



## S.N. Chóbh Chionn tSáile Nuacht Litir 2013/2014 – Téarma I (Nollaig 2013)



### Achievements

#### Competitions:

- \* **Doodle for Google - School Finalists**  
David McCarthy, Dylan Keating  
Sarah Causer, Daniel Hegarty,  
Gina Ahern, Ava O'Donnell.
- \* **Positive Ageing Haven Bay Art Competition – Overall Winner**  
Lia Farley. Runners up – Katie McCoy, Ruari Keane-Kelleher, Mia Casey
- \* **Studio 1 - Christmas in Kinsale Art Competition Runners Up**  
Conal Gilleran, Freya Wallace.
- \* **Schools Swimming Gala – Finalists**  
Jonathan and Darragh Walsh.

#### G.A.A. Competitions:

- \* **Sciath na Scol Football Final Boys – PaírcUí Chaoimh**  
Congratulations to the boys team on winning the Sciath na Scol Final on 19/11/13. The girls team competed very well and won 5 out of 7 matches. Please see [www.sciathnascol.com](http://www.sciathnascol.com) to view action photos of final (DF4).
- \* **Roimn Oir Dheisceart – SE Football Rang**  
a 3 girls & boys competed in indoor football competition. Boys reached semi-final stages. Well done to all involved.
- \* **Rebel Red Day – 6<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> September.**  
Children dressed in red & white to honour the Cork Hurlers/Ladies Football teams in the All Ireland Finals.

#### Active School Flag:

- \* S.N. Chóbh has applied for an Active School Flag. This is a flag awarded to schools to acknowledge their commitment to physical education and physical activities. We will organise an active week in the third term. If you have expertise in this area please let us know.

#### Visitors and Away Trips:

- \* Science Week - Rang a 5/6 visited Kinsale Community School for science exhibition during Science Week. All classes benefitted from the winning presentation by the 2013 Young Scientists. Comhgairdeas Emer! We are very proud of You.
- \* Aoife from Dog's Trust called to school for two days and introduced the children to 'Brave' who is a rescued greyhound. She taught us all how best to approach an unfamiliar dog.

#### Other:

- \* Survey for 'Growing Up In Ireland' from D.C.U. – Junior and Senior Infants.

### A Thuismitheoirí dhíl,

As we come to the close of another year it is timely to take stock of the significance of 2013. Our much expanded school, built around the original two classroom is about to close it's fiftieth year. The original occupants of those classrooms, Joe Harrington and Mary O'Brien joined us in October to celebrate Mrs. Lane's retirement along with many past pupils and friends. The childrens' performances during that week of celebration, in drama, song, music and dance were something to behold and to remember. I was so proud of them all.

We are delighted to welcome three new teachers and many new families to our school community this year. We were also delighted to hear of the new arrivals to the O'Brien, O'Sullivan and Barry families and will look forward to welcoming them to our school in due course. It is also important that we remember that Shane, Dylan, Caitriona, Luke, Victoria, Katie & Daniel will be missing a grandparent this Christmas, but no doubt they will still be minding them, but in a different way.

We have had so much to celebrate in our school this term. In the sporting field we have been particularly successful - winners of the Sciath na Scol boys football final, winners of the Kinsale schools hockey blitz, finalists in the indoor football blitz and table tennis. We continue to develop our skills in swimming, gymnastics and Irish dancing.

While we have all felt great joy and pride in the above, perhaps our greatest success is in the progress of our Junior Infants. They have settled happily and enthusiastically into school. They have made many new friends, have learnt a lot of Irish and can now sing fourteen songs in a few short weeks! They are a great source of inspiration to us all.

Looking forward to 2014, we have much work to do which will include a review of some of our policies. Our child protection and anti-bullying policies will be revised in line with recent H.S.E. and Department of Education requirements. We will of course consult with you in due course. The Spring term also heralds the launch of a revised Language Curriculum for our Irish and English subjects. It is intended that these changes will bring our languages in line with the proposed new Junior Cycle. Our current sixth class will be the pioneers of the new Junior Cycle curriculum when they move to second level later in 2014.

