

MAY 2014



Scoil Mhuire National School

Parents' Association Newsletter

A word from the Principal

Just three weeks in and already I feel very much at home here at Scoil Mhuire N.S! This is due in no small part to the very warm welcome and support I've received from the whole school community i.e. staff, parents and children and for this I'm very grateful. I must in particular extend a big thank-you to those of you who helped out with the baking and the serving of teas and coffees at the Communion reception and also to everyone who has kindly donated flowers and plants or helped in any way in developing our new School Garden. This voluntary help is always greatly appreciated.

This summer term is traditionally a busy one in all schools and it's no exception here at Scoil Mhuire. Sciath na Scol, Cork City Sports, a 'Toy and Cake Sale', a HB Ice Cream Funday, our Garden Fete, Kayaking, the Fr. Hurley Awards and a Sports Day are just some of the events and activities which will be taking place over the next 6 weeks! Exact dates can be seen further on.

As always, if you wish to discuss anything with me, you can arrange an appointment with Paula and I'd be happy to meet you. Otherwise, I look forward to meeting and getting to know many more of you between now and the end of the school year.

Diarmuid

Junior Infants

On 10th February our school was treated to a musical feast courtesy of Vanbrugh Quartet. It was hugely enjoyed by all.

Junior Infants are looking forward to an exciting term ahead, with a fieldtrip to the beach and of course our school tour.

First Class

We are enjoying a busy last term in First Class with weekly trips to Schull library and a nature watch hike on the way home. This week we paid a very interesting visit to The Blue House Art gallery in town to see the Community College's exhibition there. The children were very impressed with the college student's work.

We are starting to think about our garden now that the weather is getting better and are looking forward to sowing and planting our beautiful school garden.

We have begun knitting and are enjoying the process, knots, holes and dropped stitches everywhere! We have some excellent helpers from Sixth Class – expert knitters with lots of patience.

We will also be doing seashore studies during this term, as well as many other exciting outings such as our school tour.

Senior Infants

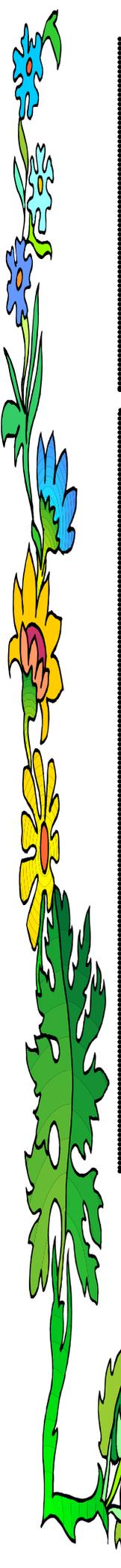
In Senior Infants we are enjoying observing and learning lots about all the beautiful nature that surrounds us in our locality. We enjoy collecting and labelling all the wildflowers that are abundant in this beautiful part of the world at this time. We are learning to recognize all the native trees that are all around us on our journey to school and also the many shrubs and wildlife that exist in our hedgerows.

We are looking forward to watching little chicks hatch out in our classroom incubator. We are enjoying learning all about what happens in the life cycle of the chicken\hen. And we are enjoying counting down the days to the Big Hatch!

May Fact:

The entire month of May is devoted to Mary by Catholics and Marian Processions take place during May in many Irish towns





Second Class

Over the past few weeks Second Class have been busy learning the cup song from the film 'Pitch Perfect'. We hope to be able to do this perfectly soon.

Second Class also recently celebrated their First Holy Communion. It was a fantastic day for all, even though the weather was not ideal! The school choir provided some amazing hymns and everyone in Second Class did their jobs brilliantly. All were a credit to both the school and local community. Well done to all who helped make the day so special and we hope you had a lovely day.

Third and Fourth Class

On the 5th March 2nd, 3rd & 4th class travelled to Cork City Hall to listen to the Cork City Pops Orchestra. The children enjoyed listening to the orchestra playing various pieces e.g. excerpts from Carnival of the Animals etc. The different sections of the orchestra were explained to them. Cork's favourite Rapper GMC, encouraged the young audience to join him in his own composition. Finally, the children had great fun singing along with the orchestra performing a variety of songs, including: 'Jailhouse Rock, Purple People Eater, We are the Champions' etc. A highlight of the concert for a lot of the children was watching the antics of the "Gorilla" playing in the orchestra!

