

## IMPORTANT DATES

*RETNS Craft Fair* - December 3<sup>rd</sup> 12 noon - 4pm

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class **Science Fair** - Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, 9.20 am - 10 am.

**Winterfest** - Tuesday December 19<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday December 20<sup>th</sup> (details below)

**N.B. Calendar orders must be received by tomorrow, Friday 17<sup>th</sup>, in order to guarantee your copy. Place your order now by return email.**

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### *RETNS Craft Fair*

The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual RETNS Craft Fair will be held on Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December from 12 pm to 4 pm. A great day is promised with stalls from local artists and crafters, bake sale and BBQ, tea/ coffee & sweet stalls, raffle and bottle stalls, kids' activities including magician, karaoke, lucky dip, outdoor games and lots of other fun activities.

How can you help to make the 1<sup>st</sup> ever RETNS Craft Fair a huge success?

- Volunteer your time to PA to help organise activities
- Share the link below on Facebook, WhatsApp groups and other social media  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/895261837307895>
- Spread the details by word of mouth to friends, family, neighbours
- Donate items for the hamper raffle/bottle stall
- Bake for the Bake Sale!

Or contact your PA Class Rep to see where else you can help. This is our opportunity to get RETNS on the map as an excellent Craft Fair venue, which we hope will become an annual feature on the local seasonal calendar.

### **Winterfest**

This year we are planning to have a whole school production for Winterfest. Our current senior pupils remember taking part in 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory', while many of our past pupils have fond memories of 'The Wizard of Oz', our very first whole school production. This year's production is our own specially written version of Peter Pan!

Traditionally there has been huge demand for seats at Winterfest on the occasion of a whole school production. Our choices were to issue two tickets only per family or to have two performances. In the interests of giving opportunity for extended family and friends to attend, we have opted for the latter. The performances will take place on **Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>** and

**Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>.** We will set up an Eventbrite page next week, where you can book a seat for the performance date of your choice.

If you are interested in being involved in making props or costumes for the production, please contact either Anna in 5<sup>th</sup> class or Patricia in 2<sup>nd</sup> class, or send your name in to [info@retns.ie](mailto:info@retns.ie) stating when and where you can help.

### **Sound System upgrade**

A central part of our Winterfest performance is having a good sound system. Our system, which has served us very well for over 10 years, needs to be upgraded with new microphones and speakers. The upgrade will cost €2,500 so we would like to use this year's Winterfest as an opportunity to ask anyone who is coming along to enjoy the performance to either make a donation on Eventbrite or give a donation at the door to help fund the sound system upgrade.

### **Science Fair**

Fifth and Sixth classes will be holding their annual **RETNS Science Fair** on Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. Visitors (parents/guardians from any class) are invited to attend between 9.00 and 9.30 am. We would encourage adults to engage with the children and ask them lots of questions as they will be delighted to explain their experiments and demonstrate how things work.

While visiting the Science Fair why not have a look at some of the children's work on display along the corridors.

### **Coin Collection**

Our coin collection/jersey day plus some very generous personal donations made a total of €588.50 for our tablet fund. Thank you to everyone who contributed. We have started a target board with the children and will watch as we attempt to raise enough money to make a start on buying the tablets. We can now place two tablets on the board. The student ICT committee members have also presented the BoM with their own fund raising plan which they will reveal over the next few weeks.

### **Bebras®**

Congratulations to those pupils who took part in the Bebras® Computing Challenge last week.

### **Start-up Campaign**

We have been informed that a new start-up campaign for an Educate Together secondary school has commenced. A preliminary meeting of a group of parents from five local ET primary schools will be taking place on Wednesday 22nd November at 7.30 pm at Canal Way ETNS. Further updates on this campaign and an action plan will be announced in the coming weeks.

Mary