

Scoil Mhuire Newsletter - Easter 2017



It's hard to believe that Easter is nearly here! As we look forward to Easter and the Easter holidays, it is good to look back at all the work, fun and interesting things that have been happening in Scoil Mhuire over recent weeks. So many things have been going on - from sports and singing to quizzes and céilís, Seachtain na Gaeilge, Zeeko, World Book Day and Intercultural Day! Where shall we begin?



- **Ms. Shelly's Junior Infants** have been busy learning about Poland for Intercultural Day! Kacper's mum came into the class to teach songs, games and legends from Poland. It was really interesting and Junior Infants say a big thank you to her. They know lots about Poland now! They have also been learning how to play Connect 4 which they really enjoy! They are so lucky because they have started using I Pads during Stations in literacy to practise their phonics! Ms Shelly's class love technology!

India was the focus country for **Ms. Doyle's Senior Infants** during Intercultural Week. They were very busy learning a poem in Hindi and had a visit from Samanvitha and Naren's mums who taught them lots about India. Bhí siad ag rince sa chéilí, they wore green and really enjoyed dancing to Shoe the Donkey and Ballaí Luimní!



- **Mr. Lynch's 1st class** are definitely going to need a break after all the work that has been happening in Room 2. They received books from another school as they took part in the Write-a-Book Project. It was great fun reading other children's work. For Intercultural Day they learned about Mexico. They were also lucky enough to have Oliver and Dominick's mum come to talk to the class about Slovakia. A big thank you to her! With all that activity, they thought it would be a good idea to make Mind Jars for calming their brains when they are busy - a great tool that Mr. Lynch hopes they will carry forward!



- It's time to farm in **Mr. Byrne's 1st class!** They have been learning about the farmer and how busy he is at this time of the year. They have been reading about what can be found on the farm. For Intercultural Day they looked at Israel and learned about the customs and people of that country. They learned a nursery rhyme in Hebrew called *Rohsh, Kah-tehf, Beh-rech, Etz-bah-ote!* Thanks to Ishay's Mum who told the class about Israel and to Patryk's mum who told them all about Poland. Mr. Byrne and his class really enjoyed the céilí and the pupils loved showing their teacher the dances they have learned since starting in Scoil Mhuire! This was their third céilí - they are becoming experts!

- **Ms. Fisch's** class went to Howth on a trip recently and were super excited to take the train, play on the beach and watch the seals swimming in the sea! Intercultural Day connected them to Cameroon and they learned an African action song which they really enjoyed performing. Ben and Harry wrote lovely books about friendship in the class and they also took part in the Drumming Workshop! Room 3 want to say a big thank you to Laura for their music sessions this term - they learned a lot of different songs using tempo, rhythm and pitch



- **Mrs. McCarthy's** class became very green during the month of March! In honour of St. Patrick's Day they learned all about Ireland - about shamrocks, Irish Dancing and they even learned a Leprechaun song- maybe Mrs. McCarthy has a pot-of-gold in her classroom! The boys and girls made beautiful Shamrock Light Catchers to capture the light in Room 4. For Intercultural Day they

learned a Congolese folk song. They are looking forward to Easter and are busy making Easter Chick Art! Gracie, Lauren and Runor loved the beats in the drumming workshop!



- **Ms. Dowling's 2nd class** learned about Germany for Intercultural Day. They learned a German nursery rhyme with Cian's mum and performed it in assembly. They really liked the drumming workshop - it was lots of fun getting to experience it! Having sent off their own Write-a-Book entries a few weeks ago, they got to read books from pupils in another school. They thought the stories they read were cool! In Maths they have been investigating length and in Gaeilge they've learned about Éadaí. They went on a trip to the train station in Leixlip as they have been studying the theme of trains in SESE, English, Art and Music. Such busy times!

Ms. O'Grady's 2nd class travelled to China in their imaginations to learn about that country for Intercultural Day. They also heard about Poland from Amelia's mum and were treated to food from different countries from Amelia, Alina, Gabriel and Michelle's mums. They performed *Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes* in Chinese for the school at assembly! They really enjoyed learning about a country that is very different to Ireland. They liked doing the Write-a-Book project - both sending off their entries a while ago and getting to read the entries from another school. The drumming workshop was lots of fun too - they were really happy to compose and listen to the sounds of the drums! Last week they said goodbye to their student teacher Ms. Todd who was visiting from Armagh.

- Both second classes are preparing for their First Penance on April 4th.



Ms. Cleary's 3rd class welcomed back Mrs. Daly to their class! She knows lots about gardening and helped 3rd class to use their 'Sow and Grow' activity pack to plant (and hopefully grow!) cress seeds, runner beans and baby carrots. The pupils in Room 8 have green-fingers! For Intercultural Day they learned about Africa, had a visit from FR. Eladius, Marie Therese and Bienveance's mums and performed the tune 'Che Che Cooley' in assembly. They also learned to play 'The Macarena' on the recorder. For Engineer's Week they were involved in Intel's Build a Bridge Challenge which was great fun!

