

Callystown News

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October 2006

New Parents Information Book

At the recent annual general meeting of the Parents' Council, Mr. Mc Ginnity presented the officers of the Parents' Council with copies of the new parents information book.

The book was a project undertaken by the teachers to provide parents with information about the policies, procedures and rules of the school. It was felt that the book would be of use to new families who were coming to the school for the first time as well as informing established parents of the routines of the school.

Considerable effort and time was put into the publication to ensure that it covered as many areas as possible and that it would be of benefit to all.

The teachers and staff, as well as the Board of Management and Parents' Council committee are to be thanked for the help and support they have given to this project.

The cost of the publication was met by the Parents' Council and we are very grateful for their generosity.

A copy of the book has been sent to each family and we are asking parents to keep the book in a safe place and to use it as a reference for future years



Officers of the Parents Council, Siobhan Faulkner, Secretary, David Byrne, Chairperson and Mary Lynch, Treasurer, receive the first copies of the parent Information booklet at their Annual General Meeting held recently.

Remembering Niamh

On our second day back after the summer holidays a special service was held in memory of Niamh Duffy who passed away on the first of September last year. The ceremony was conducted by Fr. Murtagh who said

that Niamh would be from now on, the school's guardian angel. The boys and girls from Niamh's two sisters' classes attended the ceremony along with her family.

To commemorate Niamh both Ciara and Clodagh, Niamh's two sisters, unveiled the new aquarium in the foyer of the school.



Interactive White Board for School in Memory of Gerard Murphy

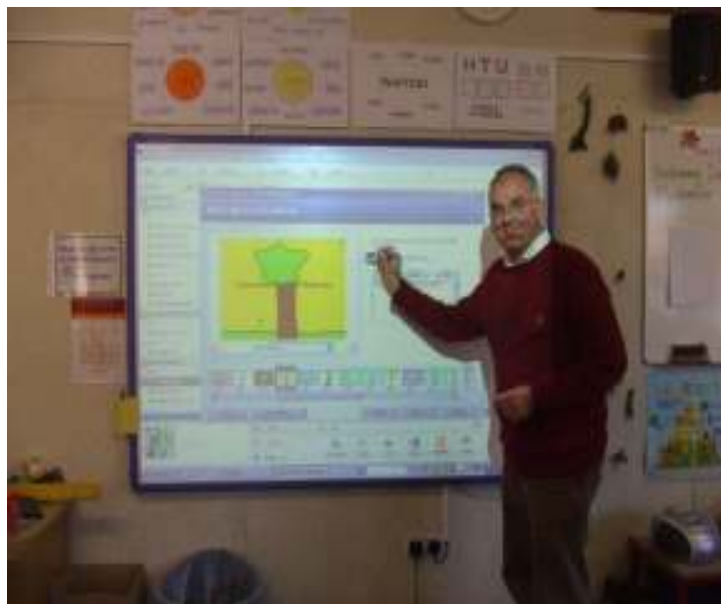
The students of Mr. Barnes' third class are being mesmerized by their new interactive whiteboard. The new board is the latest technology in teaching aids and Mr. Barnes is using the board to bring a new dimension to his lessons.

We are very fortunate to have the board as it has come about by way of a gift from our local credit union. The credit union has presented the board to the school in honour of their chairperson, Gerard Murphy, who passed away suddenly earlier this year. Gerard was a long time friend of the school and was involved in the promotion and running of the annual Credit Union

Quiz and in the presentation of prizes at the annual poster competition.

Mr. Murphy would no doubt have been delighted that his memory will long be associated with something as useful and as educational as this piece of equipment.

The school would like to say



thanks to the Credit Union and to express its sympathy to the family of Gerard Murphy.

Please check out our new website address

www.callystownnationalschool.ie

This newsletter will soon be available on our website

Storyteller Visits School

The boys and girls of the school were held spellbound by the wonderful tales and stories of Neil de Burca, storyteller. Neil visited the school in early September and entertained students and teachers with his wealth of stories that had us all hanging on his every word. His stories had the pupils shouting, laugh-

ing, singing and screaming. The tales he told were both old and modern, from Ireland and abroad, funny and scary.

