

Easter Newsletter 2024



Good Afternoon Parents/Guardians,

We finish today at normal time for our Easter Break.

It has been a short but busy term!

This is a synopsis of the main events since Christmas.

- Our **Infant Class** have had student teacher Ms. Aoife Doughan on placement for the last 5 weeks. They have enjoyed varied lessons covering themes such as the farm, the Garden Centre, Spring and Easter. Thank you, Ms. Tara Mockler, for facilitating Aoife's placement. While Ms. Doughan will be missed in the Infant Room she is not going too far as she will complete her next 5 weeks placement in 1st/2nd Class after Easter.
- **World Book Day** was celebrated on 02 March. The children all brought their favourite books and took part in Buddy reading of mixed age groups. Recently, **Junior Infants** have started reading books for the first time by themselves and **Senior Infants** have read a total of **80 books** each since the start of the school year. To celebrate this remarkable achievement, Ms. O'Dowd kindly treated the children to brownies which they happily devoured!
- For **Lá Féile Pádraig** bhí 'Lá Glas' agus 'Paráid Faisiun sa chlós'. Each class learned an Irish poem or song or dráma beag to perform in Assembly for the whole school. Bhí siad go léir ar fheabhas! In the afternoon the pupils from Juniors to 2nd Class had a creative group art afternoon creating leprechaun traps.

- On 12th of February we held a **Cyber Safety Day** - each class watched a web wise age appropriate video on online safety and designed a poster on best guidelines for using mobile phone apps and gaming.
- On our First **Well Being Wednesday** Ms. Colette O'Dowd and her Ukranian pupils made bread rolls using yeast. They shared their learning experience using the English they learnt to teach other pupils.
- The **Sacrament of First Reconciliation** was celebrated by Fr. Joe in the Church last night - we have 10 pupils making First Holy Communion this year. Huge Thanks to Ms. Bernadette Byrne & Sr. Bríd Collins for all their work preparing the children. The Confirmation will be held on Saturday 28 April. The First Communion will be held on Saturday 18 May.
- **STEM Workshops** - Brian Quinlan has completed the STEAM in a Box initiative. The final 3 workshops were Project based and the 5th/6th class pupils were challenged in teams to collate all their engineering skills to create their own model building structures. All teams made their project presentation last Friday afternoon to pupils from 3rd/4th Class and the winning design team of Anna Costelloe, Maddie Deane, Isabelle Fahy McEvoy, Ruby Lewis, Sarah Chadwick, Ruby Hayes, Aoife Dwyer, Meabh Gleeson and Michelle Larkin were presented with a trophy by Mr. Egan sponsored by Brian Quinlan. A huge Thank You to Brian for his delivery of lessons in this area over this term. The children looked forward to his instruction and encouragement each week. No doubt we have a few budding engineers in situ!
- Over the years the school has collected many photographs of past pupils and classes at matches, in the church and on school tours. Many Thanks to **Michaela Quinlan** who is in our school this year on college placement for putting all of these **photos together into albums & display boards**. Thanks also to Nenagh Community College 5th Year Students Conor Ryan and Sarah Quinlan for their assistance on this project and in the classrooms during their weeks work experience with us in February.
- There have been many **School Matches and Blitzes**.
 - Girls Primary 5s Soccer Blitz Tuesday 20 Feb in Ballymackey.
 - Boys Soccer Blitz in Ballymackey Thursday 22nd of February.
 - Girls Soccer Final in Thurles on Monday 11th of March.
 - 3rd/4th Class Hurling Blitz in the Monastery, Roscrea on Thursday 14th of March.

Many Thanks to all the teachers & Sean Kenneally for all the coaching and to Mr. Egan/Ms. Lillis for extra coaching of 5th/6th girls at break times and out of school hours for their final. A huge thank you also to all the parents who donated hurleys & helmets to the school and to Willie Greene

and the **Moneygall GAA Club** who provided the school with ten new hurleys and helmets for our Ukrainian pupils.

- On 4th of March we had FAI coach Gary Seary in delivering the **Futsal in the Yard Programme** to students from 1st to 6th Class. The pupils enjoyed the games and activities & practising new techniques. Thanks Gary for your day's coaching and for donating 6 futsal footballs to the school.

After Easter we have a few things on the Calendar that you might note:

- We will be starting every Monday morning with a **Yoga class** from 8th of April facilitated by Siobhán O'Leary for 4 weeks for all pupils. Cost per pupil is €8.
- **Tennis coaching** will begin in May for six weeks with tennis coach Dermot Shiels FOR 6 WEEKS for all pupils. Cost per pupil is €12.
- **Say Yes to Languages** - Pupils from 3rd to 6th Class will be receiving language tuition for 8 weeks from April onwards with a focus on German. Martha Larkin has kindly agreed to tutor this language programme which is government sponsored and incurs no cost for parents.
- Our next **Cash for Clobber Clothes Collection** is scheduled for Wednesday 8th of May 2024. So, when the weather warms up and you are putting away or dispensing of your winter wardrobe or unwanted clothes, boots, bags, bedding you might put a few things aside for the school!!! All funds raised goes towards the procurement of new books for the school.
- Our school tours have been booked! The Junior Tour (Juniors to 2nd Class) will be to **Free Range Kids Camp in Croom, Co. Limerick** on 18th of June where the activities will include orienteering, baking, art & farming. The Senior Tour (3rd to 6th Class) will be to **Baysports in Athlone, Co. Westmeath** on 13th of June where the activities will be kayaking, paddleboarding, bushcraft & inflatable water park activities.
- Our **Hot School Meals** will be starting in April not too long after the Easter Break. We are very excited about this new venture in our school & trying out different lunches each day. Our Service Provider the **Lunch Bag** will be in contact shortly about setting up the order app on your phones.

Ba mhaith linn anseo
BEANNACHTAÍ NA CÁSCA
a sheoladh chugaibh.

Tá súil againn go mbainfidh sibh taitneamh agus tairbhe as na laethanta saoire.

