Beatha agus sláinte chugaibh go léir! Tá an Nollaig buailte linn agus na páistí go léir i nGaelscoil Donncha Rua ag súil leis na laethanta saoire. Bhí go leor rudaí deasa ar siúl againn ar scoil chun Nollaig 2023 a chéiliúradh!

Christmas is officially here and the boys and girls of Gaelscoil Donncha Rua are looking forward to the holidays. We had lots of fun activities in school over the past two weeks to celebrate Christmas 2023.

Please visit our school website www.gdr.ie to see more!

Chuireamar fáilte roimh *Flossie & na Beach Cleaners* agus *An Taisce* do dhá cheardlann an-suimiúil ag tús na míosa. D'fhoghlaim na páistí go léir faoin tábhacht a bhaineann lenár n-aibhneacha, ár n-aigéin agus bealaí uisce a choinneáil saor ó thruailliú. Bhí deis acu an VR a úsáid chun snámh le turtar agus thug siad cuairt freisin ar an inbhear chun bruscair a bhailiú. Ceardlann iontach a bhí ann!

Bhí an cheardlann leis *An Taisce* bunaithe ar:
Nithe Beo, Fuinneamh agus Feasacht Timpeallachta a Fhórsáil.
-Conas a fhaigheann bia a fhuinneamh agus conas a úsáidtear an fuinneamh ó bhia chun a gcorp a oibriú.
-Conas a choinníonn éadaí teas inár gcorp agus conas is féidir teas a ghiniúint trí bhogadh timpeall.
D'fhoghlaim na páistí gur foirmeacha fuinnimh iad solas, fuaim, teas agus leictreachas.

At the beginning of December, we welcomed *Flossie and the Beach Cleaners* and *An Taisce* for two very interesting workshops.
The children learnt all about the importance of keeping our rivers, oceans and water ways free from pollution. They had the opportunity to use the VR to swim with a turtle and also visited the estuary to do a clean up. It was a very worth while workshop!

The second workshop, with An Taisce was based on:
Living Things, Energy and Forces Environmental Awareness.
-How food gets its energy and how the energy from food is used to make their bodies work.
-How clothes keep heat in our bodies and how moving around can generate heat.
The children learnt that light, sound, heat and electricity are all forms of energy.

Eachtraí Nollaig

Tugadh cuireadh do na páistí ó rang 2-6 amach go Teach Altranais Carrigoran ar an Luan seo caite le canadh do na gcónaitheoirí. Rinne siad léiriú iontach amhránaíochta, seinm an fheadóg stáin agus damhsa. Bhí Múinteoir Tric i gceannas ar an gcór agus bhí múinteoirí Geraldine &

Christmas Activities

The children from 2nd-6th class were invited out to Carrigoran Nursing Home on Monday last to sing for the residents. They did a wonderful performance of singing, playing the tin-whistle and dancing. Múinteoir Tric led the choir while múinteoirí Geraldine and Máire played the

Máire ag seinm ar an bhfeadóg mhór agus t Róisín ar an bhfidil. Thug siad neart na Nollag chuig an teach altranais.

D'fhreastail na páistí ó rg. a 2-6 ar *The Winter Wonderwonderland Blast* i nGlór an tseachtain seo caite dá seó Nollag bliantúil. Bhain siad an-taitneamh as!

Ba mhaith linn buíochas a ghabháil leis an Ionad Siopadóireachta as cead a thabhairt dúinn imeacht carúil Nollag a reáchtáil leo Dé Céadaoin. Thug na ranganna go léir cuairt ar Dhaidí na Nollag ina grottó agus tógadh grianghraf ranga leis. Buíochas do na tuismitheoirí ar fad a tháinig síos chun tacú linn ar an lá agus freisin don Bhainisteoir- Casper as Daidí na Nollag a eagrú saor in aisce.

Beannacht Nollaig
Bhí maidin álainn againn go léir leis an tAthair Mícheál i Séipéal Eoin 's Pól maidin Déardaoin. Bhí ceol agus canadh agus tháinig alán tuistí agus sean-tuismitheoirí chun céilireadh linn.

flute and Róisín joined in on the violin. They brought plenty of Christmas cheer to the nursing home.

