

Castleplunkett NS Newsletter

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

October 2023

The month of October is under our belts and lots of learning and fun has gone by throughout the month.

The Senior Room pupils have been working hard on lots of different topics, including experimenting with light, commencing work on the theme of the First World War and Art work with Nollaig is ongoing. During October, the children used natural products to tie die fabrics, completed some collage work and constructed moveable bats for Halloween. Sixth class have had a visit or two from the various secondary schools and also visited Castlerea Community School for Taster Day, which was interesting experience for them all, even though most decisions are already made.



In the Junior Room, this month the children loved learning about farms, farming now and in the past and lots about seasonal food. The farm shop was busy during Aistear play time and we read and talked about some great stories and nice poems! We also explored lots of learning about Autumn and the season's changes. Our Art printing was a mixture of Autumn and Halloween work, while we were busy learning all about numbers across our Maths activities also.



Fr. Devine celebrated a lovely opening school year mass with us on Monday 2nd of October. We had great fun across Maths Week early in mid-October. We had daily puzzling and thinking, we played Maths games together and the Senior children completed a Maths



trail. Everyone spent the week guessing how many chocolate buttons were in the jar and Conor was the successful prediction winner, guessing 377 buttons, one off the total of 378! It was a very enjoyable week. In both classrooms we are doing our best to focus on learning new vocabulary and extending our word knowledge to help our reading and understanding, as this is our SSE focus. Pupils from 1st- 6th completed their SSE questionnaire during the month and thanks to the parents who have completed the parent version also. The first of seven swimming sessions was completed on Wednesday 25th, with six further lessons scheduled until the 13th of December. There was great colour and effort made for Halloween dress up on Friday 27th ahead of the midterm break.

Support of PA events has continued throughout the month. We thank the committee for their hard work to promote and fundraise for the school and the wider parent body and community for supporting these events. County Photos will attend for School photographs in mid-November and Parent Teacher meetings will be arranged for the week of November 20th, after midterm. If you are completing a Shoe Box for the Shoe Box Appel, please return them to school on Wednesday 8th of November. Thank you all for your continued support of the school and our work.

