

14^ú Lúnasa 2016

A Thuistí, a Chairde

Is le croí trom a scríobhaimid an litir seo daoibh.

Tar éis tamaill a chaitheamh san Ospidéal Mhuire na Leanaí Cromghlinn, tugadh le fios don scoil go bhfuil Erica Ní Draighneain (Naíonáin Bheaga) tar éis bás a fháil Dé Sathairn, an 13 Lúnasa. Táimid uilig faoi scamail an bhróin leis an nuacht seo agus táimid ag smaoineamh agus ag guí ar son Muintir Ó Draighneain.

Tháing aipse ab ainm ALL Leukemia ar Erica i Mí Iúil, 2014 agus bhí athiompú ar an aipse i Mí Eanáir 2016. Bhí trasphlandú smeara aici i Mí Meitheamh agus bhí sí coinnithe san ospidéal dá bharr ar feadh tréimhse fada. Throid sí go dearfach agus go cróga i gcónaí i gcoinne an galar dáiríre seo.

Bhí Erica 5 mbliana d'aois agus tá deirfiúr amháin aici atá 2 bhliain d'aois. Is baill iontacha de phobal na scoile iad a thuismitheoirí, Ciarán agus Natasha. Bhí go leor cairde ag Erica ina rang agus tríd na scoile. Bhí sí láidir agus thar a bheith spraoiúil agus chuir sí daoine ag gáire lena pearsanta áthasach. Beimid ag aireachtáil uainn go doimhin í.

It is with a heavy heart that we write this notice to you. After a period of serious illness in Crumlin hospital, the school has learned of the tragic death of Erica Ní Draighneain (Naíonáin Bheaga) on Saturday 13th August. We are all deeply, deeply saddened by this and our thoughts and prayers are with the Ó Draighneain Family.

Erica was diagnosed with ALL Leukemia in July 2014 and relapsed in January 2016. She had a bone marrow transplant on June 10th leading to a stay in hospital for a prolonged period of time. Erica always fought this awful disease with incredible bravery and positivity.

Erica was 5 years old and has a younger sister Layla. Her parents Natasha and Ciarán are wonderful members of the school community. Erica had a lot of friends in her class and throughout the school. She was so strong and made people smile and laugh with her beautiful smile and joyful personality. We will miss her deeply.

Erica's mass will take place on **Tuesday, August 16th at 12 at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Clondalkin**. The school is organising a guard of honour for pupils outside the church before the mass. **Full school uniform will be required**. Any children who wish to take part in the guard of honour are asked to meet at the school at 10:30am. We understand that this is a deeply upsetting event and we leave it up to you the parents to decide if you wish for your child to take part in the guard of honour, particularly for younger children. After the guard of honour you may wish to take your child home or attend the funeral. We will leave this decision to the discretion of parents. Members of staff will also be in attendance to represent the school community.

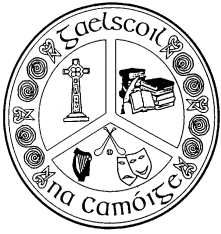
We want to let you know that we will have support structures in place in school to help your child cope with this tragic news. The staff and the critical incident team will have a plan for coping with such tragedies in place. We are in touch with National Educational Psychological Service (NEPS) seeking advice and support. Teachers will be briefed on how best to handle children in class when children return from the school holidays.

As parents, you will know best how to help also. The following points might be of some assistance:

It is possible that your child may have some feelings and questions that he / she may like to discuss with you (especially friends of Erica). It is important to give factual information that is appropriate to their age.

It can help your child by taking time to listen and by encouraging them to express their feelings. Of course, all children are different and will express their feelings in different ways. It is not uncommon for children to have difficulty concentrating or to be fearful, anxious, or irritable. They may become withdrawn, cry, complain of physical aches and

Oideachas ar ard-chaighdeán trí mheán na Gaeilge comhtháite le hoidhreacht cultúrtha na hÉireann agus éiteas láidir Caitliceach in atmaisféar ceansach, comh-mheasach – Ní neart go cur le chéile.



Gaelscoil Na Camóige

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pains, have difficulty sleeping or have nightmares. Some may not want to eat. These are generally short term reactions. Be assured we will be keeping a vigilant eye over all the children at this difficult time.

Táim ag déanamh go mbeidh an chéad cupla lá eile deacair do gach duine.
I anticipate that the next few days will be difficult for everyone.

Iniata, tá roinnt eolas a d'fhéadfadh a bheith úsáideach daoibh ag cuidiú le bhur bpáistí.
We have enclosed some information which you may find useful in helping your child through this difficult time.

Anois, rachaimid an bóthar brónach seo le chéile- taobh le taobh le clann Erica.
Now, we will travel this sad road together- side by side with Erica's family.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam óg uasail.

Deaghuí i gcónaí,

Caoimhe de Búrca
Príomhoide