The children also attended *The Winter Wonderwonderland Blast* in Glór last week for their annual Christmas show.

A big thank you to Glór for subsidising the tickets and bus for our school.

We would like to thank Shannon Town Centre for inviting us down to sing Christmas carols for them on Wednesday. All classes visited Santa in his grotto and had a class photo taken with him. Thanks to all the parents that came down to support us on the day and also to the Manager- Casper for organising Santa free of charge.

Christmas Blessing
All classes went to the church on Thursday for a Christmas blessing wit Fr.Mícheal. The children sang some Christmas carols and played lovely music. It was a lovely occasion to share with parents and grandparents.

Múinteoir Siobhán (HSCL), Cora and Shelly organised a Santa Grotto in St.Senan's N.S for all the children from both schools that attend SCP, it was a lovely treat for all the

D'eagraigh Múinteoir Siobhán, Cora agus Shelly Grota Daidí na Nollag i Scoil Seanáin Naofa do na páistí ar fad ón dá scoil a fhreastalaíonn ar SCP, b'aoibhinn é do na teaghlaigh ar fad a d'fhreastail. Go raibh maith agaibh cailíní.

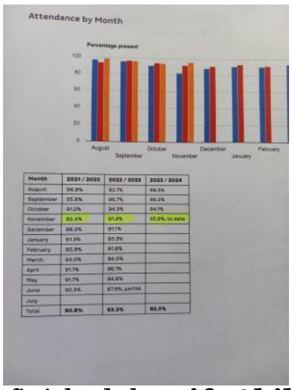
D'éirigh thar barr leis an Laoch Tinrimh an mhí seo caite. D'éirigh linn tinreamh iomlán na scoile a fheabhsú 4% i gcomparáid leis an tráth seo anuraidh.
Leanaigí ar aghaidh leis an bhfreastal agus an phoncúlacht iontach do 2024!

Buaiteoir/winner -Cúrsa scilleanna Saol

Nuacht Bord Bainistíochta
Leanfaidh an bord nua-thofa lena gcuid oibre agus tionólfar an chéad chruinniú den téarma nua go luath i mí Feabhra. Cuirfimid fáilte roimh Dave Townley mar Ionadaí na dTuismitheoirí in éineacht le Sandra Hourigan. Tá sé aontaithe ag Antóin Mac Mathúna fanacht ina Chathaoirleach ar feadh téarma eile.
Fuaireamar fógra ón Roinn go bhfuil céim 2 den phróiseas tairisceana tugtha chun críche. Táimid ag druidim ar deireadh leis an bhfód a chasadh ar ár bhfoirgneamh scoile buan a rabhthas ag súil leis le fada in 2024.
Nuacht Coiste na dTuismitheoirí

families that attended. Thank you to the girls for organising!

The Attendance Hero Drive was a great success last month. We have managed to improve the overall school attendance by 4% in comparison to this time last year. Keep up the great attendance and punctuality for 2024!



Rang a 4-6 finished the **Life Skills** programme with Shelly over the past 10 weeks, they covered many topics that are relevant to pre-teens today. To finish up they had a poster competition, prizes and every child received a certificate of completion. A huge thank you to Shelly for her time, the children learnt so many skills that they can now apply to everyday situations that may arise at this stage of their young lives.

Míle buíochas le gach clann a cheannaigh Féilire 2024 mar thaca lenár mbailiúchán airgid Nollag, tá beagnach €700 bailithe againn. Cabhraigh Joe Buckley (grianghrafadóir) agus Eoin Madden (printéirí) leis an tionscadal seo. Bíonn Joe i gcónaí sásta a chuid seirbhísí a thairiscint nuair is gá, saor in aisce.
Tá obair déanta ag Eoin ó Selprint linn roimhe seo agus é anois ina thuismitheoir sa scoil, rinne sé urraíocht an-chineálta ar na féilirí i mbliana. Go raibh maith agat as do fhlaithiúlacht, a Eoin.
Rachaidh an t-airgead go léir a bhaileofar i dtreo acmhainní don scoil.
Ba mhaith le Coiste na dTuismitheoirí buíochas ó chroí a ghabháil le bainisteoir Dunnes Store Shannon as urraíocht a dhéanamh ar 76 bosca roghnúcháin do na páistí ar fad sa GDR. Tabharfar ceann an duine dóibh ag am dul abhaile Dé hAoine. Míle buíochas le Leona (máthair Ailish agus Clodagh) as é a eagrú.

