

Dear Parents/Guardians, The following information is for your attention:

1. Trick or Treat for Temple Street:

Our recent fun fancy- dress day on Friday 27th October for Temple Street raised **€411.10**. Thank you to all who donated. It was a very enjoyable morning.

2. Family Contribution:

We ask all families to contribute towards school running costs. The amounts are as follows:

1 child: € 100 - 2 children: € 125 - 3 or more children: € 150

We very much appreciate payment of the above amounts and thank you to all those who have already paid.

3. Shoeboxes:

Thank you to all who sent in Christmas Shoeboxes for our annual appeal. A total of **92** boxes have been sent abroad.

4. School Closure:

Gorey Central School will be closed to pupils on Monday 12th March 2018 so that staff may attend in-service training for the revised Primary Language Curriculum.

5. Green School Flag:

Over the next two years Gorey Central School will be working on achieving our next Green School Flag, whilst also maintaining the two flags that we have already obtained for Litter & Waste and Energy. Water, is the third theme of the Green-Schools programme. The Water theme looks at developing awareness around water conservation and how to effectively manage this important resource in our schools and at home. Two children from each class will be sitting on our new Green School Committee, along with Mrs. E Leech, Ms. Rynhart, Mrs. Quigg and Mrs. Poole. Working together, the Committee, Classes and teachers will be planning lots of exciting activities around the Water theme.

We look forward to updating you on all things 'Water' via the School Newsletter and also on our Green School Notice Board which is just inside the main entrance of the school, over the next few months.

6. Junior Entrepreneur Programme:

Both Ms. McDermott and Ms. Furney's rooms are very excited about the Junior Entrepreneur Programme (JEP). We have started this in the last few weeks. This programme involves the pupils learning about entrepreneurship and creating a product or a service for a particular audience. We feel that this is a wonderful initiative and it will help the pupils develop a range of skills such as:

- Problem solving and decision making
- Creativity and innovation
- Leadership and initiative
- Putting ideas into action
- Being a good team player

We have already completed the first step-Opening the door to Entrepreneurship i.e. defining what/who entrepreneurs are (at a national and international level). We are currently working through step 2-Exploring New Ideas. The pupils have identified individual strengths and each pupil came up with an idea for a product or a service. In groups, they narrowed it down to 5 ideas from each class.

The pupils from 5th and 6th class have 'Met the Dragons' on Friday 24th November and pitched their ideas to them. There has been one idea chosen from Ms. McDermott's room and one from Ms. Furney's room. The class will then move onto the next step in the programme-Inviting a Business visitor into school. We are all very excited!! Watch this space and we are looking forward to keeping you all updated.

Ms.McDermott and Ms. Furney

7. Sick Pupils:

In an effort to prevent the spread of infection we ask that you do not send your child in to school if they are unwell (e.g. coughs, colds etc.).

If your child has symptoms such as vomiting or diarrhoea, Dept. of Education rules require that pupils should not return to school until 48 hours have passed since their last episode of either vomiting or diarrhoea. We appreciate your help in this.

8. Dates for your Diary:

- a) School Carol Service – Thursday 21st December @ 7pm.
- b) School Christmas Holidays – Friday 22nd December @ 12.30pm.
- c) Christmas Disco: This year's Christmas Disco will take place directly after the Carol Service on Thursday December 21st in the Old School. The disco will finish at **9.00pm sharp**. Please collect your child on time. Admission is **€3** per child (please have exact money) and this includes a drink and crisps. All children of Gorey Central School up to and including 6th class may attend but Junior and Senior Infants must be accompanied by an adult (not older sibling).

Thank you, Mr. Bater