1916 Freedom Bus Tour

6th Class had a fantastic day out in Dublin on the 20th of April on the 1916 Freedom Bus Tour to enhance their study of 1916. The trip was very kindly subsidised by the Board of Management. Many thanks to Board members Mr. Gantly, Mr. McCormack and Mr. Carey who accompanied the class on their trip along with Ms. O’ Mara, Mrs. McAuliffe, Mrs. Corduff and Ms. O’ Sullivan.

Active schools week took place from April 25th – 29th. We had ‘wake up shake up’ exercises every morning in the yard and each class learned some active routines as well as doing lots of sports all week.

Teddy Bears’ Picnic

Junior Infants had a Teddy Bears’ Picnic in June. The children were so excited and lots of parents came too! On Wednesday this week Senior Infants will be having their Teddy Bears’ Picnic.

1st Classes have been busy working in the school garden. Mrs. Daly very kindly came to help them plant onions, pumpkins and tomatoes. She also worked with many other classes.

Congratulations to the children in 2nd class who made their First Holy Communion on May 14th. A great day was had by all. Thanks to the parents who helped with refreshments on the day and to the children in 4th and 6th classes who sang so beautifully for the occasion under the direction of Ms. Doherty and Ms. O Mara.

3rd and 4th classes had a visit from a fire officer from Leixlip Fire Station who discussed fire safety with the children.

Our 4th classes were involved in the Bord na Mona ‘Echo Rangers Project’ which involved them studying about the canal in Leixlip. They learned about flora and fauna at the canal and enjoyed a trip to the canal as part of their studies.

Leixlip History Club’s Essay Competition on 1916

Our 5th classes took part in this competition and wrote some excellent essays. We were lucky to have two winners from our school - Shauna Mooney with her essay ‘Cait Murphy’s Diary’ and Maria Gheorge.

Rooms 3 and 4

The boys in Room 3 had a great day recently when they invited a class from another school to visit Scoil Mhuire. The children came all the way from Miltownpass in Co. Westmeath and our boys were delighted to show off their school.

The children in Room 4 had a breakfast morning recently and did lovely drama activities based on the story Goldilocks and the Three Bears.

🎶🎶 Both classes enjoyed singing this year with Laura and enjoyed going swimming every Tuesday!
Declan O Toole Poetry Competition

Congratulations to Jennifer Murnagh (5th Class) who was the overall winner in our annual Declan O Toole Poetry Competition with her poem entitled 'One Hundred Years Ago'. She was presented with a perpetual trophy which she can keep for a year and a medal which she can keep forever. The following children received a book voucher each as a merit for their poems – Prince Kanda Quiala (3rd class), Sophie O’ Hagan, Sinead Andos (4th class), Kayleigh O’ Neill, Elizabeth Kovalchuk (5th class) and Aisling McCarthy (6th class). Well done to all our winners and thanks to Ms. O’ Grady for organising the competition.

Soccer League

The annual interclass soccer league took part in June with the final due to be played on Wednesday this week. Each team had players from 4th, 5th and 6th classes. Thanks to 6th class for organising the event and refereeing the matches.

Football Leagues

The Scoil Mhuire girls’ team won the Lunchtime Football League this year and brought back a huge trophy. Well done to all involved and thanks to Ms. McCormack and Mr. Lynch for refereeing some of the matches. The boys weren’t as fortunate despite playing well in their matches.

Unfortunately our boys and girls U11 and U13 teams didn’t make the final this year but gained great experience along the way with some notable victories and close losses.

Mr. Lynch and Ms. Keating brought a team of 4th and 5th class boys to a Football Tournament in Coláiste Phádraig CBS on June 1st. The boys played exceptionally well and got to the final but lost out to St. Mary’s Boys School, Lucan in a tight battle. Thanks to Eoin Dunne for inviting us to take part in the event. It was a great experience!

Running Events

On Friday June 3rd, some children from 3rd, 4th 5th and 6th classes represented the school in a running event organised by Gaelscoil Ui Fhiaich’ in Leixlip Amenities. The children behaved themselves very well and did their school proud.

On June 14th all the children in 5th and 6th class attended the Scoil Mhuire Running Event organised by Ms. Walsh. It was a great event despite the weather. Many thanks to Ms. Walsh for all her work with both events.

Basketball

Congratulations to our 6th class basketball team who made it to the final of the interschool basketball blitz. They played well all through the tournament and were so disappointed to lose in the final.

Students v Teachers End of Year Basketball Match

The annual basketball match between the students and the teachers took place on Wednesday June 22nd. The whole school came out to watch and cheer! It was a very close match with the teachers winning by a point. Well done to all who participated.

Congratulations to Aisling McCarthy (6th class) for winning the overall ‘Sportsperson of the Year’ this year, to Conall Henson (5th class) who won ‘Male Footballer of the Year’ and Michelle Maggrey (6th class) who won Female ‘Footballer of the Year’.

