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Dear Parents,

9th January 2024

Senior classes from 3rd to 6th will continue to work with the Accelerated Reader Programme (ARP). Please click here to access the app at home, <https://global-zone61.renaissance-go.com/welcomeportal/6932647>

We are asking parents to work with us on this so that every pupil can improve their overall literacy skills and to ultimately become more confident readers. Please sign your child's reading log sheet and homework journal to ensure that every child is benefitting fully from this initiative.

Starting this Friday, 12th January 2024, we have Neil, our GPO, starting **GAA training** with all classes for 5 weeks. During these cold months we cannot emphasise enough how important it is for every pupil to wear the correct **school uniform**. The school tracksuit can be worn on PE days, please find the PE timetable attached, and when requested, **otherwise the full uniform should be worn**. For this training children can wear their black bottoms with shorts worn underneath, if they wish.

Don't forget from January 2024 we will be rewarding the children who wear their full uniform. Pupils will receive their awards at our monthly assembly.

Heritage Workshop 15th & 16th January - We have Aidan Dockery, a guest speaker from Heritage Ireland, visiting our school for two days. Aidan will be making a presentation on WWI, Titanic, local history, etc. Each class will get a chance to develop their interest in these areas through an examination of artefacts brought in by Aidan, pupils and teachers among other topics. Please help your child to find something to bring in and discuss.

Catholic Schools' Week - Grandparents' Day Tuesday 23rd January 2024

Catholic Schools' Week will take place from January 21st - 27th this year. The theme for 2024 is "Catholic Schools: Communities of Service." Grandparents' Day will be celebrated on Tuesday 23rd January. Fr. Janusz will celebrate **mass at 10am** in Kiltale church for all pupils. Parents and Grandparents are most welcome to attend. You are also very welcome to drop into the school after mass to see the work on display in the hall and in the classrooms around the school.

Cybersafety - Online Safety Workshops:- On Thursday 25th January we have organised online safety workshops for our 4th to 6th Class pupils. At **7:30pm** on 25th January there will be an online safety workshop via a webinar for **parents and teachers**, (Links to this webinar will be sent closer to the day).

Please see a timetable attached of events that are scheduled for term 2.

We would encourage all students to wear a warm coat for break times, a hat, a scarf and gloves are also a good idea if your child will wear them. We want to ensure that no one gets unnecessarily sick. Pull ups and outdoor shoes can be worn on the grass (waterproof trousers or an old pair of tracksuit bottoms to pull on over their clothes), by the relevant classes. Please provide a waterproof bag for these to be stored in when not in use.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. Happy New Year to you and all your families. Wishing you all the very best for the year ahead.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Colin McElroy