**St. Colman’s B.N.S.**

**Kanturk, Co. Cork.**

**Tel: 029-50768**

**Email: office@kanturkbns.com**

17th December, 2020

Dear Parents,

Hope you are all keeping well and looking forward to the Christmas holidays. Last Friday the schools all over Ireland celebrated GRMA Day… Go Raibh Maith Agaibh Day. This was a celebration of thanks to everybody involved in schools for their help and co-operation in keeping our schools opened this term. We extend our thanks to you and our school community for the efforts made by everybody in maintaining high standards of hygiene and behaviour against the virus and facilitating the continuity of school life.

Even though it has been a different term the children and staff have worked very hard in all the areas of the curriculum.

We took part in Science & Maths weeks earlier in the term. Some of our science week projects were showcased in the Corkman last week.

We also took part in many Colouring and Writing Competitions. We congratulate Michéal O’Sullivan who won 3rd prize in the Credit Union Art Competition Chapter Level.

Congratulations too to Fionn Corcoran in 3rd class who took part in a writing competition called Summer Stars Short Story Competition organised by the local library. Fionn was one of the finalists out of a total of 600 entries. This was a fantastic achievement. His story was called ‘It Was an Unexpected Adventure’. Well done Fionn, keep up the good work.

As we can’t visit the hospital this year all the children wrote cards and letters to the residents of our local hospital and residential homes. We posted over 150 cards and letters this week. Well done to the children and all those involved in this project as we try to spread the Christmas Cheer.

All classes are very busy with Christmas crafts. Have a look at their class blogs to see how busy they are. I am sure you have noticed the beautiful Christmas scenes painted on pallets at the entrance to the school. Well done to everybody involved in this project.

As we cannot go to the pantomime in Cork this year, the children are going to be treated to an online production of ‘The Sword and the Stone’ from the Helix Theatre in Dublin. This is a gift from Elizabeth O’Mahony who retired as SNA in June. We thank her for this and hope she is enjoying her retirement. The children are also listening to an audio production of The Snow Queen produced by the Broken Crows Theatre in Waterford.

We would like to thank IRD Duhallow for organising an online workshop for the children on the importance of Farm Safety. It was very informative and the boys found it very interesting.

Our Christmas Mass will be taking place this Monday Dec. 21st at 12am. You may log on to churchservices.tvkanturk to see this Mass.

With Christmas almost upon us the boys do not have to wear their school uniforms next week. If they have Christmas jumpers they can wear them and join in the festive cheer here in school.

I remind all families travelling abroad for Christmas that you will have to isolate on return in line with H.S.E. guidelines for the safety of pupils and staff.

We conclude by thanking you all most sincerely for your support in the school. We wish you a very happy, peaceful Christmas and continued good health and happiness for 2021. Nollag Shona daoibh go léir. We will be closing Tuesday Dec. 22nd and reopening again on Wednesday January 6th. As we have staggered opening and closing times at present we will continue with staggered closing times on Tuesday. They are as follows;

4th & 5th class at 12.10p.m.

1st & 2nd class at 12.20pm

3rd & 6th at 12.30p.m.

I remind you to log on to our school website to keep up to date on school events. The address is [www.kanturkbns.com](http://www.kanturkbns.com)

Don’t forget you can follow us on twitter @colmansbns

Your sincerely,

Eilish Finnegan,

Principal.