***December 2019 Newsletter***

***Ballina Primary School***

***MS Readathon:***

Well done to all the pupils who participated in this year’s MS Readathon. The total raised was €1485 which was a fantastic amount of money to collect for the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland. Thanks to Múinteoir Fiona for organising this event.

***Shoe Box Appeal***:

Thanks to all the pupils and parents who supported the Team Hope Shoe Box Appeal again this year. Thanks to Emer Smyth for co-ordinating the shoebox collection. Well done everyone!!

***Parents Association:***

* The annual cake sale will take place in the school hall on Thursday 19th of December. More information will follow in the coming week. We thank the Parents Association for all their hard work and continued support during the year.
* Christmas Jumper Day will take place in school on Friday 20th of December. Pupils are asked to contribute €2 each.

**Rang 2 Show and School Choir Performance:**

Rang 2 will perform their show “ Midwife Crisis” for parents and family members on Wednesday 11th of December at 7:30pm in the school hall. Collection at the door on the night will be for The Waterman’s Lodge, Ballina. The school choir will perform some songs from 7pm to 7:20pm before the show starts in the main entrance hall of the school. Parents are welcome to attend.

**Junior Infants Nativity Play:**

Junior Infants “First Nativity Play” will be held on Tuesday 17th of December at 12pm in the school hall. Junior Infant pupils will finish school early after the play that day.

**Green Schools:**

We would encourage all pupils to wear their high-vis jackets coming to school on these dark mornings. Many thanks to those who continue to bring used batteries for recycling.

Thanks to all who contributed to the Mellon Educate fundraiser. €665 was raised on the Hunger Heroes Day.

***Changes in Staff:***

Múinteoir Michael Hurley will continue teaching Rang 3 until the 14th of February when Múinteoir Máiréad O’ Neill is due to return. Múinteoir Shauna Troy will begin maternity leave after Christmas and will be replaced by Múinteoir Cathal Stritch. We wish Múinteoir Shauna all the best with her maternity leave.

***Christmas Holidays:***

The school will close on Friday December 20th at 12pm for Christmas holidays and will re-open on Monday 6th of January 2020 at 9am. Junior and Senior Infants will finish at 11:50am on December 20th and will perform some Christmas carols outside the front of school (weather permitting) at 11:40am approximately.

We would like to wish all families a very happy and peaceful Christmas and look forward to seeing the pupils back to school in 2020. Thank you all for your help and support since September.

**Agreed Report of the Board of Management 03/12/19:**

* The new Board of Management of Ballina Primary School was appointed on the 1st of December for a four year term. The Board is now comprised of the following members:

Archbishop’s Nominees:

Tom Moore

Fr. Tom Lanigan-Ryan

Community Nominees:

Eugene Power

Carmel Bradshaw

Parent Nominees:

Denise Bissette

Steven McCall

Teacher Nominees:

Bernice O’ Connell

David Hickey

* Thanks to the Parents Association for organising the successful Anti-bullying talk by guest speaker Steve Goode (National Parents Council) recently.
* Thanks to the teachers and SNAs for all their hard work organising Christmas events in our school this month.
* The Code of Behaviour was updated and ratified by the previous Board of Management on the 12th of November.

