**November Newsletter**

Colder weather is coming. The windows will be open all day, every day! Please dress children warmly with layers under/over their uniform or tracksuits e.g. tracksuit bottoms/ leggings under pinafores. We go out to the yard in all weathers so it’s time to wrap up warmly. We got a kind gift of a big bag of new hats so let us know if your child needs a hat.

**Health & Safety**

All schools are still operating with full Covid safety measures:

* social distancing in class and in the yard (class bubbles, play zones and smileys)
* hand and respiratory hygiene
* open windows
* no visitors inside the school without appointment
* outdoor learning and play
* staff masking
* adults on school grounds requested to wear masks for the safety of all
* Children stay home from school if they are “off form” in any way, until 48 hours symptom free

**Teaching and Learning**

October was a busy month: Maths Week, nature education, and lots of reading. Special thanks to Finglas West Family Resource Centre for providing lessons in Fun Direction and Mindfulness to some classes. Prizes for the winners of our Parents’ Maths Week Quiz were sponsored by Finglas West School Completion programme.

Our school theme for November is “We love learning!”

* The Department of Education has given every school extra part-time teaching hours to make up for lost learning over the last two years.
* Our new School Completion Programme keyworker Megan will join us one day a week to provide extra support for some children.
* Two Junior Infant classes will start music lessons with Music Generation.
* Outdoor education will continue in Gabrielle’s Garden at the front of the school.
* Book Fair will take place in the hall (children only)
* Author and illustrator visits to the school sponsored by Children’s Books Ireland
* “Cuddle and Read” with lovely books for every child to take home for their own personal bedtime book collection. The books are sponsored by Children’s Books Ireland and by a kind mystery donor known only to Olwen!

Last chance to buy workbooks which are supplied by the publishers on a sale or return basis.

**Dates to remember**:

*Wednesday 3 November = Photo Shoot.*

As a school fundraiser, we are making a 2022 calendar. Each class will dress up for a different month or season. The teachers will help prepare the children for the photos so no shopping will be necessary! The calendars will be printed in time for Christmas and will make lovely presents. More details from the teachers through Class Dojo. No children’s names will appear on the calendar.

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| **Class** | **Month/Season** | **Theme** | **What to wear** |
| R5 | January | Winter Wonderland | Hat, scarf, gloves |
| R4 | February | Valentines Day | Red, pink or hearts |
| R26 | March | St Patrick’s Day | Green |
| R2 | April | Singing in the Rain | Raincoats or wellies or brollies |
| R3 | May | Outdoor learning | School tracksuit and wellies |
| R1 | June | Sports day | Colourful tracksuit/leggings, cap |
| RA | July | Summer holiday | Tshirt, leggings, sunglasses |
| R14 | August | Up the Dubs! | Dublin colours or Dublin jersey |
| R16 | September | Back to school | Full school uniform |
| R15 | October | Halloween | Halloween costumes - again |
| R17 | November | The Toy Show | Pyjamas |
| R7 | December | Christmas is coming | Christmas jumper or red or green |
| R10 morning | Spring | Yellow | Yellow |
| R10 afternoon | Summer | Bright colours | Colourful Tshirts and leggings |
| R8 morning | Autumn | Autumn colours | Orange, red, yellow or brown |
| R8 afternoon | Winter | Cosy | Hat, scarf, gloves |

*Friday 26 November = PYJAMA DAY*. We will be dressing in our cosy PJs to enjoy Cuddle and Read at school and getting ready for the Toy Show. The children will have a **HALF DAY**. Primary Language Curriculum (Gaeilge and English) for the staff in the afternoon.

**School lunches**

The revised lunch menus will finally be delivered by Glanmore Foods in November.

**In November we remember**

November is the month in which we traditionally remember our deceased relatives and friends. This year, we remember two parents from our school community who died in 2021: *Billy Ennis* and *Mandy Booth*. You can see a beautiful picture on our website gallery of Billy enjoying “Cuddle and Read” with his son last November. We miss Mandy’s smiling presence in the yard every day. Please keep them both in your thoughts and prayers this November.