



Cullen NS, Mullaghroe, Cullen, Mallow Co.Cork.

Halloween 2020 Newsletter Issue 1

Dear Parents,

I trust you and your families are well.

I would like to bring the following to your attention,

Cullen NS are organising a **Clothes Collection next Friday, 23rd October** 2020. If you want to support this school fundraiser **"Clothes for Klobber"**, bring your sacks of clothes on Friday morning the 23rd to the school & leave them on the footpath outside the front door, where staff will be on hand to move them in under the canopy.

Our pupils may dress in **Halloween Fancy Dress Costume next Friday 23rd October** (no swords, scabbards, brooms, etc., please). Unfortunately, because of the Covid restrictions, we will not be going down to the Hall & we are unable to let our 6th class organise various competitions for all of the other classes as in previous years, as classes will be unable to mingle. We know this is disappointing, however, everybody's **health & safety** is of paramount importance to us. We will all still have great **FUN** on the day, in our own pods with individual class competitions! Leave your school bag at home next Friday, we will still be working though and bring your lunch & pencil case.

We sincerely thank our hardworking **Parents Association** who are organising party treat bags for all the children on that day! We deeply appreciate their trojan efforts, time & dedication in **enriching the well-being, happiness & enjoyable childhood experiences & memories** of all of our pupils.

There will also be special prizes awarded next Friday for the **Best Homemade Costumes!** This is in keeping with our **Green Schools Policy**, being **environmentally friendly** & further enhancing the **creativity & artistic, design & construction skills** of our pupils. Simple is often the most effective & the best fun! We are also developing the **lifelong skills** of being money savvy & **spending wisely**.

In November, we will once again support the **TEAM HOPE CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL**. This annual campaign sends gift filled shoeboxes from Ireland to children affected by poverty across Africa & Eastern Europe. Due to COVID19, this year, the appeal is moving online & you can build a box online at **TeamHope.ie** where you can choose items to add to each shoebox from the 4W's! Things to wash with, write with, wear & wow! Each €20 donation will provide

a shoebox for a child. Every Christmas Shoebox brings so much **love, hope & joy**. Covid-19 has had a devastating effect on these countries & this year, more than ever, every shoebox counts. Often these shoeboxes are the only gift that a child will receive at Christmas & the joy that they deliver is incredible. Our pupils derive great enjoyment from preparing these boxes. It fosters in our young the **Christian virtues of helping others** who are less fortunate than themselves. This is also in keeping with our **Catholic School ethos & Christian values of caring, sharing, showing charity & mercy to those in need**. Furthermore, it will help our pupils to learn that they have the power to make a difference, developing **Citizenship in action!** This is part of our **SPHE - Social, Personal & Health Education**. More details to follow in November.

Also next month, 1st-30th November, Cullen NS pupils will be participating in **MS Readathon Ireland 2020**. This involves all of our pupils reading extra books daily for the whole month, further developing our pupils' **Literacy skills on a whole school basis & helping people living with Multiple Sclerosis in Ireland** - a most worthwhile charity. There are fab prizes to be won throughout the month – **iPads, wireless headphones, book tokens, family days out & lots, lots more!** Further registration details on msreadathon.ie & **MS Readalongathon** to follow after midterm.

We wish you all a happy, safe, healthy & well-deserved mid-term break. We thank you for all your patience & co-operation to date, regarding all of the Covid restrictions. We pray for God's protection during these times.

I wish to express my gratitude to you, our wonderful parents for your generous **goodwill, dedication & volunteerism** to our school, which reaps immense benefits for all of our pupils.

Thanking you for your help, support & continued encouragement,

Eileen O' Mahony, Principal & all the Staff of Cullen NS.

October 16th 2020

