



# Christmas Newsletter



Scoil Fhursa Lyre  
[www.lyrenationalschool.com](http://www.lyrenationalschool.com)

## A Message from the Principal

December 2016

Dear Parents

What a great start to the school year we have had at Scoil Fhursa ! We welcomed 15 new boys and girls to our school community in September. Each and every one of them have settled well in 'big school' and I am glad to report to Santa that they are all good boys and girls!

Good luck to the Sixth Class who left us for secondary school last June. They have all joined their new school communities and we wish them the best of luck.

On Thursday December 15th, the children of the school performed their annual Nativity in St. Joseph's Church. This year they performed 'The Donkey Seller' to a large audience. The children were tremendously talented as they sang, danced and acted out a beautiful production. I am truly grateful to have the opportunity to work with such wonderful children every year.

My sincere thanks to the parents and grandparents who ensured that all children looked the part on the night with wonderful costumes. Thank you to all the staff of Scoil Fhursa for their work and dedication to the children throughout the year.

Sincere gratitude to the members of the Parent Association who provided a lovely Christmas gathering at the community centre and to all who helped on the night. The efforts and support of the Parent Association are truly appreciated.

I wish you and yours a wonderful Christmas. May it be filled with joy and happiness

*Noreen Duggan*

*Principal*

## Green School News

Colette Creedon visited the school on December 16th and met the Green School's committee. She spoke about the Energy Flag and discussed our achievements and future plans with us.

Colette was very impressed by the children's enthusiasm and by their ideas. She complimented us on our hard work and encouraged us to keep it up. Thank you for your input so far and we appeal to you to continue to support us in our endeavours to achieve our second Green Flag.

Remember "Use Energy Wisely"

## Credit Union Art Competition

Well done to Emma McSweeney of 6th class who won 2nd prize in her category of the Credit Union Art competition, held by Kanturk Credit Union. Congratulations Emma! Reminder that savings stamps are available in the school on Tuesdays and Thursdays from Mrs. Roche for all our Junior Savers.

## School Website

Please check our school website for regular updates, parent resources, news and policies on:

[www.lyrenationalschool.com](http://www.lyrenationalschool.com)

## Parent's Association

Our new school Parent Association have been elected as follows:

**Chairperson:** Anne Lamont

**Secretary:** John Rehill

**Treasurer:** Mary Healy

We wish them every success with their future endeavours and appreciate all their efforts on behalf of our school.

*'Unto us a child  
was born'*



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## Junior Infants

In September, our school welcomed 15 Junior Infants:

Paddy Ryan, Morgan McSweeney, Daniel Duggan Howard, Nathin Manin, Eoghan O'Neill, Jack Moynihan, Jayden Sexton, Michael McCarthy, Bobby Philpott, Joshua O'Sullivan, Bayley Walsh, Dara O'Riordan, Megan Roberts, Saoirse McAuliffe, Hazel O'Sullivan. They are all great boys and girls and we wish them all every happiness as they journey through the school

## Kanturk Library Quiz

As part of their 1916 Commemoration Programme, Cork County Libraries organised a primary schools quiz, which was held in Kanturk Library for our region. Michael Twomey, Emma McSweeney, Ciara Philpott, and Katie O'Connor, all from 6th Class represented our school. The questions were extremely difficult on the day, but our team did us proud. Well done to all who tried out and participated.

## Folk Dancing

During the first term, the children completed a six week course of folk dancing with Larry and Ita Southard. Larry and Ita were wonderful with the children and they enjoyed learning a variety of dances from Russia, France, Poland, U.S.A and England. The lessons culminated in a folk dancing show for parents, which attracted a large crowd. Well done children and keep dancing!

## Duhallow Rural Schools GAA

In late October, girls and boys from 4th—6th classes participated in the Duhallow Rural Schools Football Grading blitz, where each team played their hearts out. The teams will enter the competitive rounds of this schools' competition in March and we wish them every success.

## Health Promoting Schools

### Health Promoting Schools—Water Safety

In October, Caroline Casey (Water and Road Safety Development Officer with Cork County Council ) came to visit our school. Caroline visited each classroom teaching the children important water safety rules and farm safety information. Caroline included the children in acting out a role-play of a Water Safety Demonstration. They also learned a water safety song and played water safety board games.

Caroline presented our school with a Water Safety Flag at the end of the day for our participation in the programme.

Well done everyone!

## New Staff

A warm welcome to our new staff members:

Special Needs Assistant—Maria Kelleher

Resource Teacher—April Keane

School Secretary—Marie O'Keeffe

We hope that they will be very happy in Scoil Fhursa

## Christmas Nativity

On Thursday Dec 15th the pupils of Scoil Fhursa performed a Christmas Nativity musical entitled "The Donkey Seller" for parents, family and community members. The children enacted the Christmas story wonderfully through song and dance. They were a credit to their parents and their teachers are very proud of them. A lovely Christmas gathering was then held at Lyre Community Centre. This was organised by the Parents' Association and was a great success. The sense of community spirit and friendship was very evident and a joy to behold. Our thanks to all who helped with organising the night and to all who supported us.

## Swimming

Swimming dates have been set for the New Year and will be forwarded to all parents from 1st to 6th class following the Christmas holidays. The 8 week course in Mallow Swimming Pool will begin in January 23rd and will conclude on March 20th. We ask all parents of 1st Class children to prepare them for using the changing rooms and for drying and clothing themselves after their swim, before the lessons begin.

**Happy New Year to all our supporters & friends**