Continuous improvement in the teaching and learning of the children in our care, is our core responsibility. This significant responsibility is underpinned by the core values of respect, care, integrity and trust by all members of our staff. Every new school year and every new term gives us an opportunity to start again and to build on best practice. This time of year is a particularly special time to be a teacher. It is in the childrens work, and performance of nativity plays, songs and carols that we are reminded of the real meaning of Christmas, and of what our school is all about – the children.

I would like to thank you all for your overwhelming support and good wishes as I take up my new position. I will do all I can to maintain and build on all that is good in S.N. Chóbh with your continued help and with the help of our dedicated staff.

I look forward to seeing you all at our Carol Service and to working together for the benefit of all our children in 2014.

Guím Nollaig Shona oraibh go léir agus gach rath oraibh don ath-bhliain 2014.

*Le Mór Mheas,  
Colette Ní Luasaigh.  
Príomh Oide.*

- \* Swimming lessons in Carlton Hotel – Rang a 3 & 5. Rang a 4 & 6 in 2014.
- \* Hockey Blitz – Rang a 2.
- \* Rang a 6 Enrolment Mass 17<sup>th</sup> November 2013.
- \* ‘Scary Bingo’ 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2013.
- \* Halloween dress up and parade 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2013.
- \* Team Hope - S.N. Chóbh contributed 100 boxes to Christmas Team Hope, spreading the joy of Christmas to children in need in Africa.

### Green Schools:

The Green Schools Committee of S.N. Chóbh Chionn tSáile are delighted to announce that we have commenced working on our third green flag for *Water*. We currently hold a flag for *Litter and Waste* and received our second flag in June for conserving *Energy*. We have formed a new committee with twelve pupil representatives, two teacher representatives and a parent representative. We are currently finalising our environmental review of water by measuring our water usage throughout the school. We hope to implement our action plan early in the new year.

### Parent/Teacher Meetings:

We wish to congratulate parents on 100% attendance at parent/teacher meetings, which were held on 20/11/13. This reflects the commitment that Summercove parents have always shown towards their children’s education.

### Eli Lilly:

During October we received a significant contribution to the upkeep the school from volunteers from Eli Lilly. The designed and painted, with the help of the children, a mural in our shed. They built raised beds for vegetable planting in spring time in our garden. They also planted additional flowers and painted fencing. Táimid fíor bhuíoch díbh.

### Happy Birthday Jesus:

We have been busy preparing for the Happy Birthday Jesus celebration in our Parish Church on Christmas Eve. All the children have been invited to sing with the choir on that day. They have made birthday cards. Each class has made a crib which is on display on the windows of shops around the town. See if you can spot your own! We have had a visit from Casper, one of the wise kings as he journeyed around Kinsale recently. He will eventually follow the star to the crib by the Methodist church on January 6<sup>th</sup>.

### Board of Management:

The Board of Management is a group of volunteers who manage the school on behalf of the Patron (The Bishop) and provide an appropriate education for each student under the guidance of the Department of Education and Skills.

#### The members include:

<i>Chairperson</i>	*Virgil Horgan
<i>Principal</i>	*Colette Ní Luasaigh
<i>Patron’s Representative</i>	*Canon J.K. O’Mahony
<i>Teachers Representative</i>	*Jean Roberts
<i>Parents Representative</i>	*Pdraig Fitzgerald
<i>Parents Representative</i>	*Rebecca Fox
<i>Community Representative</i>	*Chris Cronin
<i>Community Representative</i>	*Mary O’Hare

### School Staff:

The Board would like to acknowledge the dedication and commitment of each member of staff:

#### Muinteoírí

<i>Príomh Oide</i>	* Colette Ní Luasaigh
<i>Learning Support Teacher</i>	* Roisín Ní Riogáin
<i>Learning Support Teacher</i>	* Máire Ní Iarlaithe
<i>Resource Teacher</i>	* Noirín Ní Luasaigh
<i>Resource Teacher</i>	* Mairéad Ní Mhuirthile
<i>Rang a 6</i>	* Laoise Ní Alíosa
<i>Rang a 5</i>	* Caren Ní Eochaidh
<i>Rang a 4</i>	* Sineád Nic Roibeaird
<i>Rang a 3</i>	* Sineád Nic Gearailt
<i>Rang a 2</i>	* Sineád Ní Fhloinn
<i>Rang a 1</i>	* Siobhán Ní Dhonnachú
<i>Naíonáin Mhóra</i>	*Valerie Ní Mhaidín
<i>Naíonáin Bheaga</i>	* Síle Brunicardi

