

**Midterm Break – No school next week!**

School will close tomorrow, Friday, at the usual time, 1.30 for infants and 2.30 for all other classes.

**This Week in RETNS**

Last Friday, Joe, Maeve's Dad, visited 3<sup>rd</sup> class to talk to the children as part of our Maths Week activities. We are always delighted to welcome parents / guardians to talk about their interests and areas of expertise.

On Monday, we welcomed Ellen (past pupil), Isabelle (daughter of our ANA, Clodagh) and Ellie to our school. These superstars are members of the Senior Camogie team in Ballinteer St. John's who have recently captured silverware at both Senior and Minor level.

Ellen, Isabelle and Ellie visited each class with their trophies and spoke to the children about the importance of representing your team and club as well as maintaining an active and healthy lifestyle. Our children were thrilled to get a chance to lift some silverware in the class!

We hope some of our current students will be able to return in the future just like these girls did! Maith sibh!

Earlier that morning all of our classes from Junior Infants to 6th Class walked around Loreto Park to mark the Achievement of receiving our 2nd Active Flag! We plan to raise the flag for the first time after the midterm break.

On Tuesday, we had our second fire drill of the school term. We were happy to see a marked improvement in the speed and calm of the school's evacuation.

Yesterday, our community Garda, Niall Russell, visited all the classes to talk about safety at Hallowe'en. He also reminded some parents / guardians about the importance of not blocking our neighbours' gateways.

Niall can be contacted on parking and other issues at [niall.j.russell@garda.ie](mailto:niall.j.russell@garda.ie).

This afternoon, we look forward to our second basketball match of the school year with a visit from St. Matthew's N.S.

## **Hallowe'en Assembly**

Weather permitting, we will have our assembly in the school yard tomorrow. The children will be assembled in the yard at 09.30 and parents / guardians will then be welcome to join them.

If we have wet weather, the assembly will take place in the hall and unfortunately, parents / guardians will be unable to attend.

We have spoken to the children about appropriate costumes. They are aware of the guidelines below. Please talk to your child about these.

- This is a whole –school assembly so all costumes should be **suitable for an audience of 4 year old children**
- Children's costumes should be simple with no props/ cumbersome parts
- Costumes should be comfortable, children should be able to use the bathroom easily and costumes should not be so long that children will be in danger of tripping over.
- High heels are not suitable as they are dangerous on stairs and yard. Children should wear comfortable shoes such as runners
- No guns or sharp weapons.
- Children may bring their own wipes to remove make-up.

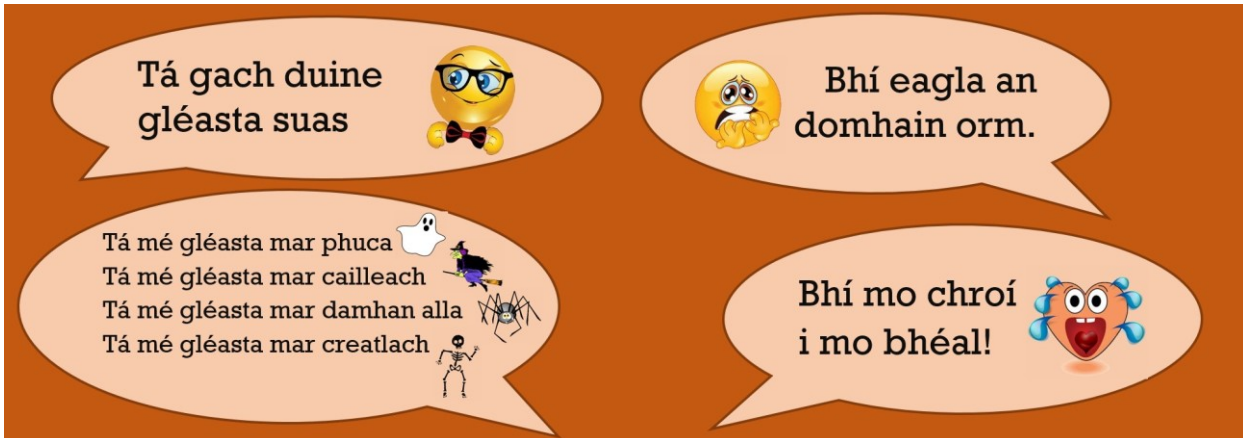
**All children are invited to make a contribution of €2**, which will be donated to Educate Together as part of their 'One Day Together' annual fundraising campaign.

*One Day Together is where Educate Together school communities, start-up groups, past-pupils and families up and down the country hold celebrations and fundraisers on behalf of Educate Together to ensure that we can continue to open and support our fast-growing network of schools.*

*RETNS is getting involved in the celebrations and we are helping to spread the word about Educate Together's work as an educational charity. For more information about the work that the Educate Together national office does in opening and supporting equality-based primary and second-level schools, and to find out how to support this important work, please see the attached information sheet linked [here](#).*

*[#OneDayTogether](#) is about our network coming together on one day as a community of schools to celebrate what's so unique about Educate Together, our shared values and our democratic and equality-based ethos. It's a great opportunity for us to come together to support each other, and to celebrate the amazing work Educate Together schools do.*

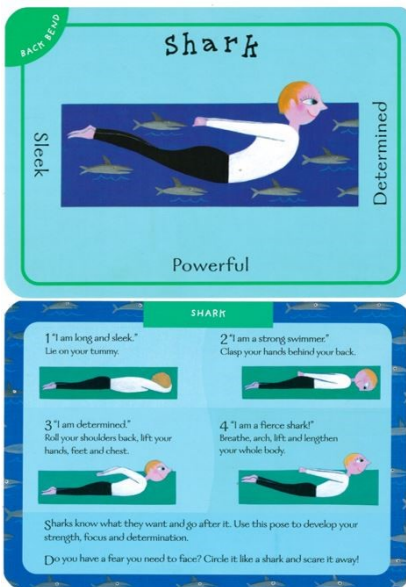
## Frásaí na Seachtaine –



Tá gach duine gléasta suas – Everyone is dressed up  
 Tá mé gléasta mar \_\_\_\_\_ - I'm dressed as a \_

Bhí eagla an domhain orm. – I was really scared  
 Bhí mo chroí i mo bhéal. – My heart was in my mouth

## Yoga Pose – Shark



## Nurturing Nest - A Programme for Parents / Guardians

Thank you to the parents/ guardians who have expressed an interest in the Nurturing Nest Programme for parents / guardians. We still need some more parents to make the programme viable. If you are interested, please contact Carol by tomorrow morning.

