



*Parteen National School*

*Parteen*

*Co. Clare*

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*Principal: Gerard Ruane*

*Deputy Principal: Mairéad Guckian*

### *School Community Newsletter*

*19/1/17*

#### *School Plays*

*Thank you to all the teachers who organised fun and entertaining performances for children in 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>. 6<sup>th</sup> will be doing one later in the year.*

#### *Mass*

*Thank you to all who contributed to the school mass before Christmas.*

#### *Infant Club*

*We are considering opening up an infant club between 1.40pm and 2.40pm. We will be in touch with more details. If this is something you feel you would avail of, please leave a message with Catherine. This does not mean it is going ahead or that you are reserving a place – it is just to ascertain potential interest.*

#### *Homework Club*

*The homework Club is now being extended to children from 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Ms. O' Donovan on 0852850511 for more details.*

## *Attendance*

*December Boys: 94% Girls 93.4%*

## *Book Fair*

*Thank you to everybody who purchased books during the book fair - €4943 was spent. We were therefore given credit and purchased €2965 worth of books! Thank you to Ms. Carey who organised and ran this event, to all the teachers and Catherine for their work during it and to the Parents Association who ran the parents night.*

## *New Website*

*[www.parTEENSCHOOL.ie](http://www.parTEENSCHOOL.ie) is currently being updated. A text will be issued when the new one is ready.*

## *Edward Lynch Project*

*Mr. Crowe recently purchased a death plaque (better known in Ireland as a 'Widow's Penny') to Sergeant Edward Lynch of the Royal Munster Fusiliers on eBay. Edward, a Corkonian, was killed at the Battle of La Bassée in France on 21st December 1914. Sadly, his brother, Frank, was also killed on the same battlefield on that same day. The 6th class pupils have worked hard to unearth a huge volume of information on Edward's life.*

*To date the children have located Edward's last will, tracked down his homeplace before the war and located old census records relating to that property. They have also written letters to the Lord Mayor of Cork, City Library, An Garda Síochána and The Irish Army amongst others seeking further information. The response has been phenomenal - a guard, stationed in Angelsea Station, Cork; even went door to door along some of Cork City's streets to try to obtain information about Edward and his living descendants.*

*The children's work has also been given plenty of media coverage - Cork 103FM, Live 95FM, Clare FM, the Limerick Post, Clare Champion,*

*Limerick Leader and the Clare Herald.*

*Ultimately the children hope to reunite Edward's family with his long lost death plaque.*

*On the anniversary of Edward's death a special remembrance ceremony took place in Mr. Crowe's classroom. Retired members of the Irish and British armies attended and a prayer service was led by Fr Tom Carroll and Fr PJ Somers (Irish Army Chaplain). The remembrance ceremony concluded with the solemn playing of the 'Last Post' and 'Reveille' by a bugler from the Boherbuoy Band and an oak tree, generously donated by Conal Moloney of Ardnacrusha Garden Centre, was planted in the school grounds.*

*The research work continues but Edward Lynch is no longer a forgotten soldier!*

### ***BOM Agreed Reports***

*The BOM Agreed Reports from the last two meetings are now on the website.*

### ***Donation***

*Thank you to Conal Moloney from Ardnacrusha Garden Centre who donated the tree planted as part of the Edward Lynch Project as well as hundreds of Daffodils that have now been planted around the school.*

### ***Catholic Schools Week***

*This runs from January 29<sup>th</sup> – February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please find information on daily activities in the Newsletter Section of the website.*

### ***Relationships and Sexuality Education***

*The Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE) Plan has been updated to highlight the specific body language to be taught at each*

*class level. This is not new – it is just being highlighted very clearly. The draft policy is in the Policy Section of this website. These Growing and Changing lessons will be taught every second year in March and April. Please contact us if you have any concerns. You can find more details about the Stay Safe lessons on [www.staysafe.ie](http://www.staysafe.ie).*

*We wish you all a Happy New Year.*

*Kind regards,*

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*Gerard Ruane*

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*Mairéad Guckian*