

Gorey Educate Together National School

Scoil Náisiúnta Foghlaim le Chéile, Quaire

Principal's Newsletter

9th December 2014

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Gifts for teachers and other staff? Again this year we would like to say that we neither encourage nor expect gifts from children/families. We already feel supported and appreciated. For the child who still wants to give *something* - a simple **card** (homemade or bought) with his/her thoughtful message written inside would be most welcome.

Lost and Found: Please check our overflowing lost and found shelves, (opposite Deirdre's Junior Infant classroom.) *At the end of term leftover items will be taken to a Charity Shop or Recycling Centre.*



Be careful!

Once it's said,
the web is fed.

Say **NO** to cyberbullying.

Parents: please continue to supervise your child's mobile phone and internet usage.

Friday 19th December: End of Term. Classes finish at 12.15 (infants) and 12.30 (1st-6th.) No after-school supervision session. School reopens to pupils Monday 5th January 2015.

Learn Together news: *Gorey Educate Together NS is a multid denominational school and welcomes pupils from all religious and non-religious backgrounds. While there is no teaching or practice of prayer or worship within classes, the pupils are taught about the beliefs, practices and celebrations of the main world religions which include Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism and Sikhism. Other religions may also be discussed from time to time, particularly if a pupil in the class wants to share information about their own religious practices at home with their class members. (E.g. Some of our pupils in 2nd & 6th classes will take part in sacramental preparation for Communion & Confirmation with local Catholic schools and church members.) The pupils may often ask questions about atheism/agnosticism also and this will also be discussed in an age-appropriate manner within classes.*

*During the school year different classes will visit Places of Worship locally and in Dublin. In recent years these visits have included The Dublin Buddhist Centre, The Mosque at Clonskeagh and local Christian churches. Why not stop to admire the monthly displays on the Learn Together noticeboard just down from the main school office... this month the classes have displays about **Thanksgiving** and **Hanukkah**.*

- Andrea Maher, Learning Support & Resource Teacher

Wednesday 10th December: Hockey coaching with Gillian Bailey, (Brendan's class.) Final session.

Monday 15th December: Football Association of Ireland Futsal Blitz. The school will enter three teams in this event.

Monday 15th December: Trip for special classes to Wells House, Ballyedmond.

Tuesday 16th December: Trip for Orla & Lynn's 1st classes to storytelling event at Gorey Library.



Wednesday 17th December: Some end-of-year songs & poems, performed by the children of the school. Junior and Senior Infants 11.20am. 1st, 2nd and 3rd classes 12.20pm. 4th, 5th and 6th classes 1.30pm. All are welcome!

Also, PTA raffle in aid of St. Aidan's Services, Gorey. Tickets €2 – €5.

Please note that, to allow for set-up & rehearsals, the hall will only open to parents 10 minutes before each performance.

Photography/video: Please allow everyone to enjoy the live performances! Parents are asked to remain seated during the event or to film from the back of the hall, etc.



Thursday 18th December: Bake Sale by the children on our School Council. The children have chosen to donate the proceeds to 'Kila's First Steps.'

The '**Kila's First Steps**' campaign aims to raise funds to cover the cost of specialist physiotherapy for three-year-old Kila. (Kila is the sister of a Gorey Educate Together NS pupil.)

All classes will visit the Sale during Thursday.

Suggested spending money: €2 - €2.50 per child.

Donations of baked goods are needed: cup cakes, buns, cookies, sliced cakes, etc.

Please bring donations to the school office on Wednesday 17th December or first thing on the Thursday morning. Thanks!

Home-Baked goods: please list the ingredients used.

Allergies: please remind your child about his/her allergies, (and the fact that many baked goods can contain traces of allergens.)