle, swimming, the shoebox appeal, child safeguarding, the school garden, school

Reminder – Sing Out Loud Concert 18<sup>th</sup> November at 4.30 pm



## Upcoming Events

Oct 28 – Nov 1 Halloween Break

Nov 13 and 14 Parent-Teacher Meetings

Nov 19 Sing Out Loud Concert 2 pm

Dec 20 Christmas Concert 10 am

## School Pictures

6<sup>th</sup> class in the Dáil



photographs, Rackard League transport and more. The PA officers are as follows: Victor Matthew-Brown (Chairperson), Jenny Sludds (Secretary) and Clodagh Martin (Treasurer).

### School Garden

The school recently applied for and received a planting grant from the county council. We will use a portion of the grant to plant wildflower seed in a small patch of ground in the school garden. This ties in with our efforts to secure a Green Flag based on the diversity theme. Many thanks to Frank for his work on this.

### Mini 7s

Hard luck to the girls mini 7s teams who lost at the initial group stage. The boys won both their first and second group stages and now go on to the next stage of the competition. There are no details yet as to when this will be played. Well done to the mentors and players, not to mention the parents who provide lifts and support.

### Rising Stars

This year 4<sup>th</sup> class boys have been training with the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class boys down in the Ballyhogue GAA pitch. We are lucky to have such a large group of boys who are interested in playing football. In order to give the boys as much football opportunities as possible, we have put together a Rising Stars panel and asked the Rackard League to arrange some matches for them. Our first match was against St. Martins.

### Maths Week

This year, as part of Maths Week, the teachers and children prepared puzzle stations for the class groupings junior and senior infants, 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> class, and 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class. The children prepared puzzles and then invited the classes to spend time trying to solve the puzzles with the help of concrete materials and hands-on activities. Below is a puzzle that children can have a go at. They should cut out the frogs so that they can make it a hands-on activity. Or, an interactive version can be found at the following website address: <https://nrich.maths.org/1246>



- The red frogs want to get to the right side of the pond. The green frogs want to get to the left of the pond. There are 7 lily pads which the frogs must use to cross the pond. Frogs can only jump to EMPTY lily pads. Frogs can only jump over ONE other frog at a time. Frogs don't know how to jump backwards!

### First aid training



### Maths week activities



### GAA News

**Best of luck to the two school teams in action in the Rackard League. The boys face Adamstown in their final group game, while the girls square off against Kilanerin in the A quarter-final. The boys will then play their quarter final in either the A or the B section.**

**Well done to the players, parents (who provide lifts and support) and mentors. And well done to our Rising Stars who played brilliantly against St. Martins in their first match!**