Neil brought great energy and drama to his stories and was truly the perfect visitor to our school.



Environmental Award for Callystown NS

At the annual County Council Awards for primary schools in County Louth, Callystown NS was presented with the Silver Award.

This award recognizes the efforts and hard work of the children and staff in improving environmental awareness and practices around the school. The school was complimented on the recycling regimes that were car-



ried out in the school and for its work in promoting the need for a greener and cleaner environment. May's school clean up for national clean up week was

praised, as was the general overall appearance of the school.

By way of a prize the school received an impressive banner and €150.

Congratulations to all involved in winning this award and especially to Mrs. Callaghan who coordinates this work around the school.

New Murals for Entrances

A great splash of colour now greets our students as they enter the school each day. The murals are by Ciaran Dunleavy, artist, and they are really fantastic. The children have been very impressed.

Have you noticed the mathematical theme?

Thanks to the Parents Council and the Board of Management who came up with the funds for the project.

School gets a Facelift

As promised for a while the school received a new coat of paint. It has been quite some time since the building was painted and the latest decoration has certainly made a difference.



The school has also purchased a new ride on mower in order to facilitate more regular cutting of the grass to the front of the school.

Parents Council Notes by Siobhán Faulkner

Welcome all to a new school year. The parents' council AGM was held on the 5th of October. Two members of the committee retired, Peter Kirk and Helen Califf and we would like to thank them for their commitment and hard work to the committee over the years. New members elected to the committee are Niall Kirwan, Alison Maxim, Stuart Turnbull, Linda Tuite, Bren-

dan Reilly, Karen Faulkner and Grainne Campion. A new list of committee members will be posted on the school notice board. If you need to contact us there is a parents' council box in the main reception area of the school or approach any committee member.

We would like to congratulate the school on the excellent parent information booklet, which

will be a great help to all parents.

Now that Halloween is fast approaching we are hoping to repeat last year's successful parent's patrol of the school grounds on Halloween night. Those interested in helping on the night please contact Siobhan on 9822955.

Have a happy and safe Halloween.

Confirmation: Sat.
March 10th 3.00 p.m.

First Holy
Communion:
Saturday May 26th
11.00 a.m.

Congratulations to:

Caimhe Murphy,
Caitlin Mc Neill
Robert Lewin

who received gold attendance certificates for not missing any days last year. There were 34 other children who received a silver certificate for missing 3 or fewer days.

Dear Parents,

I would like to welcome you all back to another school year. A special welcome to all the new children and parents who have joined us this year. I am glad to say that everyone seems to have settled back very well.

A word of welcome to our new teachers Ms. Murphy, Ms. Kelledy and Ms. Rath who have joined the teaching staff and to Danielle Aspell who has come to the school as a special needs assistant. We also say a fond farewell to Ms. O'Connell and Ms. Holland who have taken up posts in their native counties.

We have already had a busy beginning and no doubt the remainder of the year will bring plenty of excitement. I look forward to your continued support throughout the coming year and wish everyone all the best and every success for 2006/07.

Yours sincerely,

Ambrose Mc Ginnity (Principal)



Congratulations to Dermot Campbell

The picture shows Dermot Campbell with Miss Deery and Mr. Mc Ginnity when he received his scholarship award for coming first in the entrance test for St. Joseph's CBS Secondary school. We wish Dermot and all our past pupils every success with their studies in the future

Skipathon

A word of thanks to everyone who gave so generously to our annual skipathon. The money raised will go to the Extension Fund and into purchasing new equipment for the school.

€4,200 was raised by the event.



Mobile Phones Wanted

After our very successful appeal for mobile phones for recycling, we are again asking you to bring your used and broken phones to the school. We collected 200 phones last year and we are hoping to combine our new appeal phones with this total in order to purchase some new computer software. We would appreciate all your support.