



**Glen of Aherlow,
Co. Tipperary.
Phone 062 56288.Fax 062 56139
Email: info@lisvernans.ie**

12th January 2018.

Dear Parents,

Welcome back, I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas. On behalf of all the staff and the Board of Management we would like to wish you and your families every blessing for 2018. Pupils and staff have settled back to school after a busy Christmas season. Thank you for attending and supporting our Christmas Concert. The night was a fantastic success for us all. We raised €740.80 in the raffle and we hope to invest this money in lunchtime games for the children, especially wet day activities.

This year Lisvernane N.S. is participating in the Food Dudes Healthy Eating Programme, which aims to encourage children to eat more fruit and vegetables. The programme is managed by Bord Bia and receives funding from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the EU School Fruit Scheme. The scheme will commence on January 18th and continue for 16 days for pupils in Junior infants to 2nd Class. For pupils in 3rd class to 6th class the scheme will commence on January 30th and continue for 8 days. All pupils will complete the programme on 9th February, for more information please see letter attached.

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to “Cyril Squirrel Saving Stamp Junior Saving Scheme”.(An Post) Cyril Squirrel is being introduced in an effort to promote and encourage money saving among children in Lisvernane N.S. This helps make them to become aware of the importance of saving for their needs in the future, i.e. school tours, holidays, bikes, presents, etc. This savings scheme is **optional** for all. Cyril Squirrel stamps will be available in school every Friday commencing Friday 19th January. Participating pupils will receive Cyril Squirrel saving cards. Cards will be the responsibility of each pupil. Each Cyril Squirrel saving stamp is €1. Cyril Squirrel saving cards must be lodged to an existing Post Office Deposit Account or used to open a New Post Office Deposit Account.

We were awarded the Active Flag in 2015 so this year we are working towards renewing it. An Active Schools Committee has been formed and we hope to introduce some new initiatives to keep everyone in our school fit and active, for ongoing updates visit our school website.

Our first Parent Partnership meeting will take place on the 16th January 3 – 4pm, parents who attended the 2 day training are invited to attend this meeting. We have also compiled a list of all those who have expressed their interest in helping and will be calling on you for various events throughout the year.

The Stay Safe programme will be taught in all classes from Junior infants up. Lessons will start in the coming weeks. The aim of the Stay Safe Programme is to teach children personal safety skills so they can look after themselves in situations which could be upsetting or dangerous. It deals initially with common situations which most children will experience at some stage or other, e.g. getting lost or being bullied. Please see the attached letter for more information or for more detailed information you can visit the Stay Safe website www.staysafe.ie. Please contact the school if you wish to discuss the programme further.

PTO!

Please note the following important dates for your attention

- ❖ School closure on **Monday February 05th 2018** to facilitate in-service training for full staff on the new primary language curriculum.
- ❖ **First Holy Communion Enrolment Mass** will take place on Sunday the 11th February. All communicants will need to bring their Baptismal Candle to school in advance of this date. All children will sing in the choir.
- ❖ **Book Fair** will be available in Lisvernane N.S. from 22nd February until 01st March - Any parents wishing to view books are welcome to call in after school as fair will be opened until 3.30pm.
- ❖ **Mid-Term Break** - School will close at 2.50pm on Wednesday 14th February and will reopen Monday 19th February.
- ❖ **St Particks Day** – School closed on Monday 19th March. School Band will not be marching this year.
- ❖ **Easter holidays** – School will close on Friday 23rd March at 12.30pm and will re-open Monday 09th April.
- ❖ **First Holy Communion** will be celebrated on Sunday the 27th May 2018.

Newsletter and School closure dates are also available on school website www.lisvernans.ie

Thank you for your continued support,

Creena O'Brien
ACTING PRINCIPAL