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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2020

Creative Schools

- This week we are very excited to welcome artist Aileen Lambert to the school to officially launch our engagement in the Creative Schools Initiative. Aileen will work with us as our Creative Friend over the next two years on this exciting programme which is supported by the Arts Council and Creative Ireland. We look forward to exploring our creative potential beginning with a short body percussion workshop which Aileen will deliver to each class. More info on Creative Schools at www.artscouncil.ie/creative-schools

Science Week

- This month there were great experiments and research done throughout school for Science Week. Using experiments and research all classes learned so much about how things work! 4th & 5th class learned how to test food for starch content using iodine, and they also learned about water density. Senior Infants and first class investigated static electricity and also what plaque is like on our teeth. 2nd & 3rd Class learned all about our brains, our senses and how we can trick our brains! 6th class made actual volcanoes and made them blow! The pupils loved experimenting and learning through science!

Drumming Workshop

- The whole school was very excited to welcome Conor Moore from **Sound Out Rhythm** who ran a drumming workshop with all classes. Conor brought many instruments including bodhrán's, snare drums & hand percussion drums. Pupils really enjoyed this workshop and lots of drumming was heard on the day throughout the classrooms. Thank you to those of you who have already contributed their €2. You can still pay online for this workshop. As we cannot participate in choir this year due to COVID 19, this really was a welcome workshop for our students.

Agrikids

- This month pupils participated in some webinars run by Agrikids. Agrikids is dedicated to farm safety education. They teach children all about how to stay safe on our farms and the main farming hazards they might be exposed to. Topics covered included machinery, vehicles, animals, farms and fields. These webinars were very informative for our pupils.

Clean Air Week

- This year for clean air week, we asked all parents to sign a pledge to commit no idling at the school gate. Thank you for reducing the amount of carbon monoxide, nitrous oxide and hydrocarbons from travelling into the air around us.

Vaccination Clinic

- Our flu vaccination clinic was held on Wednesday 18th November. It was very successful and we would like to thank Gerry and Nicola from Adamstown Pharmacy for their help and participation in this. If there are any pupils who wish to avail of this free vaccination, you can contact the pharmacy directly and they will advise you.

General news & information:

- As of September, the school is now operating as a **nut free zone**. Please be advised that products containing nuts are not permitted in children's lunchboxes.
- Please ensure that your child's uniform is labelled clearly for ease of identification, especially their jumper. We have a number of jumpers in lost & found. If you are missing a jumper please get in touch with the school office.
- When collecting children from school please collect them at the school gate. Children will not be released to parents unless they are at the school gate as teachers cannot be responsible for children who cross the road on their own. When dropping and collecting children please remember to observe social distancing outside the school and when this is not possible please remember to wear a face covering.

Parents Association:

- Thank you to all who supported the recent Split the Pot Bumper Draw. We raised a total of €384.00 during the month of November. The overall winner was Matt O' Neill and the sellers prize went to Kieran O' Neill in 6th Class.
- Our annual **Adamstown NS Bumper Christmas Raffle** will take place on 18th December in the school. Ticket lines will be available in December through the schoolchildren. Great prizes to be won as follows:

Christmas Turkey, Oil voucher, Espresso Machine, 100 bar Electric Power Washer, Part Two scarf, Pharmacy Hampers, IRFU Supporter's Rugby Ball & Backpack – signed by Tadhg Furlong, Photography Voucher, Hardware Voucher, Grocery Vouchers, Desk Lamp, Leisure Max Voucher, Mugs from Stoneside Pottery, Signed Adamstown GAA Football, Dog Accessories Gift Bundle, Jamie Oliver Pizza Stone Serving Rack and more...

Thanks to all our sponsors for the great prizes. This year our raffle has also gone ONLINE! You can follow this link below to buy your lines..

<https://www.idonate.ie/raffle/adamstownnsraffle>

Prices are 3 for €5, 7 for €10 and 15 for €20

Please feel free to share the online link with your friends and family to support our first online school raffle fundraiser. All funds raised will go towards the upgrade to the school playground. Thanks everyone for your support!

Food Drive

- Due to the struggle with COVID 19, Raheen Family Resource Centre have decided to do a food drive for families in need in our community. We are appealing for non perishable food such as cereals, oil, tea, sugar...etc and toiletries. If you wish to donate any of these items it would be very much appreciated. Please send in donations with your child.

Alternatively you can leave them in the dropbox at the front door and notify the school by phoning or sending an email. Please be assured that donations received from the Adamstown area will be distributed within the locality.

Also if anyone needs a helping hand themselves during these challenging times please do not hesitate to contact Carmen/Bridget 051442888 (Raheen F.R.C.)

Twitter

- The best way of keeping in touch with activities throughout the school is via our Twitter page. Please follow the school's Twitter account at https://twitter.com/Adamstown_NS?s=09

Academic Achievements

- This month we would like to acknowledge achievements in literacy. The children have been working on narrative writing while still paying particular attention to their handwriting. The teachers have chosen certain works of distinction to receive certificates.

Ms Carroll's Class: Conor & Niamh

Ms. Dolan's Class: Jessica & Con

Ms. Walsh's Class: Eoin & Ruby

Ms. Rea's Class: Katie & Emily

Ms. Kickham's Class: Lorna & Hannah.

Wellbeing

- Every Monday we choose a motivational message to carry us through the week. We want to instill positivity, motivation and a growth mindset in the children, especially during these times of uncertainty. Recent motto's were '*A little progress each day adds up to big results*' and '*In a world where you can be anything, be kind*'.
- If you are concerned about your own wellbeing, please visit www.stresscontrol.ie for a free online programme to support individuals dealing with stress or anxiety.

Charity Fundraiser

- As you know every year we participate in the Team Hope Christmas Shoebox appeal. This year due to COVID-19 the 2020 Christmas Shoebox Appeal is running ONLINE. You can now build your shoebox at TeamHope.ie and your donation will allow their network of local partners in Africa and Eastern Europe to purchase items for shoeboxes,

which will then be delivered straight into the hands of children affected by poverty. You can participate in this appeal by visiting <https://www.teamhope.ie/christmas-shoebox-appeal/>

Christmas Jumper Day

- National Christmas Jumper Day in support of the Children's Health Foundation, Crumlin will be held on 11th December. Pupils can wear their Christmas Jumper/top/colourful clothes and donate €2 towards this worthy cause. More information will follow closer to the time.

Credit Union Art Competition

- This year's theme was "Imagine More", encouraging entrants to think past the current situation and imagine. Imagine More is influenced by the creative role art plays in Irish society and encourages participants to unlock their imagination and look at how art inspires us and our communities. Despite the current challenges, art has kept people from all walks of life connected and this year's theme encourages participants to express this connectivity on paper or canvass.

We had lots of lovely entries for this competition with some very inspiring and creative work. We were delighted to hear that Lauren Moran in 2nd Class won 2nd prize in her category. Congratulations Lauren!



Lauren Moran with her picture which won 2nd Prize in the credit Union Art Competition