



Dates for your Diary	
Mid Term Break	Monday 28/10/2013 – Friday 01/11/2013
Christmas Holidays	Monday 23/12/2013 – Monday 06/01/2014
Confirmation	Monday 17/02/2014
First Holy Communion	Saturday 24/05/2014

### Confirmation –

6<sup>th</sup> Class Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2014 at 2:00 p.m. in St Mary's Parish Church Beaufort



### First Communion –

2<sup>nd</sup> Class Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2014 at 10:30 a.m.

The "Do this in Memory" programme is well under way at the moment. A special meeting of the Parents of the 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion classes together with Fr Donal O'Connor was held in our school hall on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October. The "Do this in Memory" programme will continue throughout the year with the First Communicants engaging in a number of activities in preparation for their First Holy Communion Day. First Holy Communion Enrolment Mass will take place this Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> Oct at 7:30 p.m. in St Mary's Church Beaufort.



### School Closures:

Mid Term Break – **School closing on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> Oct. – Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Nov**  
 Christmas Holidays – **School Closing on Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Dec – Reopening on Tue 7<sup>th</sup> Jan 2014**



### Parent / Teacher Meetings: Wed 27<sup>th</sup> November and Thur 28<sup>th</sup> November

As a staff we wish to facilitate all parents with our Parent / Teacher meeting schedule. For that reason our meetings will take place over a two evening period -

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 3:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November 3:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Please note school will finish at 2:45 p.m. on both days to facilitate these meetings.

Please accommodate the teachers by attending the meetings on the specified dates. As you can appreciate it is very difficult for teachers to have unscheduled meetings outside of these times. In **exceptional** cases we will of course facilitate your request.



### Friendship / Anti-Bullying Week:

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> Oct – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Oct

There will be an emphasis this week on Cyber Bullying. We will be inviting guest speakers into our school during the school year to discuss the issue of Cyber Bullying. A member of the Garda Síochána will visit the senior classes to discuss Cyber Bullying during our Friendship Anti-Bullying Week. We are also in the process of compiling an Anti-Bullying Policy for our school. This policy will have a specific section relating to Cyber Bullying and will be available to download from our school website shortly [www.cullinationalschool.ie](http://www.cullinationalschool.ie)



### Nutrition:



Cullina National School is part of the **Health Promoting School's Programme** and has a 'Healthy Eating Policy' in place. Now that we have started on a new school year we hope that parents will continue to adopt a sensible attitude to what their children are given to eat at lunch time "Bia Folláin Corp Folláin" (Healthy Food Healthy Body). Further information is available on [www.healthpromotion.ie](http://www.healthpromotion.ie)



### Football:

Congratulations to the 6<sup>th</sup> class boys who won all of their three games in Milltown on Wednesday last to qualify for the Coiste na-nÓg Semi Final.

In their first game they faced a very strong Dingle side and overcame them by a margin of 5-8 to 3-4.

Cullina faced St Mary's in their second match and after a tough match they managed to pull away to win 2-8 to 2-2.

The last game in the group was against Milltown, where the boys enjoyed a comfortable victory 4-11 to 1-2.

Well done to all the boys involved, who are now in the semi-final against Rathmore today in Spa football field.





## Football & Rugby

Coaching for Senior Classes which are taking place in the school during school hours will finish shortly but will resume again after Christmas



## School Self Evaluation:

This year the Department of Education & Skills has given us a directive to concentrate on Maths as part of our School Self Evaluation. We will be introducing a number of new initiatives to support and promote the learning of Maths. There will be an emphasis on Problem Solving, Collaborative Learning and Maths Language. A team effort incorporating Station Teaching will take place within the school.

Mrs Murphy's 5<sup>th</sup> class will begin Station Teaching next Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October until Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November. There may be changes to Maths homework over this period.

Mr Fitzgerald's 6<sup>th</sup> class will be working a Buddy System with Ms Tuohy's Junior Infant class over the same period.

All children will receive a Child Self Evaluation Survey to be completed in School over the next two weeks. This will be age appropriate (Junior and Senior levels.)

A parent questionnaire to gather Maths-related information is enclosed with this newsletter. This questionnaire is for the parents of children from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class only.

Your cooperation in responding to this would be greatly appreciated.



## Christmas Cards:

The children in our school have been busy designing and personalising their own Christmas Cards. These cards are currently with the Printing Company and will be available for purchase closer to Christmas. A special thanks to Ms. O'Shea for organising this project.

## Text a Parent

If you have not received a text in conjunction with this newsletter please contact the school immediately as you may not be included, inadvertently, in our list for Text – a – Parent.

## Autumn Clean out before Christmas Clothes Collection

Please donate all your new & used mens/womens & childrens clean unwanted clothing, shoes, belts, handbags, ties, linens, household textiles, stuffed toys, etc. Please drop them into the school and not in the clothes bin in the car park on or before Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November.



## Garden

Our Little Horticulturalists have been planting cabbages over the last few weeks with Mr Denis Galvin Beaufort. We are grateful to the Parents' Association for bringing Mr Galvin on board to help us out.



## Green School

Pupils and staff in our school are busy at the moment working on their 7<sup>th</sup> Green Flag – Global Citizenship, Litter & Waste. To successfully renew the flag, the school must demonstrate that they have been implementing their current renewal theme, and also maintaining the work they have done on previous themes. Several projects are being worked on to date: Global Awareness Survey, Nationality Survey, Life of a Plastic Bottle, Recycling Project, School Litter Pick-Up's, etc.

## Parents' Association

Parents Association AGM was held last Thursday 10th Oct. We would like to thank all the parents who attended and for contributing to the discussion we had. The feedback was very good. Our new committee for this school year is

**Chairperson:** Denis McDonnell **Secretary:** Fiona O Leary **Treasurer:** Joann O Shea We also would like to thank those who have joined our Working Group. We look forward to another busy year of activities. Please note for your diaries... our next activity is Sunday October 27th when we have our kiddies Halloween Party in the Community Hall

Signed: *Denis McDonnell Chairperson Parents' Association*

## Congratulations to staff member:

Engagement – Congratulations to Ms. Una Costello on her recent engagement.

## Set Dancing after School:

Beginners always welcome!

Improvers can enjoy a selection of Set dances including Sliabh Luachra, Connemara, Ballyvourney & Cashel.

Every Tuesday evening in the School Hall

3:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Starting Tuesday 15/10/2013

€30 for 6 Weeks.

Signed: *Ms Doyle*

*Maire Bx Uí Chroinín  
Príomhoide*



# Happy Halloween!