Standardised tests

All children from 1st to 6th class completed standardised tests in English and Maths at the end of May.
Many thanks to everyone who supported the 6th class Cake Sale on Friday June 17th. It was a huge success and the children raised a total of €1450 for Leixlip Tidy Towns. Thanks to the children and staff who baked for the event. Everyone who brought a cake or buns to the cake sale was entered in a draw and the winners of the draw were Max Rochford and Kate O’Neill. The pop up coffee shop was a great success and we were delighted to see so many parents during the day! Thanks to Ms. O Mara and 6th class for all their hard work.

On Friday June 10th we had International Day which was also a great success. We started with a colourful parade at the back of the school with eighty children marching behind the Scoil Mhuire banner to show off their costumes. The rest of the school, along with lots of parents, stood around the edges and clapped and waved. We then made our way to the assembly hall where we called out every country one by one and asked the children associated with those countries to stand up for a clap. It was lovely for the children from the different countries to see others from their country standing up with them. Of course when Ireland was called out, a huge crowd stood up!!!

Every class in the school chose one country to study. At assembly, each class stood up and performed a song or a dance from the country they had learned about. There was a great variety of performances both in English and other languages. Finally, after the break there was a lovely atmosphere around the school when parents from different countries visited the classes and told stories, played music, showed power point presentations, answered questions, taught dances and brought food from their countries for the children to taste, Sincere thanks to those parents who gave us their time. We really appreciated your presence on the day.

This year we decided to hold International Day to tie in with our work towards gaining a 6th Green Flag however the day was a great learning experience for the children and was such a success that we have decided to make it an annual event. It will probably take place next year around Easter time.

We remind all our families travelling back to their native countries for the Summer to remember to bring back flags and costumes for next year’s event! Many thanks to Ms. Shelly for organising the event along with Ms Keating, Ms. Irwin and Ms Fisch.

School tours this year...

Junior Infants – Imaginosity and Marley Park
Senior Infants – Cara Farm
1st Class – The Chocolate Factory and the Natural History Museum
4th Class – Causey Farm
5th Class – The National Gallery, The Natural History Museum and the National Aquatic Centre
6th Class – Lilliput Activity Centre
Room 3 – Trinity Sports Centre Climbing Wall and Trampoline and on to Howth.
Room 4 – Dublin Zoo
**Write-A-Book Winners**

Oisín Lynch, Max Rochford, Chloe Ann Stanley (2nd class), Kamil Galus, Tomer Hazan, Madison Langan (3rd Class), Sophie O Hagan, Gideon Onyejkwé, Áine Lynch, Sinead Andos, Cian Behal, Amber Doyle O Connor (4th Class), Shauna Mooney, John Flynn, Emily Gorecka, Shauna Murray, Keelan Byrne, Rupasri Kumar (5th Class), Michelle Maggrey, Lorcan Cranley and Christella Kanda (6th Class). Many thanks to Ms. Walsh for organising and submitting our books to the competition.

*Congratulations to our 6th class who had their graduation ceremony on Monday June 22nd. It was a very special night. They had a mass followed by reminiscences of their time in Scoil Mhúire. We wish them the best of luck in secondary school. Thanks to the PTA and Board of Management who served refreshments on the night and presented each child with a certificate and a keepsake.*

*Our New Junior Infants visited the school on Thursday 9th June and met with their teacher for September, Ms. Shelly.*

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**Farewell!**

We say goodbye to the children who will be leaving our school and moving to a new school in September. We say a big goodbye to Alex, Seán, Uriel, Valerie and Ciarán from rooms 3 and 4 and we look forward to working with the 4 new boys who will be starting in September. We also say goodbye to Ms. Keating, Ms. Irwin, Ms. Ivory, Ms. Bowe and Ms. Dalton who have been valued members of the Scoil Mhúire Team.

*The school will close at 12.30pm on Thursday 30th June for our summer holidays. The Board of Management and Staff wish you an enjoyable summer break. If you need to contact the school during the summer, please email us on scmhuireleixlip.ias@eircom.net Information about the school calendar and opening times will be available on the school website - www.scoilmhuireleixlip.net*

Many thanks to all the parents, grandparents, volunteers and members of the PTA who helped the school in any way during the year. We really appreciate all your help.

Well done to all the children in the school for how well they presented themselves each day for school with the correct uniform and for all their hard work and their excellent behaviour throughout the year, especially on Sports Day and on school tours.

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your good wishes and support throughout the year. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year as Principal of Scoil Mhúire and am grateful for the opportunity to lead a wonderful team of teachers, SNA’s and ancillary staff who work hard for the children in the school.

We the staff, are very lucky to work with such a lovely community of children and parents as we have in Scoil Mhúire.

Be safe over the summer especially if you are visiting farms or are near water. Remind your children to keep reading during the holidays and maybe even do a few jobs for you! We look forward to seeing you all in September.

*Kind Regards,*

Nora Mescal