



CETNS **NEWSLETTER**

February 2022 | Issue 44

CHANGE TO CALENDAR

Friday 18th of March is now a public holiday so in a change to our school calendar the school will not be open on this day.

MID-TERM BREAK

School will be closed Thursday the 24th & Friday the 25th of February

CHARITABLE STATUS

Did you know Castlebar Educate Together is a charity and therefore if you or anyone you know is thinking of fundraising this year, please consider us. There is no better way if you are planning a run/walk, a fundraiser event or looking to donate to a charity to consider our school as a recipient. All donations go directly to benefit the children and can be used on specific events which enhance a child's experience. Examples can be towards physical education, our curriculum, or outings. In addition, it could allow us to set up a hardship fund to support families in time of need, to support additional support for children if required etc.

In addition, you may be a business or know of businesses in the town that are looking to donate to a charity and you could recommend Castlebar Educate Together and outline all the pluses and benefits. Sarah would be happy to discuss with you or any business in further detail. Let's make Castlebar Educate Together our Charity in 2022.

LINENHALL SHOW FOR SARAH'S CLASS AND PAUL'S CLASS

It's great to see the Linenhall open again for shows and exhibitions. We will be bringing the children to see a show called Wunderground on the 1st of March. This show is from Paul Johnston of Ceol Connected. In years gone by we have seen other shows by Paul including The Quiet Tree and The Far Field. His shows feature Irish Music and Mammals so we are confident the children will enjoy it! I am sure-like us all- it's been a while since they were at a live event.

COVID CASES

As you are aware Covid is still very much in our day to day lives here in school. There are positive cases among our school community so we send well wishes and ask that you continue to adhere to all protocols and provisions. Unfortunately, there are days when we cannot get substitute cover for staff so thank you to Liam (Our Special Education Teacher) who steps in if a class teacher is absent and we cannot get a Substitute Teacher. We can bank hours and ensure that children with special needs get their support at another time.

ACCOMMODATION UPDATE

At last, some good news. Our Board of Management are no longer dealing with "Forward Planning" in the Department but we are now dealing with "Capital Appraisal". We see this as a move in the right direction. It has been agreed by the Department of Education and Skills that Marsh House is not suitable as our permanent home. Capital Appraisal is the section that spends money on projects so this is why we see this as great news. For the school year 2022/2023 we have been asked to apply for the Additional School Accommodation (ASA) scheme. We had applied for this previously in 2019 and were unsuccessful but it is now recommended by Capital Appraisal that we apply again. This will be a stepping stone for one year. The DES say "It is envisaged that an alternative and hopefully a permanent location for the school will be in place thereafter". The board will now put the additional accommodation application together and it seems we will remain in Marsh House for next year with an additional classroom and an additional room for general activity (a multi-purpose room). The Board will continue to push for the acquisition of a permanent site/home for our school. The additional accommodation will be located in close proximity to Marsh House and will be announced once approved. Our thanks to Senator Lisa Chambers, who has pushed this issue on our behalf.

LAUREATE NA NÓG

We applied in September to the artist-in-residence scheme connected to the Laureate na nÓg project, An Bosca Leabharlainne. Only 20 residencies were available and unfortunately on this occasion our school. We have however received An Bosca Leabharlainne, which is compiled by Laureate na nÓg, Áine Ní Ghlinn, and Claire Marie Dunne, lecturer at Coláiste Mhuire, Marino. We have received

- A box of 25 excellent Irish language books chosen by Áine Ní Ghlinn
 - Specially designed display and print resources to help them make the most of their books
 - Pre-recorded video workshops with children's authors and illustrators

The project encourages reading as Gaeilge for pleasure.

INCREDIBLE EDIBLES

Sarah's Class are learning about our Food and where it comes from. If you are growing vegetables or fruit at home, please send photos to the school what's app 087 4570091. We'd love to have a look! Also, we would love to talk to a Dairy Farmer if anyone could put us in touch? We have a chicken coming to visit on Monday as we are learning about eggs.

MODERN LANGUAGES

Our school is piloting the modern language sampler module. This six-week sampler module will provide one hour per week for Declan and Brenda's Class to learn French. Jean-Piere is our modern language tutor. Jean-Piere has many years' experience of teaching French and previously founded and ran the Parlez Pronto Language school here in Market Square. He is a native speaker and is already building up a great rapport with the pupils. Our school applied for funding so this is provided at no cost to parents. Our thanks to Jennifer for organising and coordinating this valuable project.

SCHOOL TOUR 2022

The School Tour 2022 for classes first to fourth has been booked for May 27th. The students in Paul's, Brenda's and Declan's room will take part in the 'Let's Go' school camp on that day. They will travel to the Connaught GAA Centre of Excellence in Bekan, Claremorris for the day's adventure. The children will be involved in lots of brilliant activities that day such as Zorbee Ball, Disco Dome, Wrecking Ball, KMX Karts, Air Jumper, Team Challenges, Super Slide, Wobbly Ladder, Tug o' War, Brick Work and Archery. It will be action-packed and both physically and mentally stimulating.

The cost of the tour and transport is €25. The boys and girls are saving up their money each week at home by doing odd jobs, helping around the house and entertaining younger sibling. Everyone is very excited already, 15 weeks and counting!

