



The boys from Coolgreany /Castletown / Tara Hil participated in the Rackard League Shield Competition and are now the proud holders of the new Shield
CONGRATULATIONS! Sincere thanks to John Meenagh for all his efforts. and to all the parents who provided lifts.



Christmas
'Shoe Box'
Appeal



On Friday 2nd December the boys and girls from 3rd & 4th Class had their first visit to the F.A.I. Schools Soccer Blitz which took place at two venues in Gorey, Naomh Eanna and the Educate Together School. The children really enjoyed the opportunity to participate and a really enjoyable day was had by all.

Mol an bóige agus tiocfaidh sí



Welcome to the December issue of our school newsletter. Since our last issue a lot of exciting things have happened and there is a lot more planned for the next few months. Please remember that any ideas you may have, or any help you can give are always welcome! **The Parents Committee would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and Best Wishes for the New Year.**



Well done to
Stephen Gardiner,
a past pupil of Scoil
Iosagain who has
been selected for the
U19 Irish Rugby Team.



On December 21st there will be a Variety Christmas Show in the school hall with the children from each class participating. There will be Christmas carols, poems and much more. The teachers and children are putting in a lot of effort and would be delighted to see you there. So please come along, have a cuppa, a mince pie and most of all ENJOY THE SHOW!

There may even be a surprise visitor dropping by.....

The Parents Council are organising a Raffle and Homemade Cake Sale on the day also. There will be a great selection of homemade cakes, breads etc to choose from. Your support would be greatly appreciated.



The **Cheerios Childline Breakfast Morning** was a great success, sincere thanks for all your support. The sum of €180 was raised for this very worthy cause.



Mol an bóige agus tiocfaidh sí



Reading Recovery Programme at Scoil Iosagain

A Reading Recovery programme is a school-based, short-term intervention designed for children aged five and a half to six and a half, usually Senior Infants. The intervention involves intensive one-to-one lessons for 30 minutes a day with a trained literacy teacher, for anywhere between 12 to 20 weeks.

The intervention is different for every child. The focus of each lesson is to understand what they are reading; to construct messages in writing, sometimes with the use of magnetic letters and learning how to attend to detail without losing focus on meaning.

There is a follow up at 3 and 6 months. The intervention is not an alternative to classroom teaching, but compliments it, in turn enabling the children to get the most from their classroom programme.

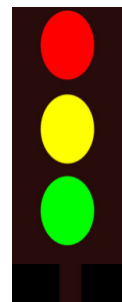
We are privileged at Scoil Iosagain to have a Reading Recovery programme in place. Not all schools are this fortunate. This is with no doubt due to the hard work, enthusiasm and dedication of Eileen Porter.

Her classroom is bright and welcoming, all of which creates a calm atmosphere in which to learn. It is fully equipt to cater for the needs of the children, with an array of books suitable for every level and ability. The brilliant thing about this programme is that it deals with what each child needs rather than a set curriculum that is standard for everybody.

In the near future it is hoped that the school will also be part of the follow on programme - "Lift Off Literacy". This will mean that children in the older classes will also be included.



Mol an dáig agus tiocfaidh sí



Green Card System

The new 'Green Card' System is now in operation whereby children are awarded a green card when they are 'caught' being good. At the end of the week in each class a green card is randomly selected. The winner receives either a night off homework or a small prize. When 10 cards have been awarded the student receives a certificate.

The school will close for Christmas Holidays on Thur 22nd at 12 noon & re-open on Mon 9th January. Enjoy the break!

What is Green-Schools?

Green-Schools is an international environmental education programme which acknowledges long-term, whole school action for the environment. "The aim of Green-Schools is to increase students' and participant awareness of environmental issues through classroom studies and to transfer this knowledge into positive environmental action in the school and also in the wider community. Schools that have successfully completed all the elements of the programme are awarded the 'Green-Flag'. (www.greenschoolsireland.org)

As many of you are aware our school was awarded with its first green flag this year. This was the culmination of much hard work and co-operation between home and school. Although we have this flag, it is constantly under review. So we encourage everybody to be mindful of the 3 R's

REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE



Green-Schools

The second theme in the Green Schools programme is **Energy**.

Students are being taught about many ways in which fuel consumption can be reduced in school and at home. Simple things like making sure the lights are switched off when a room is not in use; when the heating is turned on, to close the doors and maybe switching to energy saving light bulbs.

As with the programme for Litter & Waste there are four steps to be followed:

1. **Analysis**
Carry out an audit to see where energy is being wasted.
2. **An Action Plan**
Find solutions
3. **Measuring Success**
Compare energy bills from similar times of the year, before and after plan is implemented.
4. **Maintenance**
Regular monitoring

Mol an dáig agus tiocfaidh sí