The YSI Transition Year students (Young Social Innovators) came to 3rd & 4th classes on Wednesday, 30th April to present their project 'Revive the Hive'. They taught us all about the honey bee - worker bees, drone bees and the Queen bee. They explained how honey bees are in decline and the effect this is having on nature and the world around us. They planted seeds with us, which will grow into plants that will attract bees into our gardens and farms. They organized a story and art competition with us and presented us with a beautiful book about bees. All of the children in 3rd & 4th class would like to encourage every family to grow wildlife friendly plants in their gardens and farms so we can all help to 'Revive the Hive'!

School Choir

Well done to all who took part in the First Holy Communion Mass. This made the ceremony very special for all our friends in 2nd class.

Dance

All pupils are enjoying hip hop, music theatre and many more dance moves each week with Jenny and her team from the Ultra Flex School of Dance. It is so much fun!

Fifth Class

The boys and girls in Fifth Class partook in the Tidy Town's Poster Competition. The posters were all of a very high standard and after much consideration, the winners were:

- (1) Phoebe Hogan
- (2) Laura Kennedy
- (3) Brendan Arundel Sheehan

Practice is in full swing for the 13 aside Sciath na Scol Football competition. The vast majority of Fifth class are involved in representing the school in the Sciath na Scol. Our opponents on May 14th were Ardagh B.N.S and Barryroe in the Boys competition and St Mary's Rosscarbery and Barryroe in the Girls section.

Sixth Class

Recently we have been doing some baking in our classroom. We all worked together, including Mr. O'Callaghan and each brought in some ingredients that would go into our lemon bars and our baked lemon cheesecake.

As part of our geography class, we completed a traffic survey. We all walked down to outside St. Mary's church and recorded traffic entering and leaving Schull. We were surprised with how much traffic enters and leaves Schull. It was an enjoyable experience and there was great fun comparing our results. On return to the classroom, we organised our results and create bar graphs to display our findings.

As the majority of us are attending Schull Community College in September, we were invited to spend last Monday morning over in the college. We got the opportunity to taste several of the subjects we will be doing next year. These included computers, metalwork, PE and Home Economics just to name a few. We had great fun and although we are sad to leave primary school, we are all looking forward to entering first year.

We also partook in the annual Tidy Town's seashore litter pick-up recently. With help of Maura from Schull Tidy Town's committee we collected over 5 black bags of litter at Cadagon's Strand. On our walk down to the seashore we cleared some blocked drains, picked up a lot of cigarette butts and sweet papers along the footpaths. We had great fun using the litter pickers and filling the rubbish bags. Afterwards we enjoyed a picturesque picnic at Trá an Oileán. The children chatted and chewed on the soft grassy dunes. After the feast, the children played some games. A fun day was had by all.

We are enjoying a busy last term in Primary School. We will also be doing a seashore study during this term, as well as many other exciting outings such as our school tour, organising the cake and toy sale, Garden Fete, Sports Day just to name a few.

School Garden

School Entrance Garden

A big thank you to Christy Collard for his work in designing and planting our garden at our school entrance. We look forward to watching all these shrubs and plants grow, mature and brighten up our entrance.

School Garden

Our school garden is really taking shape now. A big thank you to Lars and Anke Bueb, who created the beautiful willow structure, with the help of the children in the junior classes. Our school garden takes the shape of a flower, with each raised bed shaped as a petal and each petal displays a different type of garden e.g. wildlife, sensory, vegetable, herb and flower garden. We have all had lots of fun planting up these beds and learning the names of all the plants in each bed.

A big thank you to Lars for coming up with this wonderful design and to all the people who have donated plants. Our garden shed has also been really brightened up, thanks to the hard work of Linda Whelton and the pupils from the senior classes.

A big thank you and well done to all who have played a part in making our school garden so beautiful!

Nest Box

Thanks to the Tidy Town Committee for donating a Nest camera with a web camera which we will use to observe the nesting habits of our garden visitors.

