

# Newsletter

January 2018 | Issue 10



CASTLEBAR EDUCATE TOGETHER  
NATIONAL SCHOOL

## Welcome back everyone to Term 2.

We welcome a new senior infant pupil Ruby to Miriam's Class this term and everyone is making her feel very welcome. We will soon begin pre-enrolment for Junior Infants for the next school year. Thank you to everyone who has called to pre-schools with flyers.

## Literacy Lift Off - Coming soon to senior infants!

Literacy Lift Off is an intervention that gives children lots of opportunities to read books at their own level of competency and gradually lift the complexity of what they can do in both reading and writing. We are delighted to have made this substantial investment in literacy and look forward to using these books for years to come, and enhancing the programme as our school grows. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more literacy lift off updates. Please let us know if you would like to help with this exciting new initiative.

## Ethical Education themes

Our Ethical Education themes for this month are: Be Safe-a reminder of safety rules around school, Perseverance-keep trying even when things are difficult, Martin Luther King-Helping others/kindness/bringing about change by peaceful means.

## HSE vaccinations

HSE vaccinations for Junior Infants will take place on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January.

## Stay Safe Lessons

In January and February we will be teaching the 'Stay Safe' programme. This is part of the Social, Personal and Health Education curriculum which all primary schools are required to implement. The aim of the Stay Safe programme is to teach children personal safety skills so they can look after themselves in situations which could be upsetting or dangerous.. Your child will bring home worksheets which will inform you on the topics being covered in class and how you can reinforce the messages at home.

## Reminder

Children's toys often get lost in school so unless specifically asked for by the teacher please keep them at home.

## Litter Less Campaign

We are taking part in this initiative and we will be helping to keep the school and surrounding area litter free. Children will survey lunchboxes for reusable drink bottles and how many pieces of rubbish we generate.

## Linenhall Show

We have booked another show on Friday the 20<sup>th</sup> of April. This show is called "The Wonderful Tune" and is brought by the same performers as last years "Whistleberry Forest". This show will complement our Music Curriculum and bring some of the theory we learn to life. Last year's show was free as a benefactor paid for all schools attending. This could happen again this year but if we have to pay we will be asking for €5 to cover the cost.

## Parent School Association

We will soon begin to set up our new Parent School Association (PSA). This group will meet regularly to plan events, fundraise and enrich the lives of the children in school. We are opting for a PSA rather than just a Parents Association or a Parent Teacher Association so all stakeholders in school can be involved. We will in time have some Special Needs Assistants and more ancillary staff that may wish to become involved. The first step in this process will be PSA training. We have invited the National Parents Council to facilitate this training and we hope as many parents as possible can attend. This meeting will be held here in the school on a Monday evening and we will hopefully elect a committee afterwards. The NPC will confirm the date and we will advertise it on Facebook and the school website. Please consider taking a role or becoming involved in some way.

## Dates of the February Midterm Break

School will be closed on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> and Friday 16<sup>th</sup> of February for our Mid-Term Break. School closes at the regular time of 1.30 on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>.