



The Classroom Chronicle

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

DECEMBER 2015

New Arrivals



A Huge Welcome to our 12 new infants for 2015. Jamie O' Neill, Cormac Lacy, Darragh Nash, Aaron Van Rijswijk, Rían Dwyer, Oisín Ryan, Aoibheann Brennan, Holly Abbott, Caoimhe Daly, Séarlait Tywang, Gráinne Meagher and Muireann Meagher.

We also welcome our other new pupils Cian & Ava O' Donovan, John, Dylan and Leah Brennan, Rory Bollard, Keelin Brennan, Jessica Joyce, Chloe Van Rijswijk and Shane Coogan

Christmas Play

Our Christmas Play is being held on Monday night December 21st at 7.30p.m. All pupils (especially those in Miss Fogarty's room) need to be at the school at 6.45p.m. sharp. Admission for the night is €3 per person or €7 per family. (Proceeds go towards Children's

Party / visit from Santa).

Raffle

On the night of our Christmas Play we will hold a raffle. If anyone would like to donate prizes for the raffle we would be very grateful. These can be left into the office any day between now and Friday 18th.

St. Vincent de Paul

If you wish to contribute any non-perishable food items, toys or gifts to the St. Vincent de Paul, a box is being provided in the school for these. Please leave them to the school before next Wednesday December 16th. This is an ideal opportunity to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

Wellie Race Cards

If you or anyone you know is taking part in the Wellington Race could you appeal to them to **use a sponsorship card with the Firoda School stamp?** If you do, then the school will get a percentage of the money raised which will be of great benefit to us. Cards are available at the school. Please make an effort to check with your friends. A few text messages asking if they need a card will work wonders. If closer to the race, you cannot get a card with the

school stamp then, it is sufficient to write Firoda N.S. on both ends of the card.

Christmas Cards

By now, those who ordered Christmas cards, tags etc. of your children's artwork have received them. Well done to all the pupils!

Shoebox Appeal

Thank you to all those who filled a shoebox for the needy in Africa and Eastern Europe. You are making a huge difference in the lives of very disadvantaged children.

Congratulations

Well done to Kim Stone (6th Class) and Órlaith Brennan (Senior Infants) who recently won "Dancer of the Year" competitions in Mayo.



Whole School Inspection

Recently our school had a WSE (Whole School Inspection). This involved a Department Inspector, Mrs. Noreen Bambury visiting the school for a week and observing all

aspects of school life. Pre and post inspection meetings were held with the Board of Management and the Staff. Questionnaires were distributed to parents and pupils and the inspector spent a number of hours in each classroom. The draft report which was presented to the Board and to the Staff was very positive and reflects a school that is running smoothly. Well done to all.

Retirement

Miss Honoria Fogarty will retire at Christmas. Miss Fogarty has been part of the teaching staff for the past 25 years.



During her time in Firoda she has always taught the infant classes and the high esteem in which she is held is portrayed by the many past pupils that call back to visit her. We wish "Miss" a long, happy and active retirement. Her classes will be taken by resource teacher Miss Mooney until the end of the

year while Miss Kavanagh who has spent many weeks working in Firoda will take over Miss Mooney's role. A thanksgiving Mass and farewell function will be held for Miss Fogarty after Christmas on Friday January 15th commencing with Mass at 7.00p.m. in the school and followed by a presentation and cup of tea in the hall immediately after. All are most welcome. Please inform any past pupils and parents.

New Board of Management

A new Board of management has been put in place recently to manage the affairs of the school for the next four years. On behalf of the Board Monsignor Ryan would like to thank all members of the outgoing board for their work and dedication over the past four years. He would also like to thank all who were prepared to serve on the incoming Board. The new Board comprises of: Mgr. Ml. Ryan Chairperson, Martin Fogarty Principal, Joe Meagher Staff Rep. Fran Brenna and Sean Meally Parents Reps. Mary Murphy Patrons Nominee, Mary Clarke and Sean Malone Community Representatives. We wish the new Board every success.

Girls Football

The girls football team had a great year making it to the semi-final. The team is progressing all the time. The players showed their appreciation recently of all the hard work put in by Miss Grace and her management team with a surprise party and presentation. A special cake to mark the occasion was baked by Ella Nolan. Also included in the "Thank You" of course were the rest of the management team, Pamela, Marie and Miss Mooney.



Staff Changes

There has been some change in staffing since last year. Miss O' Brien who was with us for a number of years has secured employment in her native Co. Cork. We wish her all the best for the future. Her duties as resource teacher have been taken over by Miss Mooney. Miss Maura O'Mahony who was based in Moneenroe N.S. and worked with us for two mornings per week in

Learning Support has taken a career break and has been replaced by Ms. Madden. Another new member of staff this year is Mr. Prendergast who works with us for one day per week as a resource teacher.

Dancers

Eve Coogan, Ella Buggy and Rachel Brannigan had a great win last week in Dancing. They won the Spectrum Hip-hop Dance Idol 2015 competition at the National Basketball Arena. Well done girls!

Handball



Congratulations to Michael Brennan and Eamon Power who recently won the Under-10 County Handball Championship.

Champions Visit

Members of the All-Ireland winning team visited Firoda with the Liam McCarthy cup in September. The children were especially delighted to welcome

past pupil Conor Fogarty and Shane Prendergast who has recently taken up part time work in the school. Conor and Shane



were joined by Kevin Kelly and Padraig Walsh. The players had time to meet all the children, sign autographs and give some advice before rushing off on a tour of the parish.

The school made presentations to Conor and to Shane to mark the memorable occasions.



Merry Christmas Everybody!