



## Date for diary:

**Election: 26<sup>th</sup> Oct – School closed**

**Parent Teacher Meetings: 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> Nov – 3.30-5.30**

## Playground Equipment

Playground equipment is almost complete. Bark Mulch is down for protection and we hope to have the final climbing ropes next week. After lots of laughs at the Parents' Association AGM last Tuesday, there are a number of fundraising ideas being investigated. It is hoped that families will attend the event so we can further improve facilities at our school for our children.



Courtmacsherry Community Shop have donated €2000 towards our playground equipment. This is an amazing donation from this local community group and an example of how supporting local businesses improves local facilities. A sincere thank you from our school to the committee and to those who support the shop. We will hold an opening event on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December at the school as a thank you.



## Sciath na Scol Fixtures

Fantastic games for boys & girls teams on Thursday last against Kilbrittain. The girls were victorious this time. They are playing their next match today in Barryroe against Enniskeane. Thank you to Padraig Collins, Dan O'Dwyer and Múinteoir Alison, Sinead and Coman for supporting the children.

GAA coaches every Wednesday in school – Hurling skills for the whole school this week. Send in a hurley and helmet with your child if they have one. If not we have some spare hurleys at school.

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**Orienteering** dates for 6<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> class.

**6<sup>th</sup>** : Long Strand 8<sup>th</sup> Nov 10am

**5<sup>th</sup>** : Courtmacsherry 19<sup>th</sup> November 9.30am

Thank you to those parents who drove to Inchydoney last week. It was such a team building, educational, fun, active morning for the children. Photos are on Facebook.



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Clonakilty Rugby club will hold a Tag Rugby blitz on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October for schools for 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> classes. This is to compliment the training that the children are undertaking in school at present by the visiting coach, Aishling. 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> will attend from 9.30-11.30 and 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> class will attend from 12.30-2.30pm. If children

have gum shields, they should wear them. Speech and Drama with Ann Marie will be on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> instead this week.

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We have been asked to take part in a promotional video for Green Schools. Local co-ordinator Cath Russell will work with Múinteoir Catherine and her class on this. 3<sup>rd</sup> class have also taken part in an investigation on the varieties of the humble spud.

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Please send in all your waste batteries to 3<sup>rd</sup> class and they will be collected by WEEE in association with LauraLynn.

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### Water Safety

Caroline Casey of Cork County Council Water Safety will speak to pupils from 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class on 9<sup>th</sup> October. Last June students were given instruction on water safety at Dunworley Beach. The local Coastguard, local lifeguards and members of the RNLI were in attendance that day.

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Please be vigilant around healthy lunches. Teachers will be keeping an eye on children's lunches for fruit, veg and healthy snacks. Sugary foods should be eliminated from the lunch box or in very small quantities. Múinteoir Carol attended 'Zippy Friends', a programme recommended by psychologists on coping strategies. She will administer this with 2<sup>nd</sup> class during the year. The 'Friends For Life' programme will be carried out with 3<sup>rd</sup> class again this year. This is a social skills and resilience building program that has been recognised by the World Health Organisation as an effective means to prevent anxiety for children aged 8-11. Parents will receive an information letter about the programme. It is envisaged that parents will go over this, with their child as there is a homework sheet each night.

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Juniors received High Viz vests as part of the Road Safety Authority last week. In the past our school has won prizes for participation in these programmes. We endeavour to build awareness in the children around staying safe.

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