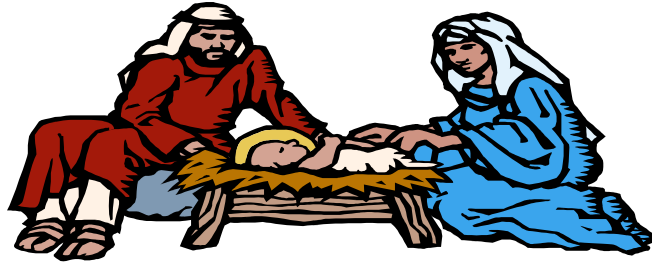




Scoil Náisiúnta an Easpaig Ó Gealbháin
Bishop Galvin National School
Orwell Park, Templeogue, Dublin 6W
Tel: 4566652 Fax: 4567066
E-mail: secretary@bishoptgalvin.com

Beannachtaí na Nollag *agus* *Síocháin san Athbhliain*



School Closures

The school closes at 12.00 noon on Thursday, 22nd December for Christmas.
We re-open at 9.00am on Monday, 9th January, 2012
Please note that the school will remain open until 2.40pm on Wednesday, 18th January

Carol Service

The children attended a Carol Service in the church this morning. Over the past few weeks, we have been learning several carols in All School Singing. Well done to the children on the wonderful singing and thanks to the children who read the *Story of Christmas*. A special choir was put together for the occasion. Three children represented each class and they gave a special performance of *Starlight* and *O Holy Night*. Thanks to Ms. King, Mrs. Brennan and Mr. Geraghty for preparing the choir.

School Website

As you know, the school website was recently re-launched with a new look. It is updated regularly and keeps the school community informed about what's happening in school and allows us to highlight some of the activities which take place in school.

Check out the following on the website:

- 3rd class showing off their dancing skills
- 4th class showing off their dancing skills
- 5th class making Pizza
- 5th class report on Science in the classroom
- 5th class poems on Bullying
- Photographs from our trip to Croke Park
- 6th class stories - *Marooned on a Desert Island*

Literacy and Numeracy for Learning and Life

As indicated in the last newsletter, the Minister for Education and Skills recently published the National Strategy to Improve Literacy and Numeracy among Children and Young People. In response to the publication, the school will set targets for improving literacy and numeracy levels in the school. One of our responses will be to encourage all children in the school to

become avid readers. We hope to have a DEAR time (Drop Everything and Read) throughout the school in the New Year. We will be asking children, where possible, to donate a book to the school library after Christmas. We also encourage parents to include a book on Santa's list this Christmas.

Further details will be communicated to parents in the New Year. A summary of the DES publication is available on the Downloads section of our website.

Board of Management

The new Board of Management had its first meeting on December 12th. It is the duty of the board to manage the school on behalf of the patron (The Archbishop) and for the benefit of the students and their parents. The following are the members of the Board.

Colm Grogan (Chairperson)
David W Hughes (Patron's Representative)
Phil Lahart (Community Representative)
Ian Maher (Community Representative)
John Long (Parents' Representative)
Hazel Lawlor (Parents' Representative)
Joanne Doherty (Teachers' Representative)
Eamonn Treacy (Principal)



Garda

Parents who drop their children to school by car in the morning may have noticed increased Garda monitoring of the traffic in the vicinity of the school. **Tickets for illegal parking have been issued to some parents and more, we have been informed, are on the way.**

The Garda have informed us that parking is not permitted on the yellow lines outside the school between the hours of 8:30am to 9:30am and from 1:00pm to 3:30pm. Parking on the "zig zag" lines is never permitted. Parking on either side of a continuous white line is never permitted.



The schools are planning to meet with the Garda, Dublin County Council, the Parents Association and local councillors after Christmas to consider ways of managing traffic in the vicinity of the school.

In the meantime, we urge parents to consider the safety of all when dropping their children to school. If your child walks to school, please advise them to always cross the road under the supervision of the Traffic Wardens.

St. Vincent de Paul

Many thanks to all who contributed to the Vincent de Paul appeal for non-perishable goods. They will be distributed to "needy" families in time for Christmas.

Croke Park

You will be aware by now that the school team played in the final of Corn na nGearaltach in Croke Park last week. You will also have heard that the result did not go our way on the day. Nevertheless, we can be very proud of the boys who represented the school. They will never forget the experience of playing in Croke and the disappointment of losing faded quickly.

It is also worth noting that the encouragement given to the players on the day by our travelling support was commendable. Their behaviour in Croke Park, and on the buses, was as expected. Well done.

Sincere thanks to Mr. Devaney and to Mr. Lafferty for preparing the team.