

# January Newsletter 2011



SCOIL NAOMH MAELRUAN SÓISEAR

## Welcome back

Happy New Year  
2011



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Everyone seems to have settled back into the routine of school. When we returned to school on January 10th, it was nice to be able to see the grass again!

Where are the children?



Unfortunately the snow upset Santa's plans to visit the children in the school on 21st December. He arrived at 10.30 a.m. but sadly all the children were at home because the school was closed. He very kindly left a sackful of selection boxes

for each class. We will have to wait until next Christmas to say 'thank you'. The nativity play was performed by the children from Mrs Tighe's class at the 7pm mass on Christmas Eve. Thank you to all the children and their parents for being at the church so early to get dressed in their costumes. It was a great performance by you all. Well done! A special word of thanks to our care-taker Bridget who trudged her way through a half a metre of snow into the school to collect all the costumes and props for the play.

On behalf of all the staff I wish you every blessing for 2011.

Mairéad Ryan

Principal

## School Calendar

We hope that the 2011 calendar will be of great help to you during the year. Please check it regularly for dates of early closures and school events.

## Lost Property

The amount of lost property is increasing on a daily basis! We have lots of coats,

hats, scarves and gloves that are unclaimed. All items will be displayed in the hall on Friday 28th January. Please come in to have a look if your child has lost anything. Please remember to label all clothes. A name on a lost item is very helpful in returning it to its owner.

## New for 2011

A new ceiling mounted data projector, a large screen and speakers were installed during the Christmas holidays. All these will be of great help at assembly each week. Teachers will also be able to use these for PE classes in the hall. A new sound system with a new radio mike was also installed. The old system had served the school well since 1975. We are getting used to a new sound to signal the start of school, break times and home time. The school bell has been replaced by a pleasant chime.

## Funding received from the Department of Education and Skills

- €14,694 for ICT equipment
- €4,720 for water conservation
- €11,759 for emergency repair to the roof

## Thank you from the Consolata Sisters.

Dear Teacher Ryan,

Many greetings from Tanzania. I am Sr. Maria Artura Valentini, Consolata Missionary Sister in Tanzania, and for now the Superior of Consolata Sisters. I was travelling and I returned yesterday. I received a letter that you have written to the parents of your school children, explaining about our orphanage. It is true, and I know how much Mr. John Brown felt with the little ones here and the generosity of all of you. In fact, in Tanzania people die continuously because of malaria and AIDS and the orphans increase daily. We do our little, with the generous help of people who are able to open their hearts and hands for the less fortunate. I want to thank you very, very much. And I would be pleased if you could pass my thanks to the children and parents who were generous in donating something. Know that with any little help, we are able to give these children (girls) a nice place to live, food, school, health care...and always, much love and dedication.

## Junior Infants September 2011 Registration for Enrolment

- 18TH—20TH JANUARY
- DOCUMENTS REQUIRED: CHILD'S BIRTH CERT, BAPTISMAL CERT, RECENT UTILITY BILL
- PLEASE BRING YOUR CHILD WITH YOU IF POSSIBLE

## Parent Teacher Meetings

Parent teacher meetings that were cancelled in December are re-scheduled for Wednesday January 19th January. Your child's teacher will be in contact with you with regard to the time of the meeting. School will close at 2.30pm on 19th Jan. for 1st and 2nd class.

## School Library

Work is ongoing in the library with the help of parents, Catherine Clayton and Jennifer Webb to create a database of all the books in the children's library. Remember to visit

<http://www.southdublinlibraries.ie/> and click on

Children's Zone where you will find many resources to help your child read and develop an interest in reading.



The Sr. in charge of the orphanage is called Sr. Joselice Santi, a Brazilian nun as I am. With her, we have three good Tanzanian ladies who care in every detail for the well being of the children. Certainly, we are not able to pay back, but in our prayer, and in the children prayers, we always have a special space for our benefactors. God's blessings on you during this time of Christmas and many drops of love during the whole New Year.

Love and prayer,  
Sr. Maria Artura Valentini, mc.



Thanks to your very kind generosity €1,152 was transferred electronically to the Consolata Sisters' bank account. Along with Sr. Maria I wish to thank you most sincerely for your response to the appeal for a donation for this orphanage. At a time when many are struggling with reduced income or loss of income it is very much appreciated that you have contributed so much to this very worthy cause.

Mairéad Ryan

## Rainbows

We are pleased to bring the news to you that the school will soon be offering support to children who have been bereaved through death or separation. Four members of the staff have attended training for the Rainbows programme which is a peer support programme for children experiencing a loss. The programme will take place over 12 weeks in the school. The children will be in a group of 4—6 children who have experienced a similar loss.

If you require any further information about Rainbows or if you want your child to participate in the programme please contact Mrs Mairead Ryan or Ms. Colleen Farrell.

## Christmas Decorations Competition

We held our annual recycled Christmas tree decoration competition which was again a great success with more than 50 entries. All materials used to make the decorations were to be from things already at home. The rules were adhered to very well by all the participants! There was a lovely array of bright colourful decorations for the Christmas tree. All children received a certificate and some children received prizes for their efforts. Well done to everyone for taking the time and effort to create the decorations.



## Welcoming the New Year

The 1st of January was New Year's day. People celebrate the new year by setting off fireworks, going out, having parties and making new year resolutions. My new year resolution is to eat healthy foods and wash dishes everyday.

Thelmar 2nd Class

Úna Patterson Education Officer, Castlecomer Discovery Park visits our school

We learned about rocks. Igneous rocks form volcanic activity. Molten magma flows to the surface and becomes lava. When the lava cools quickly, pockets of air form. This newly formed rock is pumice which rubs away dry skin. Sedimentary rock is rock that is deposited. Fossils form under sedimentary rock. Metamorphic rock is rock that changes under pressure. Talc rock is ground into talcum powder. Talc rock is metamorphic rock.

Ms. McGrath's class

## National Concert Hall

The children in 1st and 2nd class will be attending a concert on Monday 14th Feb at 12.00 pm.

## First Confession and First Holy Communion

We had our Enrolment Ceremony last Sunday. Fr. David gave us candles. We have enrolled to make our First Confession and First Holy Communion. God invites us to be members of the church. We get a certificate. We first came to the church to be baptized. A candle was lit then.

Hannah 2nd Class

## Family Mass

The next family mass will be celebrated on Sunday 30th January 2011 at 12.30 pm

**Congratulations -**  
Doodle for Google  
Competition  
What happiness is .....

NATHAN DOOLEY  
AND SHAUNA  
FARRELL IN MS  
COSTELLO'S HAVE  
QUALIFIED FOR THE  
REGIONAL FINAL.  
BEST WISHES FOR  
THE NEXT STAGE  
OF THE  
COMPETITION

## CHEESE JACKS RECIPE

1 LARGE CARROT  
100G CHEESE  
50G MARGARINE  
150G OATS  
HALF TSP DRIED MIXED  
HERBS  
1 EGG

Turn on oven to 180°C  
Grate carrot and cheese  
Grease baking tray  
Melt margarine in a saucepan  
Take pan off the heat, add grated carrots, cheese, mixed herbs and egg  
Mix really well with a wooden spoon  
Make into small balls and press onto tray.  
Bake in oven for 20 minutes  
Put on wire rack to cool  
Enjoy!