The aim of the programme is to support parents/guardians in creating a nurturing, caring environment for their children, while focussing at the same time on their own self-care.

**Four Thursday evenings, Thursday, 10 November - Thursday, 1 December.**

### **7.30 pm – 9 pm every evening**

In addition to providing support to parents/ guardians, the programme also provides a great opportunity for newer parents/ guardians to get to know each other at the start of their children's journey in RETNS.

However, this programme would be very well-suited not just to parents of infants, but to all parents / guardians as Ber and Gabrielle discuss with participants questions such as

- How can I help my child who is struggling with anxiety without becoming anxious myself?
- How can I understand the meaning and purpose of my child's challenging behaviours and struggles?
- How can I encourage my child to listen to me?
- How can I create boundaries for my child especially around social media and use of screens?
- 

**Cost of the 4-part programme: €90.00** (with thanks to the Board of Management which has subsidised this programme)

**Payment can be made by up to three instalments**

**If you would like to attend but can't afford the €90.00 at this time, please contact me at [info@retns.ie](mailto:info@retns.ie).**

If you would like to attend the programme, please inform Carol by email with the following details, by Friday, 28 October. Carol will then send out a payment request through Aladdin.

1. Name.....
2. Child (ren)'s name.....
3. Their class.....
4. Did you attend the Parents' Association AGM.....

### **Aladdin Permissions**

Thank you to all parents / guardians who have updated their permissions on Aladdin Connect. Please sign in to Aladdin Connect to do this to keep our permissions current.

This year, the older classes will begin using Google Classroom and Canva for Education, an online design platform. We will send a consent form for this after the midterm break.

### **Progress Meetings**

Progress meetings will take place on zoom on Thursday, 17 November and Tuesday, 22 November, beginning at 1.45 pm. As last year, parents / guardians will have the opportunity to sign up for meetings on Aladdin Connect after the midterm break. Please note that all classes will finish school at 1.30 pm on those days. There will be no 1.30 Club.

## **Enrolment for secondary school – reminder for parents / guardians in 6<sup>th</sup> class**

October is the month when many schools accept enrolments for the 2023 – 2024 school year. Parents / guardians of children in 6<sup>th</sup> class should ensure that they have applied for their child's enrolment in their chosen secondary school(s).

### **Annual Review of Safeguarding Procedures**

We are currently undertaking our annual review of Safeguarding Procedures which includes a consultation process with children and parents / guardians. The Child Safeguarding Statement is available on the school website. If you have any comments on this statement or on general safeguarding issues, please contact me via [info@retns.ie](mailto:info@retns.ie) by Thursday, 10 November.

### **Walking Bus**

*The Halloween Walking Bus will take place this week on Friday 28 October. It would be great to see all the ghosts, ghouls and Halloween characters take part! Children will be given Walking Bus reward cards on arrival at the school. When they complete four walking buses they can get a small prize from Carol in the office.*

*We hope to see as many families as possible at one of the 5 meeting points. All of the Groups will then meet together at the playground gate (Loreto Park) at 8.45 and walk to the School together to be greeted by staff*

<i>Bus stop</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Meeting time</i>	<i>Departure time</i>	<i>Bus driver</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>Pedestrian gate between Aranleigh + Grange Downs</i>	<i>8:30</i>	<i>8:35</i>	<i>Ruth Brogan</i>
<i>2</i>	<i>Pedestrian gate at the top of Loreto Park</i>	<i>8:35</i>	<i>8:40</i>	<i>Ruth Brogan</i>
<i>3</i>	<i>Daybreak, Barton Road</i>	<i>8.20</i>	<i>8.25</i>	<i>Contact Britt 0857164502</i>
<i>4</i>	<i>Nutgrove, Argos</i>	<i>8:35</i>	<i>8:40</i>	<i>TBC</i>
<i>5</i>	<i>Junction Nugent/Whitehall Rd</i>	<i>8.30</i>	<i>8.35</i>	<i>Joe And Niamh</i>

*If you have any queries or would be able to volunteer please let us know [retnsipa@gmail.com](mailto:retnsipa@gmail.com).*

*Thanks so much,*

*Shonagh on behalf of PA*

## Nutty Scientists after School Club

### Nutty Scientists After School Club

Rathfarnham Educate Together National School

11<sup>th</sup> November-16<sup>th</sup> December

2:30pm-3:30pm

Fees:€66



Book Today!

<https://nuttyscientists.com/dublinsouth/our-programs-events/register-for-a-programme/>

The Nutty Scientists will begin their second block of sessions on Friday, 11 November – please see information below. You can book them by clicking on this link:

<https://nuttyscientists.com/dublinsouth/our-programs-events/register-for-a-programme/>

*Wishing everyone a great week. Hoping everyone gets plenty of rest in preparation for Oíche Shamhna and the return to school on Monday, 7 November.*

Le dea-ghuí

Maeve