

10th December, 2019.

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

School Closure: The School will be closed to all pupils tomorrow, Wednesday, 11th December to enable the teachers attend a training course.

Election to the Board of Management: The election of Parent Nominees to the Board of Management for the 2019-2023 term has now concluded. Tom McTigue and Milla Sweeney were elected having received the highest number of votes in the separate ballots. Thank you to all candidates for your continued interest in the school.

Parent-Teacher Meetings: The Annual Parent-Teacher Meetings which were held after school during November were well attended and provided an excellent opportunity for parents/guardians to discuss their child's progress with his/her teacher. Please note that during the course of the school year you are always welcome to make an appointment with your child's teacher to discuss a school related matter or concern.

Science Week: Science week was held from the 11th – 15th November and pupils from 3rd to 6th classes participated in scientific discovery events. Craig from Science Ireland facilitated a series of science workshops for all classes.

School Band: The School Band led the parade for the "Switching On of the Christmas Lights" Ceremony in Loughrea this year. They also played outside of Super Valu and Aldi and provided entertainment for young and old alike. Well done to all band members and a special thank you to the teachers who train, supervise and accompany the band to these events.

Credit Union Art Competition: Well done to all of the pupils in 1st and 3rd classes who took part in the Naomh Brendaín Credit Union Art Competition. Congratulations to Stefmanny Almeida De Jesus (3rd Class) who was a prize winner in this event.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal: A total of 150 shoeboxes were filled, decorated and donated by pupils and their families. Well done to all involved in this worthy project.

Pupil's Christmas Card Project: This year all classes have again participated in the "Design A Card" project. Every pupil's card is unique and the great variety of cards and designs created is representative of the wonderful artistic talent throughout the school. Most of the orders have arrived and we are waiting for the last few to arrive from the printers.

School Choir: The School Choir visited St. Brendan's Community Hospital on Thursday last and performed a lovely selection of Christmas carols for the residents. Well done to all who sang so beautifully and to the teachers who prepared them and accompanied them to this event.

GDPR: There are implications for the school if parents are recording their own and other children performing on stage. A recording of a child, or children, is the collection and storage of data and consent is required. Parents are not required to comply with the Data Protection Act when taking photographs of their children for their own private use at an organised event. As long as the parents have been invited to the event and the subsequent pictures are intended for family or private use, there is no breach of the Act. This changes if the parents subsequently share images of other children in a public forum e.g. Facebook, website etc. The responsibility is firmly on the person who has captured the images not to share them publicly.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. P. Coyle, Principal.