

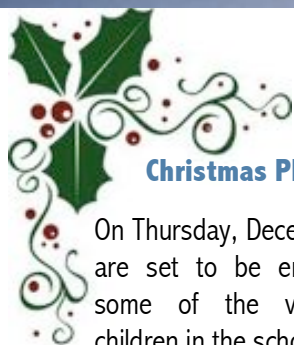
ROBERTSTOWN NATIONAL SCHOOL PARENT'S ASSOCIATION

Newsletter WINTER 2013 ISSUE 5

In this issue

- Christmas Plays
- Thank you to our teachers
- School Policy Documents
- Our Teachers
- Calendar
- Halloween, Photos & November Coppers
- Word From The BOM

EMAIL YOUR ASSOCIATION
RNSPARENTSASSOCIATION@GMAIL.COM



Christmas Plays

On Thursday, December 19th we are set to be entertained by some of the very talented children in the school.

Ms Murphy's class will start at 5.00 pm sharp, with Mr Fitzgerald's class following after a short break at 5.40. Finally Ms O Grady and Mr Donovan's class will start at 6.15 pm.



We meet a lovable shepherd who just can't keep awake. Will she miss out on the big adventure?

Performed by Junior Infants



Of all the sheep in the flock, the smallest, youngest ewe is the most inquisitive. She is always busy getting under the shepherds' feet, asking questions

and, to the irritation of the rest of the flock, demanding to know exactly what is going on. One night, however, while all the other sheep are trying to sleep, some extraordinary events unfold that excite her curiosity more than ever before!

Performed by 3rd Class



Cinderella & Rockerfella is a modern, panto-style reworking of the classic tale, including all the traditional characters: downtrodden Cinderella, Rockerfella (formerly known as Prince Charming!) Buttons, the Ugly Sisters and the Fairy Godmother, with a selection of additional characters, from music managers and paparazzi, to good and bad fairies - all placed in a world of fame and celebrity.

Performed by Ms. O'Grady's & Mr. Donovan's Classes

Thank You To Our Principal & Teachers

It is a great opportunity and time of year to say a very special thank you to our principal Ms. Dillon, and all of our teachers. Our principal and teachers are very important to us, and we appreciate all their dedication and commitment throughout the year. We wish them a peaceful holiday and happy New Year

RNS PARENTS' ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MISSION

In line with the education act 1998 the Robertstown N.S. Parent's Association shall promote the interests of its pupils in co-operation with the board, principal, teachers and students. We will devise a program of activities, which will promote the involvement of parents in the operation of the school, in consultation with the principal. The act states that membership of the association is open to all parents of the students of the school.

Event Calendar 2013/2014

December 2013

Thursday December 19th
Christmas Plays for J1, 3rd & 5th & 6th
Classes

Monday December 23rd - Friday January 3rd
Christmas Holidays

January 2014

January (Date to be confirmed)
PA Book Sale

February 2014

Monday Feb 17th - Friday Feb. 21st
Mid-Term/School Closure

March 2014

Monday March 17th
St. Patrick's Day-School Closure
Tuesday March 18th –
Wednesday March 19th
School Closure

April 2014

Monday April 14th - Friday April 25th
Easter Break

May 2014

Monday, May 5th
Bank Holiday – School closure

Wednesday, May 21st
Confirmation
2:30 Allenwood

June 2014

Monday, June 2nd
Bank Holiday – School closure

June (Date to be confirmed)
School Fun Day

Halloween

We think this was the best turn out ever for Halloween. All the children and Teachers turned up in spooky and interesting costumes and helped to raise €177.80 for the school.

**Uniforms & Crests**

The Minister for Education and Skills Ruairi Quinn has moved to tackle the cost of school uniforms by strengthening the role of parents in how schools decide their policies on uniforms. One of these ways may be to provide sewn-on or iron-on crests. This would enable parents to purchase generic uniform pieces and crest them themselves. We have been looking into the availability and pricing of crests. We would hope to place an order in time for the next school year.

November Coppers

A very big thank you to the children, their families and the teachers for collecting up all their coppers for the month of November. We are delighted to announce your November coppers raised €440 for RNS. Here are the classes that raised the most money in coppers during November. The overall winners received a homework pass and all other classes will receive a consolation prize.

First Place: 2nd Class

Second Place: 1st Class

Third Place: Senior Infants

Merry Christmas

We would like to thank all the teachers, children and parents for their support throughout the year and hope that everyone has a wonderful Christmas. *We have it on good authority that all our children made it onto the Nice List this year. Well done and keep up the good work! PA*

**Upcoming Events For 2014**

- Book Sale in January
- June Funday
- Uniform Shop

School Policy Documents (SPHE & RSE)

The school is most diligent in keeping the parents up to date with their policies. We have recently received copies of some of these documents over email. At a busy time it is not always possible for parents to read and consider them properly. We have summarized the following for you:

SPHE stands for **Social, Personal And Health Education**. RSE stands for **Relationships And Sexuality Education**. Relationships & Sexuality Education (RSE) is taught in schools as part of the school's Social, Personal & Health Education (SPHE) program.

Social, Personal And Health Education fosters the personal development, health and well-being of our children. It helps our children to create and maintain supportive relationships and become an active and responsible citizen in society. The SPHE program helps children to develop a framework of values, attitudes, understanding and skills that will inform their actions and decisions in these areas of their lives both now and in the future.

Relationships & Sexuality Education, which is included in the SPHE curriculum, aims to help our children develop healthy friendships and relationships, to promote and understand sexuality and to promote positive attitudes to their own bodies. RSE helps our children to develop knowledge of and respect for reproduction and to provide opportunities for them to develop appropriate skills to make informed decisions on sexual matters based on factual information.

Getting To Know Our Teachers

We've been getting to know our wonderful teachers a little better by asking them some fun and interesting questions on your behalf:



Ms. De Araugo is our Special Education Needs Teacher

Q. What is your favourite colour?

A. Green

Q. What is your favorite food?

A. Lasangne

Q. What is your favorite book?

A. Matilda R. Dahl

Ms. Ennis is our Special Education Needs Teacher



Q. What is your favourite food?

A. Fajitas

Q. What is your favourite colour?

A. Green

Q. What is your favourite book?

A. Harry Potter



Ms. O'Grady teaches 4th & 5th class

Q. What is your favourite

colour?

A. Red

Q. What is your favourite animal?

A. Horse

Q. What sport do you like best?

A. Tennis

Word From The BOM

The Board of Management would like to wish all the children, parents and teachers a very Happy Christmas.

We have just heard that Robertstown National School has been the first school in Kildare to be awarded the much sought after "Digital School of Distinction" award. The school was evaluated on five criteria which include Leadership and Vision and the school's ICT culture. We are delighted to be recognised for all the wonderful work Ms. Dillon, the teachers and children have done to include ICT in the teaching and learning of the curriculum and we look forward to receiving the inspector's report.

ICT is an abbreviation of Information and Communications Technology. The Digital Schools of Distinction Award is a flagship programme to promote and acknowledge best practice use of ICT to deliver the best educational experience for pupils at primary level. If you would like to read more about the programme please take a look at the website - www.digitalschools.ie

Happy New Year

We hope the New Year brings everyone health, happiness and prosperity and look forward to seeing you all when school comes back on Monday the 6th January 2014.

From your Parents Association Committee: – Suzanne Dodson, Caroline Whyte, Sharon Kelly, Delia Lynch, Frances Whelan, and Adeline Barbour.