**Scoil Eoin Phóil**

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**Newsletter Oct 15th 2021**

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s)

 As we edge closer to the mid-term break I hope everyone has enjoyed their first few weeks back in school. It has been an exciting and enjoyable start to the school year for us all in Scoil Eoin Phoil and I hope our students have enjoyed their return also.

**First Holy Communion:** Congratulations to both our 3rd Classes who received the sacrament of the Eucharist last Saturday. It was a lovely ceremony and it was a joyous occasion for all involved. The boys and girls looked amazing in their special outfits and had the opportunity on Monday to get their photos taken with their siblings to mark the occasion. Thank you once again to Ella Doran, our parish worker, who has been wonderful in helping with the preparations leading up to the ceremony. Thank you also to Fr Alouysius, or “Fr Al” as he became known to our students, and to our teachers and SNAs for the amount of work done behind the scenes to ensure the boys and girls could enjoy their special day.

**Student Council:** I am very proud to announce that our Student Council 2021/22 has been elected. Congratulations to all involved! There was big excitement this year, with a record number of candidates who decided to run for election. All candidates designed posters and gave speeches to their classes. I managed to get around to listen to most and I was very impressed, as it was obvious that a lot of hard work and preparation had been put in. To stand in front of your peers is not an easy task and every single candidate should feel very proud of themselves! All candidates received a little reward for their efforts and hard work. Student voice is something that we value very strongly in Scoil Eoin Phoil and I cannot wait to work with our council over the coming year. Thank you to Mrs Gaffney and Ms Murray for helping with our Student Council. Congratulations to Hailey Dunne, Liam Lynch, Ciara Thornton, Larien Kawiorska, Joe Cribben, Tadhg Mallon and Simon Smyth!

**GOAL Fundraiser:** A big congratulations to everyone involved for helping to raise €567 for GOAL last Friday. It was great to see all the colourful jerseys/t-shirts being worn in to support such a great cause. I would also like say well done to the Student Council who were handed the responsibility of organising and collecting the donations. They did a great job!

**Minecraft:** This year our 4th and 6th Classes have dived a bit further into the world of digital learning. While we are only in the early stages, I think I can safely say the students are very excited. Minecraft: Education Edition is an educational version of Minecraft specifically designed to take place in the classroom. Lesson plans are used and incorporated into various subjects such as history, science, geography and visual arts to name a few. If parents would like to know more please click on the link below.

<https://youtu.be/hl9ZQiektJE>

**Maths Week Ireland:** In support of Maths Week Ireland, Scoil Eoin Phoil will be taking part in Maths Week from Oct 25th to 29th. Teachers will be placing some extra emphasis on mathematics next week and providing some fun activities for our students to take part. A link has been set up on our website where parents can access some games to play at home, a mathletics league will take place and also a fun 3D construction competition for the those who wish to get involved. We will also be giving out certificates for the “mathematician of the week” for each class. Thank you to Mr Mulcahy, Ms Tierney and Ms Kelliher for all their help in organising.

**Hallowe’en:** My favourite time of year! To get into the spirit we would like the children to paint or carve a pumpkin and bring it into school on Monday 18th October for our Pumpkin Patch Pageant. The pumpkins will be displayed in a pumpkin patch on the school grounds to help us all get into that spooky spirit. There will also be a scavenger hunt taking place in each of the classes. And finally, to celebrate the beginning of the mid-term break we are inviting students and staff to dress up and wear in their costumes on Friday 22nd October. We have invited Tug’O’War Ireland to join us for the day who will be taking classes 1st to 6th out for some fun games too.

Have a lovely weekend!

Kind regards,

Seán O’Boyle