

Scoil Mhuire National School

Autumn Newsletter



Principal's Message

24th October
2014

As our first half term draws to a close, it's hard to believe that Halloween is upon us already! Our new Junior Infants along with all our other classes have settled in extremely well and have recently been busying themselves getting into the Halloween spirit. Cob-webs, skeleton and ghosts abound our classrooms and corridors. Children enjoyed the traditional part of Halloween when they visited our brilliant Pumpkin Patch in our garden and at our very successful toy and cake sale, (jointly organised by 6th Class and our new Parent's Association), the children dressed up in fancy dress costume. They really enjoyed their day and all looked terrifyingly spooktacular!

Scoil Mhuire reached the final of a C103 radio competition last Monday where the prize on offer was a set of sports jerseys for your school to the value of €1000. Schools had to submit a video of why they deserved a new set of jerseys. We were short-listed along with five other schools and the school whose video had the most Facebook likes by Friday 6.00am was declared the winner. At the time of writing we were in 3rd position, still very much in contention! Thanks to all those who gave of their time to vote and hopefully we'll have emerged victorious by the time you get to read this!

Sincere thanks to those who have already paid the Annual School Subscription and we will send a reminder in November to those who may have forgotten to do so.

First class will have a new teacher on November 3rd and she will be with us right up to June 2015. Her name is Claire O'Regan from Rosscarbery.

Our new school website, which is being kindly funded by our Parent's Association is currently under construction. We hope to have it live on our return to school after the break. In the meantime, you can follow us on Twitter @SchullNS where you can keep right up to date with the goings-on at Scoil Mhuire NS.

Dates for your calendar.

- ✓ Autumn mid term break. Mon 27th Oct. to Fri 31st Oct incl. (Closing Friday 24th Oct and reopening Mon 3rd Nov.)
- ✓ Clocks go back one hour on Sun 26th Oct.
- ✓ Halloween Friday Oct 31st



News from each class... Junior Infants

Junior Infants have been very busy this month! We have been watching the weather closely as the leaves fall from the trees and learning all about the autumn activities of hedgehogs and squirrels. During our aistear play-time, we dressed up as hedgehogs and squirrels the hedgehogs made cosy nests for hibernating

and the squirrels gathered nuts to store for the winter we also made leaf rubbings and leaf prints and searched for chestnuts and pine cones in the sand tray! We made an autumn world with márla with loads of hedgehogs and even a tractor! As Halloween approaches, we are dressing up in Hal-

loween costumes and playing trick or treat. We are also making pumpkins and bats to make our classroom really spooky. We even build witches castles with the big blocks. We now know spooky songs too and make up actions to go with them. Our class will celebrate three birth-

days in October. Heidi, Frankie and Dylan will all get to wear the birthday badge and pick a gift from the birthday box. Happy birthday. We are all very excited now about Halloween and cant wait until next time.

Happy Halloween!



Senior Infants

What a busy few weeks we have had in senior infants learning so many new songs and poems and learning all about nature and the signs of autumn we see all around us. We have enjoyed leaf printings apple printings and painting too. We enjoy Zumba and yoga time and also love when its time for aistear and having lots of fun with all our friends everyday. Happy Halloween to all. A big thank you to Holly and James Mc Knight who cared for our newly hatched chickens and duckling during the summer holiday. They returned to our school garden

when school resumed and all could see how much they had grown and changed all summer. We now have our beautiful hens and there is great joy each morning when children collect the wonderful fresh eggs. They definitely are an eggcellent addition to our garden!

Harvest in the garden

To celebrate Harvest time in the garden we invited parents to come and collect their child and choose pumpkins from our pumpkin patch on Wednesday and Thursday. Our wonderful artists drew

designs on pumpkins. Hot chocolate and cookies were available on both days, happy harvest and happy Halloween to all !

Discothon

A big thank you to all who supported our discothon in aid of our school garden €1060 was raised! A special word of thanks to Mr. Cronin and all the 6th class students who worked on a rota basis throughout the day a great event for all. Well done to Caitlin, Milan and Jessica who were our D.Js for the day.

First Class



1st class

We are enjoying swimming every Friday with second Friday with second class.

This month we have been learning about subtraction we are All wonderful mathematicians! We are very excited for Halloween.

This week we created our own self-portraits. They are outside our classroom come in and have a look!



