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## November 2018

# School Staff

Principal: Mrs. Ruth Wallace Deputy Principal: Ms. Geraldine Whiteford Special Duties Post: Mrs. Orla Mythen Mrs. Wendy Costelloe Mrs. Honora Bergin Mrs. Laura Kerr Ms. Joanne Kelly Ms. Karen Lynam S.N.A. Mrs. Marie O'Shaughnessy S.N.A.

## Welcome to our new pupils and Indeed their parents also

We welcome the following pupils who have started in Abbeyleix South National School: Junior Infants: Hugh Bennett, Oscar Bergin, Blake Bezuidenhout, Olly Blohm, Olivia Bradley, Marie Cahill, Chloe Gee, Faythe Hilliard, Thomas Johnson, Peyton Mooney, Jessica Quinn, Heidi Tuite and Sam Walshe,

# Intention to Apply Forms

Anybody who wishes to send his / her child to the Abbeyleix South National School next academic year 2019–2020, please contact the school for the Intention to Apply Form.

## French Lessons Resumed

French lessons for 5th and 6th class have resumed with our new French Teacher Ms Isabelle de Toulgoet every Wednesday. This is a great opportunity to learn a new language before entering Secondary School.



### Save the Date

Wednesday the 28th of November 7.30pm an evening of local Christmas treats and eats (possibly some secret tips and recipes too !) in the School GP hall. More information to follow. Parents' Association

# Children's Harvest Service

The collection at the service was for P.A.T.H. (Portlaoise Action to Homelessness). Philip McKinley, Dublin City University Chaplain, was the visiting preacher.

# Hallowe'en Senior Infants Fundraiser

As is the custom, our Senior Infants' Parents are organising the Hallowe'en Disco for our children in our G.P. Room on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October. We are looking forward to a wonderful evening. The Senior Infants' parents put a tremendous amount of work into this evening.

# Parents' Association AGM

The AGM of the Parents' Association was held on Tuesday 25th September. Our P.A. members are Liz Lane (Chairperson) Hannah Black (Secretary), Stuart Hudson (Treasurer) Leanne Cash, Sarah Cleary, Michelle Collins, Clodagh Cunneen, Rhiannon Harris, Ally Mooney, Florence Perrott, Richard Reid, Sarah Tuite, Laura Walsh and Caroline Whelan.

#### Helpful Parents

Thank you to all parents who continue to help out in any way with jobs big and small in the school . Your support is much appreciated.

### Parent /Teacher Meetings

Our Parent Teacher Meetings will be held on 15th and 16th November.

### Abbeyleix Fire Station Open Night

Congratulations to Aoife Neavyn and Brooke Hilliard who won prizes for their art work in our local fire station Open Night and well done to all who participated in the competition.

### People First Credit Union Art Competition

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been awarded prizes in the People First Art Competition:

7 years and under Category 1st prize Liam Bennett 2nd Prize Kirstie Tuite 3rd Prize Sarah Jane Robinson

<u>8—9 years Category</u> 3rd Prize - Aoife Neavyn

Well done to all our winners and to all who entered the competition.

#### **Outdoor Classroom**

We were delighted to welcome Magalie Lalor (Green Schools Co-ordinator in Castlecomer Community School ) and Transition Year Students to view our Outdoor Classroom as they prepare for their Green School's Biodiversity Flag.

## Cycle Workshop

Fifth and Sixth class pupils participated in a Cycle Safety Training Course during September and October. For session six, our final session of the course, our pupils received on-road cycling training. As part of that "Bikes on the Road" session the Parents' Association organised a sponsored cycle ride to Durrow to help raise funds for the Funky Kids Workshop later in the school year. Thank you to all who supported it. Here is an account written by Szymon Trela a sixth class pupil on what the workshop was all about:

Our Cycle to Durrow. On the 10th of October, we cycled from our school, Abbeyleix South National School to Durrow. We had six weeks of practice from a cycling workshop called Cycling Safety. There were refreshments on the green in front of St. Fintan's Church. It took about two and a half hours including the refreshments. We were all very tired after the cycle. #muscles wrecked. By Szymon Trela



### **Talk on Nutrition**

Fifth and Sixth class pupils attended a talk on Nutrition in the Local library on 10th October. The talk was organised as part of the Healthy Ireland Programme.

On the 10th October Fifth and Sixth class went to Abbeyleix library for a talk with RIna Whyte on Healthy Eating, what you should and what you shouldn't eat or things you should eat less of and she also talked about what Connor McGregor would eat . He would eat lots of protein and fish and eggs She also gave us a recipe for sugar less flapjacks. By Katy Johnson.

#### **Heritage in Schools**

All our classes participated in a wonderful History Workshop with Trudy Earls from Heritage House on 26th September. Trudy gave the children an insight into their heritage, history and culture, talked about the town of Abbeyleix and about life in their grandparents' time. She showed them a powerpoint on life in Ireland in the 1950's and compared it to present times. Pupils then had the opportunity to play some games which would have been popular in their grandparents' time. A very interesting and informative workshop.

#### **School Placement**

We were delighted to have Kelly Caldbeck with us for three weeks in October, when she worked along side Mrs. Kerr teaching 3rd and 4th class pupils.

#### **Skipping Workshop**

All classes thoroughly enjoyed a skipping Workshop on 11th October, funded by our Senior Infants' Hallowe'en Fundraiser.



### Maths Week

The 13th Annual Maths Week Ireland took place this year from Monday 15th to Friday 19th October. Maths Week celebrates a positive image of Maths for all. Each of our classrooms participated in this event with great enthusiasm and excitement. On Monday we enjoyed Maths Puzzle Day, Tuesday was Maths Trail Day and Maths Eyes Day, Wednesday we enjoyed Maths Art Day, Thursday was Maths Magic Day and Code Breaking with a Beetle Drive Day rounded the week off on Friday. Check out our blog for some fabulous photos of all our activities.



View all about our school on Website: <u>www.abbeyleixsouthns.ie</u> Blog <u>www.abbeyleixsouthns.scoilnet.ie</u> Search for us on FACEBOOK .