Some movies (as Gaeilge) to watch on Cúla 4 over the holidays!

Sábháil na dátaí do 2024-(Téarma 2)
Yes to Languages (múinteoir Fraincise) chun tús a chur le cúrsa 8 seachtaine de ranganna, dátaí & amanna le deimhniú.

12ú Eanáir-Yoga le Eimear (6 wks.) rg.4-6 (Leisure Centre)

15ú Eanáir - Paddy Carrig Peil Ghaelach (Wolfe Tones CLG) rg.4-6

30ú Eanáir - Comórtas Cispheile Marion Keane (Ionad Spórt) rg.4-6

Board of Management News
The newly elected board will continue their work with the first meeting of the new term set to be held in early February. We will welcome Dave Townley as a Parents' Representative along with Sandra Hourigan. Antóin Mac Mathúna has agreed to stay on as Chairperson for another term. We received notification from the Department that stage 2 of the tendering process has been completed. We are finally getting closer to turning the sod on our long-awaited permanent school building in 2024.

Parents' Association News
Thank you to all the families that purchased a 2024 Calendar in support of our Christmas fundraiser, we have almost raised €700. This project was helped by Joe Buckley (photographer) and Eoin Madden (Selprint). Joe is always happy to offer his services when needed, free of charge.
Eoin from Selprint has done work for us before and is now a parent in the school, he very kindly sponsored the calendars this year. Thank you for your generosity, Eoin.
All funds raised will go towards resources for the school.
The Parents' Association would also like to sincerely thank the manager (Jeff) of Dunnes Store Shannon for sponsoring 76 selection boxes for all the children in GDR. They will be given one each at home time on Friday. Thank you to Leona (Ailish and Clodagh's mum) for organising.

Save the dates for 2024 (Term 2)
Yes to Languages (French tutor) to start 8 week course of classes, dates & times to be confirmed.
12th January-Yoga with Eimear (6 wks.) rg.4-6
15th January -Paddy Carrig Gaelic football (Wolfe Tones GAA) rg.4-6

6ú Márta - Comórtas fichille (Ostán Templegate) rg.2-6

7ú Márta-Turas go Baile Átha Cliath (Aonach Eolaíochta Bleaist) rg.4-6

12ú Márta – comórtas sacair FAI (Lee's Road) rg.4-6

15ú Márta - Turas go Gaillimh (stiúideo taifeadta TG4) rg.1-6

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Dúnfar an scoil dé hAoine an 22ú Nollaig ag a 12 a chlog. Beimid ag oscailt arís ar an 8ú lá Eanair 2024.

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Do na Páistí, Múinteoirí, Cúntóirí,Tuismitheoirí, Rúnaí, Glantóir, Tiománaí Bus & An Bord Bainistíochta Míle Buíochas as bhúr dtacaíocht agus gcomh-oibriú i rith 2023. Nollaig Shona agus athbhliain faoi shéan is faoi mhaise daoibh go léir!

30th January-Marion Keane Basketball Tournament (Leisure Centre) rg.4-6

6th March- Chess tournament (Templegate Hotel) rg.2-6

7th of March-Trip to Dublin (Bleaist Science fair) rg.4-6

12th of March-FAI soccer tournament (Lee's road) rg.4-6

15th of March-Trip to Galway (TG4 recording studio) rg.1-6

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The school will close for the end of term on Friday the 22nd of December at 12 o'clock. We will re-open on Monday the 8th of January 2024.

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To all our Pupils, Teachers, SNAs, our Secretary Niamh, our Care-taker Sonia, our our Hot-Meals Lady Amy-Kate, Bus Driver Maurice and all The Bord of Management. Thank you all for your continued support and co-operation throughout 2023. Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year