

Aughrim N.S.
(14684M)
Hillstreet, Carrick-On-Shannon, Co. Roscommon

3rd December 2020

Dear parents and children,

December in Aughrim NS is often one of the busiest months of the school year and filled with nice things in preparation for the Christmas Season and festivities in school. Corona Virus means things won't be quite same this year, but we will make our school Christmas experience as meaningful as possible for our pupils.

2020 has been very different to what many of us had planned or expected. But through the adversity of the pandemic we have experienced, we have come to count our many blessings, appreciate time with our families and community more and be thankful for the small, but wonderful things in our lives. Another positive, arising from the challenges of 2020 is undoubtedly, how families and communities have looked out for one another and lent a hand or shared a kindness with others. With all this in mind, we will celebrate Christmas in Aughrim NS, with a Christmas Kindness week, running from Monday 14th – Friday 18th December 2020.

A schedule of events, outlined below will take place during the week, with a focus on kindness and giving, towards our families, our school family and local community.

Monday 14th

Each child will nominate an older person/ neighbour in their surroundings/ area of the parish, to make and send a special Christmas card to, sharing good wishes with members of the wider community. The cards will be posted to send some extra cheer to those who might not expect to get a card in the post from Aughrim NS.

Tuesday 15th

School - Food Donation appeal: Each child is being asked to donate a non-perishable food item our Food Donation appeal, to share with local St. Vincent De Paul, to help those who may be in need over the coming week.

Home - Festive Five – Each child will be asked to lend a helping hand at home throughout the day (or even better every day for the week!) and do five things to make the day easier for mum and dad and /or something kind to make someone in the family smile... maybe doing an extra job around the house without asking, making a cup of tea for someone, making sure a room is tidy etc..... Everyone will get a Festive Five Helping Hand template to fill in words or pictures to bring back to school on Wednesday.

Wednesday 16th

The children will make thank you cards and sign and send to the local services, thanking them for their help and the many hours they put in to keep us safe and help us out, particularly this year.

Thursday 17th

Keeping to class bubbles has meant there has been less interaction between the Junior and Senior children than usual, one negative to staying apart to keep each other safe. Thursday will be Secret Santa day. Pupils in the Junior Room will be given a pupil in the Senior room and vice versa, to do a secret Christmas Kindness for them. The staff will be involved too. Children will be encouraged to think about something kind they could do, make or give to their Secret Santa- a limit of €3 if giving a small treat. It will be a nice surprise to reveal our Secret Santa at the end of the day.

Friday 18th

Christmas Jumper day – Children will be encouraged to wear their Christmas clothing to school, to spread some festive cheer. Both classrooms will enjoy a Christmas movie and hot chocolate to finish off the week.

Thank you in anticipation for your cooperation. I think this will be a special week and as enjoyable as any other Christmas in Aughrim NS.

Kind Regards,

Ms. Grogan