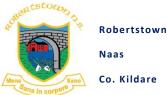
# **Robertstown National School**



Tel: (045) 860021 / Fax: (045) 870603

Email: robertstownns@gmail.com Website: www.robertstownns.ie

#### Newsletter No. 12

#### 23rd of November 2020

Senior Infants have been working hard in the Post Office this month as part of their Aistear Learning. They have been posting letters, parcels and creating postcards. They have also learned about applying for a Passport and a Dog Licence. Last week in School, they wrote some letters to family members and went on a trip to Robertstown Post office to post them all off. While at the Post Box, they also had a chat with Colette who helped answer some of their questions. They were lucky to visit that day as Colette had a special parcel for them. This parcel cannot be opened until December 1st. There is great suspense around this parcel in Ms Kenna's classroom (3)



The **Book Fair** remains in school until Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> of November. You can purchase books through the link on Aladdin and send the order form into school after payment has been made. If there is a large demand for a book, extra copies will be ordered. These copies will arrive at the end of this week. We will receive 60% commission from the sale of books in book vouchers. This year these vouchers will be used to buy books to support the Building Bridges of Comprehension Programme at the senior end of the school.

We introduced this English Programme across the school fully last year. This programme is designed by Mary Immaculate College of Education to support the teaching of reading comprehension through key skills. The 10 sections that make up the Building Bridges Series are outlined in the manual. They are as follows;

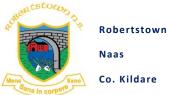
- 1. Think Aloud
- 2.Prediction
- 3. Visualisation
- 4. Making Connections
- 5.Questioning
- 6. Monitoring Comprehension Seeking Clarification
- 7. Monitoring Comprehension 'Declunking' / Word Identification
- 8.Determining Importance

**Marion Sherlock Principal** 

William O'Donoghue **Acting Deputy Principal** 

Roll No. 18430 B

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9.Inference 10.Synthesis

Each class has a specific set of books that are used specifically to teach the skills listed above. We need to buy some further resources to complete these sets at the senior end of the school.

A gentle reminder that students need to be in their classrooms at 8.55am. Class starts at 8.55am. Pupils need to be in class at this time to avoid missing out on teaching time and to avoid disruption to fellow classmates. Punctuality is very important to us in Robertstown National School.

We are looking for donations of used school tracksuits in larger sizes suitable for pupils in middle and senior classes. If you have any unused / spare tracksuit tops or bottoms at home, we will be happy to accept them in school.

**The Student Council** met for the first time last Friday. They are planning on holding a school fundraising in December to raise some funds for Christmas activities. Next Friday they will bring ideas from the suggestions box in each class to the meeting for consideration. Further details will follow soon.



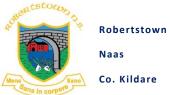
Congratulations to **Seán Foxe**, First Class who won €10 in a Live Newspaper colouring competition. We are very proud of him.

#### **Early Closure**

School will close early for all classes on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> of December to facilitate staff training in the area of child protection for all staff. School will close at 1pm for Junior Infants and Senior Infants. First and Second Class and siblings at 1.15pm and all other pupils at 1.30pm that day.

Marion Sherlock Principal William O'Donoghue Acting Deputy Principal Roll No. 18430 B

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We are planning on redesigning and modernising our **school website**. If any parent has expertise in this area and would like to get involved in this project, please contact the school office for further details.

We are currently reviewing our school Code of Behaviour and updating it in light of changes to the Education Act, 1998. The draft copy will be added to the school website as soon as it is ready during the week. You will be notified by text at this stage. You are invited to take time to review the draft code and email your comments to school. A two-week period for consultation will be allocated.

All parents are invited to attend a Parents Association meeting on Wednesday December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm. This meeting will be hosted on Zoom. If you wish to join the meeting, please register your interest by emailing robertstownns@gmail.com. A link will be issued to registered parents prior to the meeting. As we cannot meet in school this year, meetings must be held virtually for now. This is an opportunity to inform parents of the news and events of Robertstown NS since school reopened in September. We may also explore how the Parents Association may support their children in school this year.



Fifth Class enjoyed a stroll along the canal on Friday 13th November. They enjoyed seeing the wildlife and beauty along the canal.

**Marion Sherlock Principal** 

William O'Donoghue Acting Deputy Principal **Roll No. 18430 B**