#### Ancillary Staff

<i>Secretary</i>	*Ann Collins
<i>Caretaker</i>	*John O’Driscoll
<i>Cleaner</i>	*William Lanigan

#### Parents’ Association:

The school would find it difficult to function financially without the help of a vibrant Parents’ Association. We acknowledge their co-operation, involvement and support in projects and school functions e.g. bus rota, policy documents, social occasions, celebrations and sports day. Our new committee have been working very hard since late September. They organised a coffee morning so that new parents might get to meet other parents. They then organised a wonderful Scarey Bingo and disco for all the children before Halloween. Most recently they have helped the children produce the most amazing personal Christmas Cards and a stunning 2014 Calendar with photos of all the children grouped according to birthday month. Once again the P.A. have organised food hampers as gifts from the children which will be delivered to Vincent De Paul on Wednesday. We are so grateful to them for cleaning and decorating St. Catherine’s Church prior to our Carol Service. A Dvd of the Carol Service will be on sale for five euro in January. Finally, the Christmas raffle will take place in school on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> Decenber at 10am. Míle Buíochas from us all.

#### The Committee are:

<i>Chairperson</i>	*Annette Murphy
<i>Treasurer</i>	*Valerie McCarthy
<i>Secretary</i>	*Bláithnaid Barry
	*Ciarán O’Sullivan
	*Mary Horan
	*Paul Keating
	*Donna Masterson
	*Tara Cahill

### Dates for your Diary:

- \* Confession – 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> class 17<sup>th</sup> December 2013
  - \* Annual Carol Service on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2013.
  - \* Christmas Draw in school on the 19<sup>th</sup> December 2013.
- 4 Hampers to St. Vincent de Paul in lieu of presents.
- \* Confirmation – 28<sup>th</sup> March 2014.
  - \* First Communion – 10<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

### Retirement:

All classes invited Mrs. Lane to their classrooms during her last week in S.N. Chóbh. They sang, danced, acted, told stories and presented her with class photos and autographed cards. It was a week to remember. We also had a special mass to celebrate her retirement. We wish Mrs. Lane a very happy healthy and long retirement.

### New Footpath/Traffic:

You are all aware that traffic is an ongoing issue near our school. We are all delighted that Cork County Council have built a new section of footpath nearby recently in response to many requests from the Board. Unfortunately the road is too narrow to continue all the way to Rinn Curran. Railing will be added in the New Year. The footpath will greatly enhance the safety of our children as they walk to and from school.

### National Literacy and Numeracy Strategy:

We continue to focus on and implement improvement in our spellings and comprehension strategy instruction. This year additionally we will review the area of mathematics.

### Naíonáin Bheaga

We have been very busy in Junior Infants since we started school in September. We have met all the teachers and they have made us feel very welcome. We are delighted to report that we are very happy and making great friends. Sometimes our parents think that we have a better social life than them!

There is huge excitement in our classroom with Christmas fast approaching. We are looking forward to performing in our first Carol Service in Rincurran Church and have been practicing the new songs very diligently. We performed the Nativity Story for Senior Infants and had great fun both preparing and performing it.



### Naíonáin Mhóra

This month the Senior Infants had a visit from The Dogs Trust. Aoife and her dog 'Brave' taught us how to greet a dog and the best ways we can look after our dogs all year round. We each got to meet and pet Brave. He was so comfortable in our classroom, he even fell asleep.

We are having great fun in the run up to Christmas. Senior Infants are practicing their Christmas Carols to sing to all the parents at St. Catherine's Church, Rincurran and we are also showing our singing skills to Junior Infants by doing class performances as well. There is a lot of excitement in the class and we look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday for our annual Christmas Carol Service.



### Rang a 1

Rang a 1 have had a great time this month. They have had a visit from Dog's Trust and enjoyed meeting 'Brave' and talking to Aoife about all the dogs that Dog's Trust have helped to rescue and re-home.