Second Class

2nd class

Second class have been very busy learning lots of new things including how to make paper and how to do



Tin Whistle with Martina French

“scraffiti”. The class is heaving with bookworms and lots of new authors and adventures are being discovered and enjoyed. Pat Nolan (GAA coach) and Martina French (tin whistle) are proving

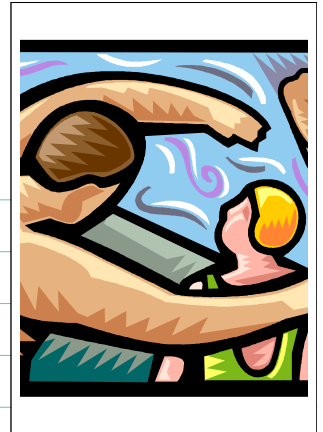
very popular in second class and with practice being taken very seriously, mind your windows... and your eardrums!!



Third Class

3rd class have been busy travelling to Baltimore every Wednesday for swimming. Carrie and Catriona have been putting us through our paces and we have all really improved. We have also enjoyed visiting the village library every week. We

love browsing through the books and choosing some books to bring home. There is some wonderful music to be heard in our classroom as we practice our tin whistle tunes we really like playing music together.



Swimming Lessons

Fourth and Fifth Class

4th and 5th class have had a busy and enjoyable start to their school year.

We began our year by having three new visitors to the classroom. For the month of September, we had three Spanish students, Trinidad, Ines and Sara join 4th class. It was a very good experience for everyone. We learned a couple words of Spanish and what life is like for a child our age in Spain and in turn the girls improved their English. We wish Trinidad, Ines and Sara the best.

We have enjoyed observing and learning about all the nature that surrounds us in our locality. We enjoyed our Mini-beast Hunt around the school grounds collecting and examining some of the different mini-beasts that exist in our hedgerow habitat. We had great fun searching for the mini-beast and seeing all the different types that the various groups found.

We have been working hard and have completed some great work. Here is just a couple; we have written lots

of stories in English and Irish, created lovely art displays, learned many new tin whistle tunes with the help of Ms French, improved our football skills with the help of Pat Nolan and created dream jars representing our dreams.

Everyone has had a great start to the year and we hope to have a great year and do lots of fun things! We are also looking forward to Halloween.

Sixth Class

6th class news
Special thanks to Caitlin Hurley, Milan Vearncombe and Jessica Murphy for organising music for the discothon, definitely some future top class DJ's

Mini 7s in Bantry on Friday October 17th the girls won 1 match and the boys won three. Congratulations to the

boys who are going through to the next round.

Sixth class had their first stint at running the toy and cake sale on Thursday, this is a rite of passage for the senior class. A



Discothon

very successful day it was too.

This has been our news happy Halloween.

Parents Association News.

The Annual General Meeting of the Parent Association took place on the 25th September last and was well attended. The meeting was addressed by school principal Diarmuid Duggan, who praised the work of the Parent Association and gave a commitment to doing his very best for the pupils, parents and staff of Scoil Mhuire.

An outline of the achievements of the PA was given which included:

Toy & Cake Sales

Tree of light ceremony
Christmas Cards

Sports Day

Fun Run

Funds raised from hosting these events contributed to "around the world musical journey", where musicians

from West Cork Music played classical tunes and invited the children to come up and try some of the instruments. The PA also helped fund kayaking trips and tin whistle lessons that have been ongoing since September.

A number of issues were raised by parents at the AGM such as the cost and availability of the uniform. Also, the possibility of organising better and safer parking arrangements for dropping-off and picking-up children at the school gates.

Questions were asked regarding the book rental scheme and could it be extended to include more books. It was asked whether a language could be taught as part of the curriculum and an after school service be set-up.

A new committee has been elected for this year and the Parent's Association meet on the first Tuesday of every month at 8.30pm. Parents who would like to raise any issues are very welcome to attend and discuss the matter with the committee during the first half hour of the meeting.

PA Committee 2014

Chairperson Marion Lannin

Vice chair Irene
McSweeney

Treasurer Tim Lawson

Secretary Katie Ward

PR Margaret Dukelow

Terry Hogan, Stephanie

Arundel Sheehan, Danny
Logan, Des O'Brien, Jane
Hurley, Catherine Roycroft,
Helen Hayes.

New Students

Finally we would like to welcome the new students and their families to our school.

Junior Infants

Joshua Bokums

Annalee Barry

Eoin Crowley

J.J. Doherty

Emily Drinan

Eve-Anne Griffin

Heidi Hogan

Sarah Hurley

Jakub Marcak

Joshua McManus

Dylan O'Brien Hayes

Jack O'Callaghan

Katie Pyburn

Micheal Ward

Frankie Whelton

Robyn Whelton

Also we would like to extend a big welcome to our new students in other classes,

Leonie Beving joined fourth Class, Aidan O'Reilly joined Senior Infants and his brother Darragh joined Fourth Class.