



Halloween Newsletter 2020



We have been very busy here in Scoil Mhuire since school restarted in September. Here is a flavour of what has been going on...

Junior Infants have settled in well to Scoil Mhuire and have been learning lots of new things. They know all about Autumn and they loved going on an Autumn walk and making hedgehogs. They enjoy Jolly phonics each day and are getting the hang of how Stations work. They really enjoyed doing a Maths trail last week and playing lots of Maths games. Everyone loves their handprints and clowns with bubble noses!

Senior Infants - In Aistear, Senior Infants had lots of fun learning about the school Secretary's Office in September and are now learning all about their new theme - The Post Office. They have observed and learned about 'Trees' and 'Autumn' and are brilliant at saying their Autumn poem. They enjoyed presenting their favourite toys to the class on Seesaw. In Art they learned about the colour wheel. One of their favourite things this year was Jersey day.

1st class (Ms. Doyle) – 1st class are getting ready for Halloween! They have enjoyed practising their GAA skills with Coach Michael. While discussing Autumn, they did projects on animals that hibernate. In Maths they had a 2D shape hunt in the yard which was great fun and they estimated and measured the width of the classroom using different objects.

1st Class (Ms Hughes) – 1st class have enjoyed working on their throwing, catching and kicking skills with Coach Michael. For their study on Autumn, they have observed and investigated leaves in the environment. They really enjoyed making 2D Rockets in Art and learned how Astronauts brush their teeth in space!



2nd class (Ms. Hanafin) – 2nd class have been learning all about Leixlip, a local place and Dingle, a contrasting place in Ireland. They have learned lots of new Maths topics since September. They enjoy asking their classmates questions as Gaeilge every day and ended the term with a Halloween Story competition.

2nd Class (Ms McCormack) - 2nd class have learned all about hedgehogs and baby hoglets. The highlight of the term was making hedgehogs in Art using clay. They have learned all about the 5 Senses and got the chance to taste sweet, sour and salty foods. They compared the towns of Leixlip and Westport and enjoyed Maths week last week. They have read Halloween stories in English and can't wait for Halloween!

Room 3 – The children in Room 3 have been very busy this half term. They said goodbye to one of their classmates and the children welcomed a new boy to the class. They have been busy learning about autumn, the weather, Halloween and the body. They have done lots of group activities this year, have enjoyed mindfulness activities and have enjoyed some lovely autumn walks. When they visited the train station they saw a few trains and one train driver sounded the horn when they waved. Happy Halloween from all in room 3!

Room 4 - The children in Room 4 have also had a busy term. They said goodbye to two of their friends and welcomed two new children to their class. They have learned lots of music and done lots of art work this term. They really enjoyed listening to Vivaldi's music 'The Four Seasons - Autumn'. They loved jersey day, have learned how to meditate and have read lots of Halloween stories.



3rd class – What a busy term it has been for 3rd class. They finally received their First Holy Communion. They have started learning how to do joined handwriting and had so much fun doing experiments in Science and exploring magnets. They have also learned the counties of Ireland and enjoyed reading Oíche Shamhna and Bia Blasta 'as Gaeilge'. They made pumpkins in Art from clay and can perform 'The Bone-Yard Rap' using body percussion!

4th class- 4th class have been exploring Homes from the past. They completed wonderful projects at home where they designed and built a house from the past and presented it to the rest of the class through Seesaw. They are writing about their favourite holiday in recount writing and painted spooky haunted house silhouettes in Art.





5th class (Ms. Cleary) – 5th class have been learning about Space, the planets and about the Astronaut Chris Hadfield. They really enjoyed completing projects on famous inventors, famous explorers and Leixlip. They celebrated Maths week completing Izak9 challenges, a maths trail and class competitions. They have enjoyed GAA with Coach Michael, Science experiments, drawing maps of the garden and planting daffodil bulbs at the front of the school with Pat over the past few weeks.

5th class (Ms. Milner) - 5th class have also done projects on famous explorers and inventors. They have taken on the challenge of a daily mile which involves lots of laps around the yard each day. They really enjoy 'The Smiling Mind', mindfulness activities in the classroom. They have tried Music and Drama outside and could be heard singing 'Try Everything' and 'Yellow Submarine' out on the grass. After their Maths Trail to the Train Station, they now know that Maths is everywhere in our environment!

6th class (Ms. O'Mara) – 6th class have been busy doing oral presentations on SESE topics. They also engaged in lots of STEM challenges this term and learned about the Amazon Rainforest, The Brain and Growth Mindset in SPHE. They covered RSE this term and have received lots of compliments on the fabulous portraits they have on display in the corridor.

6th class (Ms. Munroe) - 6th class also learned about the Amazon Rainforest and completed excellent projects on the topic. They had great fun designing paper rockets during Space Week and they got to launch them to see which rocket travelled furthest. They did lots of fun puzzles during Maths Week and did a Maths trail around the school. They really enjoyed perfecting their GAA skills with Coach Michael this term.

Green Schools

This year we will not have a Green Schools Committee as we have put a pause on our application for our 8th Green Flag, due to the Covid 19 restrictions. This does not mean we care less about the environment. We ask every child to continue to take care of the environment. We ask children not to bring extra packaging on their lunches to help our environment. We also encourage children to continue to bring used batteries to school for recycling and to try to walk on Wednesdays as part of the WOW initiative.



Student Council

This year's Student Council is a little different as a result of the Covid 19 restrictions. This year the Student Council members are only from 6th and 4th classes as these three classes work in the same section of the building and we do not mix bubbles in our school. The new committee were elected in October and we wish them the best of luck for the year ahead. The committee members are as follows: Isabelle Casey (Chairperson), Ailbhe Mooney (Vice Chairperson), Caoimhe Dunne (Secretary), Vincent McCandliss (Treasurer), Jamie Treacy and Samanvitha Dandu. The new committee have already met at a socially distanced meeting and understand that they will have to have a new approach to activities this year and are working on ways of connecting with the other pupils in the school in the different sections. They have some very creative and fun ideas and we know they will rise to the challenge brilliantly.



Maths Week

It was great to see so many classes participating in Maths Week and going on Maths Trails. Many thanks to Ms. O Grady for organising the Maths Week competition. She will announce the winners at assembly on Friday.

Write A Book

We have now received all our books back and will announce the winners of last year's competition at assembly this week.

Jersey Day

Jersey Day in Scoil Mhuire was a very enjoyable and colourful day as always. Many thanks to all the pupils who donated to GOAL on Oct 9th. We raised €541.30 this year. Our next fundraiser will be at Christmas when we will collect money for a local charity, the St Vincent de Paul.



The school looks fantastic today with all the absolutely brilliant pumpkins!! Well done everyone
See photos on www.scoilmhuireleixlip.net



Well done to everyone on a great first term, especially in terms of homework, uniform, good behaviour and complying with our Covid 19 Response Plan. Remember to continue to wash your hands, keep a distance from others and stay at home if you are unwell.

Dates for your Diary

21st Oct: Pumpkin Competition
23rd Oct: Halloween Dress Up
Mon 26th Oct – Fri 30th:
Mid term break
(The school will be closed)



We wish all our staff and pupils a well deserved mid-term break! Oíche Shamhna Shona Daoibh !!