We have also been busy rehearsing for their Christmas play "A Little Bird Told Me" this December. They have had great fun putting costumes together and have been skipping home with their scripts every day, putting a great effort into learning their lines. They've learnt an impressive 8 new songs in two weeks and are looking forward to performing for their mums and dads on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2013.



### Rang a 2

The Kinsale Hockey Club came to train Rang a 2 during the month of October. At the end of the month we joined all the local schools in a hockey blitz up in Sáile. We are delighted to announce that Summercove N.S. won the blitz bringing back the 'Jim Good Fair Play' trophy to the school.

We also had a Healthy Eating month whereby we tried our best to have a healthy lunch box coming to school. At the end of the month we along with Ms. Robert's 4<sup>th</sup> class, made delicious and nutritious smoothies for the rest of the school.



### Rang a 3

At the end of September, Rang a 3 took part in swimming lessons for a block of seven weeks. We really enjoyed these lessons with the instructors at the Carlton Hotel. We also teamed up with Rang a 4 in performing a selection of songs, drama and poetry for Mrs. Lane on her retirement at the end of October.

During the month of November, Ms. Orla Finn and Ms. Amy Buckley – students of Mary Immaculate College, completed their Teaching Practice in Rang a 3 & 4. We are now busy preparing for Christmas, singing songs for the Carol Service and learning our lines for our play ‘Stable Manners’.



### Rang a 4

4th Class have been very fortunate in many ways this term, most notably because we were afforded the opportunity to play table tennis in St. Multose Hall on Wednesdays. The Munster Branch of the Irish Table Tennis Association kindly provided an eight week training programme free of charge. Under the watchful eyes of Alan Hurley and Jim Barry, we learned to serve and return, both backhand and forehand, mastering the skill of top spin. During November we played a round robin tournament amongst ourselves, from which a squad was selected to represent S.N. Chóbh at a Munster School’s Tournament in Cork Sports Village on Thursday November 21st. Our squad performed excellently on the day, displaying superb teamwork, fine skill and a healthy sense of competition. We look forward to their second day out in February. Though our training stint has come to an end, as all good things must, many of us have started playing with the newly formed club which runs in St. Multose Hall on Sundays from 3-5pm



### Rang a 5

During September Rang a 5 prepared, through training and friendly games with other schools for Sciath na Scol 2013. October saw us organise and prepare maths games and activities for younger classes during Maths Week. For National Tree day, we went on a scavenger hunt to investigate the trees and fauna of the Scilly Walk.

During November Rang a 5 & 6 visited Kinsale Community School as part of Science Week. Here the classes were given a demonstration of the magic of Science and what Kinsale Community School has to offer prospective students. The Sciath na Scol final was held in Páirc Uí Chaoimh. Two busloads of Summercove Supporters made their way to the venue and were entertained and rewarded. Our class took part in the annual John West Writing competition and this year’s theme was “A wild Adventure”. We are now busy preparing for the Carol Service, our Christmas play “Babouska”, swimming in the Carlton and have attended a coaching course given by TY students in the Community school.



### Rang a 6

On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November, pupils of sixth class went to Eli Lilly for a Science morning. They were involved in lots of experiments such as making lava lamps, writing secret messages, optical illusions, working with magnets and lots more. It was a great morning and each pupil was given a science set going home.

On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November the Summercove boys in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class took on Minane Bridge in the Sciath na Scol football final. Displaying a fine performance of teamwork and solidarity, Summercove were worthy winners, defeating Minane Bridge on a score line of 3-2 to 1-1. Summercove has been involved in ten Sciath na Scol finals to date, winning nine out of ten, a record we are very proud of.



### A New Tree:

We have planted a tree in our garden to mark our school’s 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. As you pass the school after the hours of darkness you will notice it colourfully decorated for Christmas.

*The Staff, the Board of Management, Parents’ Association and you the parents have always worked well together at S.N. Chóbh Chionn tSáile to ensure the full and harmonious development of each child through the development of physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual needs of the child in accordance with our Mission Statement. We look forward to your continued support for the current school year.*

*Nollaig Shona daoibh go léir*