We are learning all about the different types of garden birds we see every day, their nests and how to recognize their eggs etc. We enjoy listening to the bird songs and are learning to differentiate which song belongs to which bird.

School Bookfair

This year we had our annual bookfair which was an outstanding success!! €1146.61 worth of new books were raised for our school. A huge thanks to all children and parents. We hope you enjoy your new books.

Happy in Schull

Last week we all felt like movie stars as we took part in our very own movie 'Happy in Schull'. This will be premiered at the Corona Short Film Festival on May 25th. Watch out Hollywood we have lots of stars!

Communion:

On Saturday, 3rd May, the pupils from Second Class celebrated their First Communion. A great day was had by all. Here is a photo of the pupils on their special day.



A special thank you to Thomas Newman for providing us with this photograph

Sport at Scoil Mhuire

Athletics

Well done to all the children who participated in the qualification races for the Cork Primary School Sports recently. The following athletes, qualified to represent the school in Pairc Ui Chaoimh on May 21st. Go n-eiri libh go leir.



Qualifiers

	<u>Girls</u>		<u>Boys</u>
U-13	Anna O' Regan Shen Lester	U-13	Jordan O'Brien James O'Regan
U-12	Pheobe Hogan Laura Kennedy	U-12	Killian O'Brien Keith O'Driscoll
U-11	Siabhe Cuilleann-Quinn Emma Roycroft	U-11	Paddy O'Driscoll James Ward
U-10	Kayla O' Driscoll Tara Whelton	U-10	Finian Hogan Lorcan O'Brien
U-9	Amy Lawson Amy-Lou Pyburn	U-9	Tom Ryan-Purcell James McKnight
U-8	Ella-Mai Griffin Claire Roycroft	U-8	Eoin O'Brien Paul Legrix
U-7	Hannah Jardi Liadh O' Donavan	U-7	Shane Crowley Evan Dukelow
U-11 Relay	Amy Lawson Kayla O'Driscoll Emma Roycraft	U-11 Relay	Paddy O'Driscoll Lorcan O'Brien Finian Hogan
Over 11 Relay	Siabhe Cuilleann-Quinn Pheobe Hogan Anna O'Regan Amy O'Brien-Hayes Shen Lester	Over 11 Relay	Conor Brosnan Killian O'Brien Keith O'Driscoll Luke Franklin Jacob Coughlan

GAA

THE Autumn/Spring school league finals were played recently and proved to be very entertaining. Poppy Cairns' team emerged victorious in the girls final just pipping Chloe-Anne O'Driscoll's team in the final minutes. Stephen Mc Sweeney's team proved too strong for Sean Lannin's team in the hurling final. The boys football final was an enthralling contest and on this occasion Sean Lannin's team just held on for victory!

Teams

Girls Football Winners

Poppy Cairns (Captain)
Anna O' Regan
Tara Whelton
Sarah O' Driscoll
Caitlin Hurley

Girls Football Runners Up

Chloe Anne O' Driscoll (Captain)
Phoebe Hogan
Siadbhe Cuileann Quinn
Kayla O' Driscoll
Ella Collins

Boys Hurling Winners

Stephen Mc Sweeney (Captain)
James O' Regan
Darragh O' Shea
Adam Morgan-Baker
Conor Brosnan



Boys Hurling Runners Up

Seán Lannin (Captain)
Keith O' Driscoll
Jacob Coughlan
Paddy O' Driscoll
Luka Bowen

Boys Football Winners

Seán Lannin (Captain)
James O' Regan
Jacob Coughlan
Jack Ryan Purcell
Adam Morgan-Baker

Boys Football Runners Up

Jeremiah Hegarty (Captain)
Keith O' Driscoll
Lewis O' Regan
Darragh O' Shea
Paddy O' Regan
Conor Brosnan

May Traditions

- Washing your face in the May dew on the first of May was believed to make you youthful and pretty for the year ahead.
- Leaving a posy of flowers on your doorstep on May Eve was done to allow the Blessed Mary walk on them and bless the house as she passed in the night.

