

BALLINABRANNA NATIONAL SCHOOL

Milford

Co. Carlow

Roll No. 17756D

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December 2020

66th Texaco Art Competition Finalist – We are delighted and very proud to receive the news that Blair Doyle was a finalist in the 66th annual Texaco Children’s Art Competition and has received a certificate of commendation. This year there were over 25,000 entries to this prestigious event and becoming a finalist is an incredible achievement. Congratulations Blair!

2nd class Garden – The children in 2nd class have created a lovely colourful garden for the entire school to enjoy. In addition to the beautiful flowers they have planted the children have added their own colourfully decorated stones to bring a smile to passers-by. Well done 2nd class.

Féile an Fhómhair – Congratulations to Mya Mulleney, 3rd class who was a prize winner in this year’s Comórtas Ealaíne for Féile an Fhómhair 2020. Bhí bríd orainn go léir nuair a fuair eamar an litir ó Glór Cheatharlach. Maith thú Mya!

Green School’s Committee – Our Green School Committee are Kyle Rea, Naomi Picovici, Lexie Finn, Zoe Dunne, Megan Byrne, Jamie McDonald, Lily Farrell, Aria Dunne and Ms Fitzsharris. They have an exciting Christmas Decoration Competition planned for December with some lovely prizes.

BUMBLEance On Tuesday 1st of December Amira O’ Toole Rauf started a very special fundraiser, her “50km My Way,” live from Ballinabranna NS and a very important friend, the BUMBLEance BEE flew all the way from Kerry to help her with the launch. There were lots of treats and goodies for all of the children on the day. All proceeds will go to BUMBLEance who do incredible work as the official Children’s National Ambulance Service of Ireland. Anyone can register for Amira’s 50km My Way at <https://www.popupraces.ie/race/run-for-amira/> and there is a fabulous medal from Blinghunters for those who take part.

We were delighted to wave Amira off as she began her challenge.

In addition to her 50km, Amira has organised a very special, limited ticket raffle will take place on December 22nd with some wonderful prizes, all proceeds going to BUMBLEance. Prizes will include Touch Screen Tablets, John Payne Make Up Voucher, O’ Neill’s Butchers Voucher, a Christmas Cake from Lisa’s Celebration Cakes, a Pet Sitter Ireland Voucher and 2 entries for Amira’s 50Km My Way Challenge sponsored by Amira and 4 entries sponsored by Blinghunters.

Tickets are just €2 each. Tickets are limited and we have just one ticket per child available in school, if children wish to bring in €2 for this we will put their name in the draw.

Thank you to Caroline O’ Toole for organising these special events!

Fair Trade Committee – Our new Fair Trade Committee includes Lee Comerford, Eva Dooley, Keelan Brennan, Hannah Carey, Ruth Tunstead, Lucas McGee, Adam Brown, Makayla McNally, Mrs Agars and Mrs Corrigan. Please seek out the Fair Trade label as you shop this Christmas!

Student Council – This year’s Student Council are Kayla Brown, Isabelle Farrell, Nicole Brennan Hennessy, Killian Sweeney, Freddie Comerford, Emma Dooley, Ross Farrell and Rían Tunstead. At their first meeting the Student Council discussed the changes in school since returning in September. The members reported that children felt safe, especially with the hand sanitiser and face coverings worn by staff. They particularly like having their own entrances and designated play spaces on yard with lots of room to play.

Handwriting Competition – In our school this November we held a school handwriting competition with a prize winner from each class. We were delighted to see the children’s care and attention to detail in their handwriting, which made judging this competition particularly difficult! The prize winners were:

Junior Infants :	Aria Dunne	Senior Infants	Áibhín O’ Sullivan
1 st class :	Alexandra Walker & Kayden Carter	2 nd class	Kayleigh Woods
3 rd class :	Conor Ryan	4 th class	Brendan Byrne
5 th class :	Eva Dooley	6 th class	Kayla Brown

Bosca Nollaig Thank you for the fantastic positive response to the Christmas Shoe Box Team Hope Appeal. 31 boxes were donated!

Christmas Raffle – This is a major fundraiser for the school with fantastic prizes. We are extremely grateful to our local sponsors who have generously donated these. Please return this favour by giving them your business where you can. The prizes and sponsors are:

42" Samsung Smart Television	Clogrennane Lime
€200 One4All Voucher	Ronan Byrne & Co
€100 Cash Prize	Donated
€25 Ray Whelan Voucher	Ray Whelan
€100 Fenlon Voucher	Fenlon Heating & Plumbing Ltd
€25 Jones Business Systems Voucher	Jones Business Systems
€50 One4All Voucher	Grass Tech
€100 Voucher Aboretum	Aboretum Home & Garden Centre
€50 Fairgreen Voucher	Woods Contract Cleaners
€50 Lord Bagenal Voucher	Carlow Electrical – Cathal Lawlor
€150 One4All Voucher	Brealey Windows
Voucher	Campus Oil
Hamper	Aboretum Home & Garden Centre
€25 Ray Whelan Voucher	Ray Whelan
€50 Voucher	Macs Menswear
Jewellery	Douglas Jewellers
Christmas Knitted Hamper	Catherine Ayres Sellers Prize

Each family has received two cards for our Christmas Raffle. Please return all cards sold and unsold to the school by 3pm on Wednesday 16th of December. The draw will take place on Friday 18th of December in the school hall. Good luck to all and thanks to Brenda for organising the raffle!

Staff Training – Our teachers recently attended training to support the teaching of RSE in all classes.

Split the Pot Thank you to all who are supporting our Split the Pot fundraiser which is a great opportunity to raise funds for the school and perhaps win a few for yourself too. Our next draw is on Thursday 4th of December. If you are not in, you can't win! Our November winners were:

November:	Niall and Darragh Kinsella €105,	Tiernan Daly €110,
	Amber Bolton Clarke €135	Helen Fitzgerald €115.

Junior Infants have adopted an elephant at Dublin Zoo. The children helped to choose their class pet. They are thrilled to be involved in such a wonderful cause to help save Dublin Zoo and are looking forward to receiving more news about their new pet very soon!

Christmas Card Fundraiser – Thank you to all who supported our Christmas Card Fundraiser. We have raised an incredible € 1170 for the school. The children were delighted to receive their mugs, cards and labels this week with plenty of time to post for Christmas!

Barnardos Family Support Services provide information, advice and support to children, young people and families in Carlow. They can be contacted on 0599132868 emailed at info@carlow.barnardos.ie or visited at 24 Askea Lawns, Tullow Road, Carlow.

Upcoming School Events

Christmas Raffle Friday 18th December 2020.
BUMBLEance Raffle Tuesday 22nd of December 2020
Christmas Holidays School closes Tuesday 22nd of Dec (half day)