



Hard to believe we are at the last weekend in January already. I hope you are having a lovely weekend.

Grandparents and Family Day

The date for Grandparents Day has been set. On Tuesday 27th February we will attend 10 a.m. Mass in the Church. Grandparents or other family members are welcome to attend. There will be some circumstances where families do not have someone to attend and we will be reassuring the children of this, so please don't feel under any pressure if this is the case. We will provide further details closer to the time, but for now, please save this date.

Parents Association

PA AGM

The Parents Association will hold an AGM on Monday 12th February @7 p.m. The parents association would like to invite all parents to this meeting.

School Tracksuit Update

Our PA are looking into changing the current school tracksuit and phasing in a new one for families that want a change from September 2024. We sent a survey to all families last week and thank you to all who filled it in. So far, we have had 123 responses. As we have 207 families in the school, this is a response rate of just over 59%, so we are not in a position to share the result just yet. If you have not yet replied to the survey which was sent as a separate notice after the newsletter on Sunday January 21st, please reply.

We will continue to work with the PA to monitor parents opinion on this.

Tesco Community Fund

You will remember that Tesco NCW kindly gave us the opportunity to participate in their "Blue Token" community fund earlier this school year. We were absolutely delighted to accept a cheque for €814 last week from Tesco for this initiative. All proceeds will go to our ongoing fundraiser for the sensory room in the new building.



Say Yes" to Languages

The new Primary Curriculum Framework outlines that in addition to English and Gaelige, pupils in our schools are exposed to a multitude of languages. This sets an important foundation for children as life-long language learners. We are already very fortunate that children at the Courtenay are exposed to so many languages, given that many of our pupils speak more than just Gaelige and English. We have been busy this year gathering a list of all the languages spoken by both pupils and adults in our school and using this information to support language learning. We are also very lucky to be in a position to participate in the "say yes to languages" in initiative by having an Irish Sign Language tutor come to the school every week to support adults and children to learn and share their Sign Language Skills. Like all of the other languages in our school, we are all at different levels in terms of our fluency...but we are learning!!!



Weather

Chess has returned this week, but the weather continues to impact on some of our other after-school activities. Hopefully we can get back on track with these once the weather settles a little.

Hurling with George

Hurling continues with George every Thursday. Many thanks to NCW GAA for this. We are hoping to offer after-school hurling from 3rd – 6th class on Thursdays as well. If you think your child would like to attend this, please discuss with them and we will collect names of those interested at school.

Cycling

5th class pupils are participating in cycle training at the moment and had a great day building their cycle skills on Wednesday



The Outdoor Classroom

We make such good use of all of the amenities that are available locally to the school The Demense, The Greenway, Town playgrounds, The local sports facilities as well as nature!! You can see in one week alone how many of these resources in the town are used by the children. Thanks to all of the voluntary organisations for making these available to us. It means that learning can take place in so many more places than just our classrooms!

Senior Infants pictured here on a nature trail in the Demense on Friday.

Tag Rugby

A fantastic day was had at the rugby field with thanks to NCW Rugby Club. There was a huge turnout and the boys that attended really enjoyed and benefited from the day.