New Residents - Hens

As our garden takes shape we are very happy to welcome two new residents to our school. They are of the feathered variety, a Golden Brahma and a White Rhode Island Red. They seem to have settled in very well as they even gave many pupils the joy of cleecting a fresh egg on the very first day they arrived!
It was fitting that they arrived on the day we were filming 'Happy in Schull'
They are an egg-cellent addition to our school!!

Schull Tidy Towns Art Competition:

Congratulation to all the boys and girls who took part in the Tidy Town's Poster Competition. The posters were all of a very high standard which made the judging very difficult. The winners were:

Junior Infants: Chloe Anne O' Callaghan (1st) Toma Rundzaite (2nd)

Senior Infants: Liadh O' Donovan (1st) Shauna Corcoran Stam (2nd)

1st Class: Tara May Wolfe (1st) Angelica Keaveney Morriseau (2nd)

2nd Class: Samantha Ross (1st) Chloe Stam (2nd)

3rd Class: Tara Whelton (1st) Adam Baker (2nd)

4th Class: Sarah O' Driscoll (1st) Hannah O' Donovan Lannin (2nd) Ella Collins (3rd)

5th Class: Phoebe Hogan (1st) Laura Kennedy (2nd) Brendan Arundel Sheehan (3rd)

6th Class: Liadh Pyburn (1st) Stephen Mc Sweeney (2nd) Deirbhle Smith (3rd)

Jeremiah Hegarty (Artistic Talent)

Hannah O' Driscoll (Best Slogan)

Confirmation:

On 13th March, the pupils from Fifth and Sixth Class celebrated their Confirmation. They prepared conscientiously for this occasion and great credit is due to them. Both the children and their families enjoyed the day. Here are photographs of the pupils on their special day.



A special thank you to Thomas Newman for providing us with these photographs

Parents' Association News

Fun Run

The Parents Association annual Fun Run was held on the 6th of April, the weather was fine and this was without a doubt a contributing factor in the turnout of just shy of 100 participants. Thanks to all who participated, marshalled and provided post-race refreshments and to the College for allowing us use of their facilities. Thanks to the Little Way Charity shop for their annual sponsorship of this event to the tune of 500 euro. A lot of work goes into organising this day and it is lovely to see so many joining in.



This year's firsts in each category of the 5k run were...

National School Child:

Age 6 Girl:

Boy:

Age 8 Girl:

Boy:

Age 10 Girl:

Boy:

Age 12 Girl:

Boy:

Woman:

Man:

1st Boy:

1st Girl:

Paddy O' Driscoll

No Competitors

Sam Logan

Sophie Logan

Frank Goggin

Amy Lawson

Rory D'Alton

Phoebe Hogan

Daragh Bowen

Linda Morgan

Kieran O'Callaghan

And in the 2.5km category...

Ryan Whelton

Shauna O' Driscoll



Mad Hair & Wacky Clothes Day

The Parents Association also organised a very successful Mad Hair & Wacky Clothes Day on Friday 11th April. Well done to all who joined in.

Toy & Cake Sale

A Toy and Cake sale is to be held on Thursday 22nd of May so start digging out those old toys and books to be re-loved and get the kids aprons on.

Some May Weather Proverbs

- A wet and windy May fills the barn with corn and hay.
- A swarm of bees in May is worth a load of hay
- A wet May and a dry June makes a farmer whistle a tune



Newsletter Committee:

Luke Franklin, Roisín Hegarty,
Shen Lester, Bridget Murphy,
Eimear O'Regan, Liadh Pyburn,
Deirbhle Smith, Mr. O'Callaghan

School Calendar

- Wed May 21 Cork City Sports in Páirc Uí Chaoimh
- Thurs May 22 Cake and Toy Sale
- Fri May 23 School Closed for Local Elections
- Thurs May 29 Sciath na Scol Finals
- Fri June 6 HB Day & Garden Fete
- 9-11 June Kayaking
- Thurs June 12 Fr. Hurley Awards
- Fri Jun 13 Sports Day
- Mon June 23 School Closes for Summer Holidays @ noon

The colour version of this Newsletter can be viewed on the School Website: <http://www.smschull.scoilnet.ie>