GYMNASICS

The children in Declan and Brenda's class are coming to the end of a fantastic six weeks of gymnastics training. They really loved their time each Friday morning at the 'Kids in Motion' gymnastics centre. Great fun was had on the beams, trampolines, vaults, bars and mats. The students have gained great skills and discipline from the training and to quote them directly it is 'awesome'!!

Paul and Sarah will now begin their time at Kids in Motion, starting on Friday 4th of March. The bus will leave from outside the school at 8.50am sharp each week, and so it is important to be on time. If you are running late, meet the class at the Kids in Motion centre, which can be found behind Woodies, next to the Breadski Bros bakery.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Yvonne Coyne - Parent Nominee - Chairperson

Mary Brennan - Patron Nominee-Treasurer

Sarah Calvey - Principal-Secretary

Miriam Conway -Teacher Nominee-Recording Secretary (Brenda Murphy while Miriam is on leave)

Noel Campbell - Parent Nominee - Accommodation Sub Committee

Jarlath Munnely - Patron Nominee - Accommodation Sub Committee

Darragh Healy - Community Nominee

Mary Malone - Community Nominee

We recently met on January 26th.

I AM AN ARTIST

Many thanks to Lea Lisztwan in Declan's class. She recently visited the junior and senior infants to show them her Art Portfolio. She has kept her various pieces of Art (that she has created at home and at school) all together and shared them with the younger children. She likes to draw her cat and showed them how she fine-tuned her drawings to make them more lifelike. They were inspired and impressed in equal measure!

COVID INSPECTION

On Monday we had a Covid inspection with the district inspector from the Department of Education and Skills. Her name was Kay Foley and she said we passed with flying colours. She will send on her official report in the coming days. She visited all the classrooms and spoke to some staff and children. She complimented us on a lovely warm atmosphere and said how friendly our school is. She said she could see how child centred we were from our interactions with the children and loved how confident and articulate the children were! She stayed afterwards to chat about school self-evaluation and was so impressed that we are developing Critical Thinking through textbooks. There is so much good work happening here that I hope parents will be able to see it again first hand once restrictions are eased.

IT'S A BOY

Congratulations to Miriam, Colm and big brother Oisín, they have a new baby boy in the family. We were so delighted over the weekend to hear of baby's safe arrival. Hopefully Miriam is at home now getting some rest and recuperating. If any of the children would like to make cards-that would be lovely. We will post her a big envelope of warm wishes.

ENROLMENT FOR 2022/23

Enrolment for Junior Infants 2022/2023 is ongoing and there will be a second round after the midterm break. Our numbers are looking good but there is still room available in all our classes. If you know someone who is interested in joining us this September, you can tell them that enrolment into the older classes is still open and that enrolment in to junior infants will re-open after the midterm. All applications can be made online through our website <https://www.castlebaretns.ie/annual-admissions-notice>. If they have any questions, they can contact Jennifer by phone, 094 9044726 or by email, secretary@castlebaretns.ie.

GAA TRAINING

Our senior infants, first, second, third and fourth classes will be delighted to find out that we have teamed up with Castlebar Mitchels for some football training which will commence in term 3 and will run for 8 weeks. We are hoping to hold the training on the Mall each Friday morning. Castlebar Mitchels are supplying the equipment and some coaches.



FOOD DUDES

We are celebrating Food Dudes week on the 28th of February. Parents will be sent a consent letter the week before, consent is assumed unless specified. Each day we will receive a delivery of fruit and veg. The children will be encouraged to try but will not be forced.

SHINING STARS WINNERS

We've had many shining stars in recent weeks. The children are:

WINTER SOLSTICE

Date	Room	Name
17/12/2021	Sarah's	Jacob
	Sarah's	Eddie
	Paul's	Benjamin
	Paul's	Tiernan
	Brenda's	Lily
	Brenda's	Iarlaith
	Declan's	Ruby

YARD SAFETY

Date	Room	Name
14/01/2022	Sarah's	Ava
	Sarah's	Jamie
	Paul's	Lilly
	Paul's	Kenzie
	Brenda's	Niamh
	Brenda's	Ula
	Declan's	James

MARTIN LUTHER KING - PEACEMAKER ACHIEVING THINGS BY PEACEFUL MEANS

Date	Room	Name
21/01/2022	Sarah's	Oliver G
	Sarah's	Poppy
	Paul's	Ryan
	Paul's	Amelia
	Brenda's	Caitlin
	Brenda's	Sophia
	Declan's	Clodagh

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL WEEK / THINKING OF OTHERS

Date	Room	Name
28/01/2022	Sarah's	Olga
	Sarah's	Oliver W
	Paul's	Inaya
	Paul's	Kaz
	Brenda's	Liam
	Brenda's	Ellie
	Declan's	Abbie

FORMATION OF STUDENT COUNCIL - PUTTING IN A GOOD EFFORT

Date	Room	Name
04/02/2022	Sarah's	Erik
	Sarah's	Maja
	Paul's	Benjamin
	Paul's	Noah
	Brenda's	Mia
	Brenda's	Miguel
	Declan's	Sarah S.

FORMATION OF STUDENT COUNCIL - BEING A GOOD LOSER

Date	Room	Name
11/02/2022	Sarah's	Eddie
	Sarah's	Sam
	Paul's	Joseph
	Paul's	Tiárnán
	Brenda's	Hugh
	Brenda's	Abbie
	Declan's	Adam

