



Castleplunkett NS Newsletter

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

January 2023

The first month of the new year has gone by in a blink and we packed lots in at Castleplunkett NS!

The Senior Room have had a busy month exploring the theme of the Famine, working on all elements of shape and space and commencing novel work, enjoying George's Marvellous Medicine in 3rd and 4th Class and the classic Under the Hawthorn Tree in 5th and 6th. Confirmation preparation is well underway also for those receiving the sacrament after Easter. After a number of competitive classroom preparatory quizzes, pupils in the Senior room represented the school at the Castlerea Credit Union Quiz on Friday 27th of January. The children behaved very well, enjoyed the evening out and our team of Seán, Conor and Sophia finished tied third in the u11 competition. Well done everyone!



In the Junior room, we headed to the Poles for Arctic and Antarctic exploration this month! We learned lots of interesting information about Polar animals, how they adapt to the cold and the interesting ways they camouflage. The pupils made lovely penguins and polar bears, completed really interesting free writing about a Penguin called Pickle and really enjoyed our stories called What's that Noise? and Penguin Huddle. We also investigated Winter clothing, freezing conditions and how to keep ourselves and our homes warm, as well as enjoyed some snow fun at school in the middle of it all!

It was wonderful to celebrate Catholic Schools Week, our prayer service and celebration of

Grandparents Day with so many members of our school community on Friday 27th. The children worked hard on their lovely art and Thank You cards for their grandparents. Thanks to everyone who joined us and cooperated with sharing photos and preparations for the afternoon. Children from 2nd to 6th Class have been enjoying their computer classes with Margaret from CAIT Ros Comain and are now halfway through their block of lessons. Thank you to the Parents Association who have contributed to the cost of the lessons, in giving the monies received from Cash for Clobber €260 towards the classes.



The children's donation of €105 was sent to the Sligo Branch of Focus Ireland following Christmas Kindness Day and was acknowledged with thanks by the Charity in January. During our Language planning day on Friday 20th, an element of work completed by the staff included preparation for whole school reading initiative activities to encourage and promote reading skills and reading for pleasure over the coming months. Some fabulous new book sets were purchased and have already arrived and been added to the Senior Library. We would encourage all families to read as much as possible for pleasure over the coming months and consider joining/visiting the local library if you can. The school is now enrolling for September 2023 and if you are aware of anyone in the community in need of information on enrolment or an enrolment pack, please encourage them to contact the school to arrange the same.

February will be another busy month but broken up by school closure for the new St. Brigid's day Bank Holiday on Monday 6th of February and the Midterm break, over Wednesday 15th – Friday 17th of February inclusive. Thank you all for you continued cooperation and support.

