



GLASHEEN BOYS' SCHOOL

Winter Newsletter 2015/2016



Dear Parents/Friends,

What a busy and productive First Term we have had! On behalf of the outgoing and new Boards of Management and Staff, I would like to thank everybody who supported the work of the school, in any way, throughout 2015. These are exciting times, with the launch of Visual Thinking Strategies and preparation for our own Christmas Concert. Wishing you all a joyful festive season, with good health and happiness in 2016. Go n-éirí libh go léir, Michael Daly (Principal)



HOLIDAYS

Closing: Tuesday 22nd. December 2015 @ 12 noon.
Reopening: Wednesday 6th. January 2016 @ 8.50 a.m.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Our annual concert will take place on Friday 18th. December 2015. To facilitate parents with busy schedules, we are holding two concerts, one starting at 9.15 a.m. and the other at 11.20 a.m. To avoid overcrowding we would ask parents to choose one or the other. The following are approximate times:

CHRISTMAS CONCERT 1

1st. Class - Little Drummer Boy	9.15 a.m.
3rd. Class - It's a Party	9.25 a.m.
4th. & 5th. Classes - The Twelve Days of Christmas	9.40 a.m.
Senior Infants - Ralph The Reindeer	9.50 a.m.
2nd. Class - A Midwife Crisis	10.05 a.m.
Junior Infants - Christmas Medley	10.15 a.m.
6th. Class - Stetsons & Stiletos	10.25 a.m.
School Band	10.40 a.m.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2

1st. Class - Little Drummer Boy	11.20 a.m.
Junior Infants -	11.30 a.m.
3rd. Class - It's a Party	11.40 a.m.
4th. & 5th. Classes - The Twelve Days of Christmas	11.50 a.m.
Senior Infants - Ralph The Reindeer	12.05 p.m.
2nd. Class - A Midwife Crisis	12.15 a.m.
6th. Class - Stetsons & Stiletos	12.25 p.m.
School Band	12.40 p.m.



SANTA'S VISIT TO GLASHEEN

Santa is due to visit Junior Infants - 2nd. Classes on Wednesday morning, 16th. December 2015 from 10.45 a.m.. Our Parents Association will kindly host teas and coffee, for any parents hoping to come along. Junior Infants will see Santa at 11.15 a.m. followed by Senior Infants, then First Class. Second Class will see Santa before Junior Infants.



NEW APPLICATIONS

Applications for 2016 are extremely strong. We already have waiting lists for certain classes. Family circumstances sometimes change and occasionally families need to relocate due to working elsewhere. We hope that everybody will be with us in 2016 but if you are aware that you will possibly be leaving in 2016, it is extremely important that you notify us of the possibility, as soon as possible. If you are aware of anybody who is hoping to join our school in 2016, who has not already been in contact, please advise them to do so as soon as possible, to avoid disappointment.

NEW BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Thank you to our outgoing and incoming Boards of Management and best wishes in the years ahead.

Our new **Board Members 2015 – 2019** are: Máire Calnan (Chairperson); Fr. Paul O'Donoghue, Lucy Diggin (Parent); Patrick Harrison (Parent); Catherine Starkie (Teacher), Michael O'Halloran & Hilda McCarthy (Wider Community) and Michael Daly (Principal).



PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Once again, a huge 'Thank You' to our Parents' Association for all their work this term. This includes the Family Bingo Night, Bag Packing, the very successful Movie Night and the coffee morning on Wednesday 16th. December is planned to coincide with Santa's visit. Our Parents' Association has been extremely helpful in making special arrangements for Santa in Glasheen.

2015 - WHAT AN AMAZING YEAR

As well as a host of further structural improvements, achievements this year include Active School Flag, Digital School of Distinction Award, Yellow Flag, European Blue Flag, Health Promoting School status renewed. Victories in several interschool Quizzes and again qualified for All-Ireland Finals. Hurling by The Lough 'A' Finalists, Port of Cork competition winners. Barber Cup Tennis winners. Tug of War winners for the 30th. Year. Cricket Tournament winners. Numerous prizes at Cork City Sports. Very successful concerts. Constantly updated School website, including Twitter Feed and Facebook page. Launch of Visual Thinking Strategies with U.C.C. Partner school with Lifetime Lab. Culture Day, Buddy Week, Healthy Eating Week, Grandparents' Day. Be Active After School Programme, Easter, Summer and Halloween Camps.



FAMILY MASS

A family mass is being organised @ 6p.m. in The Lough Church on **24th. December (Christmas Eve)**. Fr. John Paul and Fr. Paul will be welcoming all families who would like to attend. Meanwhile those receiving Communion & Confirmation in 2016 have had their Enrolment Ceremonies



GREEN SCHOOLS



We recently had a Green Schools inspection. Huge thanks to Ms. Costelloe and all of the Green Schools Committee. We received extremely positive feedback and we expect good news on our 5th. Green Flag, very shortly.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

In keeping with our School Policy, we always encourage good attendance. (Please see our School Attendance Policy in the Policy Section of our school Website). We understand that if somebody is unwell, they need to be at home to recover. Each year we reward good attendance and this year, we will be focussing on 'Improved Attendance. We ask all parents to bear this in mind, when **planning holidays**. Thank You



VISUAL THINKING STRATEGIES (VTS)

Glasheen Boys' School is honoured to be the first school in Ireland to introduce VTS, as a teaching method. The joint initiative with U.C.C. was launched on 8th. December 2015. We are very excited about the opportunity that this presents for our boys and their future.



SAFETY REMINDERS

To ensure all of our children are safe, again we appeal to all members of our School Community-

1. Please **park your car and walk**, rather than stopping a car in the middle of the road outside the School and leaving children out of the car. Some cars are stopping on School Avenue, causing a serious tailback behind them.
2. Please use any one of the **3 pedestrian gates** but do not use the Car Park gate.
3. Please do **not drive in and out of the Car Park**.
4. Please ensure that children and adults do **not walk through the Car Park**.
5. Please ensure that small children do not run ahead of parents/minders, around the school grounds or down School Avenue, unsupervised. Thank You for keeping everybody safe.

