



CETNS NEWSLETTER

December 2019 | Issue 28

WINTER SHOW

Tickets are €10 per adult, siblings go free. Each family will have two tickets allocated to them. When all the families are sorted I will put the remainder on general sale, it will be on a first come basis. A raffle ticket and link to download a recording of the show is covered in the price of your ticket. Tickets will be available on Monday morning from Jennifer. We can take cash or card.

The show starts at 7, the children need to be there from 6:45. Junior infants and senior infants will be finished by 8, if anyone needs to go. We will have an interval, raffle and a show called "Elves on strike" after the interval.

Thank you to Creative Schools Midie & Jojo and the House Band

MATERNITY LEAVE

Well wishes to Miriam as she commences maternity leave after the winter break. Ellen Murphy will replace Miriam in 2nd class and Liam Scanlon will act as the Deputy Designated Liason Person for Child Protection and Teacher Nominee on our Board of Management. 2nd class will also have a student teacher, Emma Grealis for five weeks in April & May, who will be learning from Ellen on teaching practice. Ellen has been in our school subbing so you'll recognise her. Sarah will also be keeping an eye on 2nd class to ensure they keep up their excellent work.

REMINDER ABOUT LACES

Please ensure your child can tie laces before you give them shoes with laces. They are a hindrance to safe play when they keep opening and cause many accidents.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

New Year New You – We are always looking for more parental involvement. Any parent in Sarah's room is welcome to read at 1:10pm Monday – Thursday. Just give some notice. We'd love to see parents come and demonstrate something, talk about something or join us on a habitat study outdoors. Let Jennifer know when and what and we'll go from there!

FUNDRAISING

A massive thank you to all that helped at the bag packing in Dunnes Stores. It was a very successful event, we collected €681.57.

Thank you also to the staff at McHugh's who kindly donated their tips for the day.

Our recent book fair generated €299.68 worth of rewards which we can spend on books for the school.

ACCOMMODATION UPDATE

As we know the Department of Education & Skills have asked us to manage our enrolments to ensure we do not exceed 68 pupils in Marsh House until the end of the school year 2020/2021. The Board of Management have met with the council executive and have written to the Department of Education & Skills to plan for our future after June 2021. This temporary capacity issue was set out in the planning conditions of 2017 and although stifling we have always known it. We also know that the Department are willing to look at facilitating the school's expansion to an eight classroom school. Again we the community of Educate Together in Castlebar need to make sure accurate information is "out there" about our school. We have been oversubscribed as we cannot exceed 68 pupils in our current building. This will not be the case going forward. I would encourage anyone considering our school for September 2020 or September 2021 to register their interest through our online form <https://www.castlebaretns.ie/future-interest>. This capacity issue is temporary and we hope to have clarification about a permanent building which will cater for 8 classrooms soon.

Our school is stable, thriving and is here to provide choice. If prospective parents are disappointed about our capacity issue they can perhaps consider an extra pre-school year for their child and commence their education with us at age 5. The Board of Management are working on securing more information about the school year 2021/2022.

WANTED



Parents who like to play music. All abilities welcome to join our school band for our Christmas show. Please contact Jennifer if you are interested.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

December 13th - Winter Show 7pm

December 20th - School Closes at 12pm for holidays

BIRDWATCH SURVEY

We started collecting data last Monday and encourage all families to take part at home. This integrated project will form part of our ethical education - care of the environment, science -design and make bird feeders and living things strand. A little bit of numeracy and literacy in there too. Thanks Niamh for our school subscription to BirdWatch Ireland.

ATTENDANCE

Our record of attendance for October is 92.3%

Well done everyone!

CREATIVE SCHOOLS RECOMMENDED APPS

We asked JoJo could she recommend 2/3 apps which she think might encourage children's creativity when they are off over the winter holidays. She said our older kids might enjoy Keezy, Stop Motion Studio Pro and Garage Band. She hasn't worked in the younger end of Primary with apps, but <https://www.educationalappstore.com/> seems to have lots of recommend ones that have been approved and certified by teachers and parents.

WINTER BREAK

Have a restful and joyous winter break from all the staff in Castlebar E.T.N.S. Thank you for all your support. We are working together to create an environment of inclusion, acceptance and creativity. Here's to the next two terms.

HOME/SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

A new Home School Association Committee was elected at the recent meeting. The Chairperson is Becci Gowen. The Secretary is Nichole Morris. The Treasurer is Mary Ellen Doran. We hope everyone will get involved in 2020. Please try to attend upcoming Home School Association meetings to have your say regarding fundraising events. We really need your support!

We'd also like to thank the outgoing committee who did an incredible job in raising around €3000 in the last year for our school.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the outgoing Home/School Association committee, Mary Ellen Doran, Ann Carroll, Seadna Gowan, Ger McElwee, Jeananne Garavan and Patricia Dey Carvalho.

HEADLICE

Please check your child's hair regularly and long hair should be tied up please.

SHINING STARS WINNERS

We've had many shining stars in recent weeks. The children are

BE RESPONSIBLE

Date	Room	Name
08/11/2019	Sarah's	Poppy
	Sarah's	Seth
	Declan's	Eóin
	Declan's	Lilly
	Miriam's	Adam
	Miriam's	Yakoub

BE HELPFUL

Date	Room	Name
15/11/2019	Sarah's	Orin
	Sarah's	Arya
	Declan's	Packie
	Declan's	Hugh
	Miriam's	James
	Miriam's	Sarah D

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

Date	Room	Name
22/11/2019	Sarah's	Ryan
	Sarah's	Claudia
	Declan's	Mia
	Declan's	Luke
	Miriam's	Fionn
	Miriam's	Sarah S

THANKSGIVING

Date	Room	Name
29/11/2019	Sarah's	Grace
	Sarah's	Dawid
	Declan's	Abbie
	Declan's	Sophia
	Miriam's	Lea
	Miriam's	Leja

CASTLEBAR TIDY TOWNS AWARD

Last night our school was awarded the primary school award at the Tidy Towns event. Councillor Ger Deere commended the pupils for their efforts in keeping Marsh House and the grounds so pristine. Our Green School committee organise litter picking at break times and it's a joy to see this good work acknowledged and celebrated.