- After learning about Italy for Intercultural Day, **Ms. Doherty's 4th class** will say 'Ciao' if they meet you! Many thanks to Kamil's mum who came to the class to speak about Poland. She told them all about Easter in Poland and brought lovely Polish desserts! They loved taking part in the céilí and danced in the hall to some Irish music! Is maith leo bheith ag rinne! They also had lots of fun at the Tráth na gCeist. It was good to be on a team with friends from different classes! In SESE they have been learning about the different types of rock that are found in Ireland. Ms. Doherty wants to say a special 'Well done' to Ciarán and Diarmuid who went to the Credit Union Quiz Semi-Finals in Tallaght. They did so well and just missed out on qualifying for the final by 1 point. We know where to go when we need people with good general knowledge!
- **Ms. McCormack's 5th class** did projects on Britain in Geography. They are reading the novel 'No Peace for Amelia'. They like this story because it tells them more about Easter Week 1916. In History they learned about the Irish Cultural Revival and the GAA. For Intercultural Day they learned about Mexico. They want to say a big thank you to Colm's mum who came in to talk to the class. They also took part in the Write-a-Book project and the drumming workshop.



- **Ms. O'Driscoll's 5th class** say G'Day Mate! as they have learned about Australia for Intercultural Day. In Art they made Boomerangs and they performed an Aboriginal song for the rest of the school in assembly. Jessica's mum visited the class and told the children all about Romania. Their novel is also 'No Peace for Amelia'. They are enjoying reading this. They did 'Spring Sewing' on hessian

fabric and learned to play the Star Wars theme on the recorder.



- **Ms. O'Donnell's 6th class** did projects on World War 1 and on France in SESE. They learned about Mexico for Intercultural Day and had a visit from Mrs. Tebbe. They read the novel 'Matilda' and are going to Leixlip library this week to watch the film. They had their last 'You Shall Be my Witness' session. Well done to Aoife, Isabelle, Nia, Anna-May and Harry who represented the class and spoke at the last sessions. They did the class proud!
- **Ms. O'Mara's 6th class** went to the library on March 20th to watch the film version of the novel 'Holes' that they read. They thought it was very enjoyable and liked being able to compare the book and the film. The class studied food preservation in Science and enjoyed both the Sheila O'Hora Art Competition and the drumming workshop. For Intercultural Day they learned about New Zealand and really impressed the school when they performed the Haka for everyone in assembly! They recently had a visit from Fr. Eladius.
- Both Ms. O'Donnell and Ms. O'Mara want to say a big thank you to Ella Doran, the parent leaders and the parish for organising the **You Shall Be my Witness programme**. The pupils of Scoil Mhuire really enjoyed taking part and feel that they got a lot out of it.



- **Green Schools-** Scoil Mhuire had a visit from Dara Wyer, the Environmental Awareness Officer from Kildare County Council. He was really impressed with all of the boys and girls on the Green Schools Committee and with all of the hard work they have been doing. We will find out shortly if we have enough work done to earn our 6th Green Flag for Global Citizenship, Litter and Waste. Ms. Cleary wants to say a big 'Well done' to the winners of the Golden Bin award this month - Mr. Byrne's 1st class and Ms. Doherty's 4th class. The WOW winners were (again!) Mr. Byrne's 1st class and Ms. O'Driscoll's 5th class. Keep up the good work!

Art Competition- Once again all of the pupils of Scoil Mhuire created fabulous paintings for our annual Sheila O'Hora Art Competition. The theme this year was Tourism. Ms. O'Grady, who is in charge of the competition could not believe how high the standard of work was! She was really impressed. She wants to say well done to all who took part and congratulations to the winners. In the Junior Section they were: 3rd place - Jake Kirwan (Senior Infants), 2nd place - Rachel Reade (1st class) and the winner in 1st place was Cara Heraty (2nd class). The winners in the Senior Section were: 3rd place - Sinead Andos (5th class), 2nd place - Elizabeth Kovalchuk (6th class) and the winner in 1st place was Emilia Gorecka (6th class). A huge thank you to Ms. Moran from Scoil Bhríde for judging the art competition for us.



I rith **Seachtain na Gaeilge** bhí an scoil go léir ag baint triail as an Gaeilge. There were lots of prizes given out for those ag labhairt as Gaeilge! We had a wonderful **Tionól Gaelach** (Irish assembly) on Tuesday 14th March where every class performed an Irish song or poem for the rest of the school. We also had a great day on our **Lá Glas** on Friday 10th March when Ms. O'Sullivan taught Irish dances all day in the hall for our **Ceilí**. Ms. O'Mara would like to say a big 'well done' to everyone who took part in the Tráth na gCeist (Irish table quiz) in the hall on the 8th March. There were mixed teams from 3rd to 6th classes. There were 6 rounds including pictures and music. Teams earned 2 points for answering in Irish and 1 point if they answered in English! Well done to the winning team which was made up of Isabelle Mangan, Amy Heraty, Conall Henson, Diarmuid O'Connor and Isobel Fanning who received Easter Eggs as prizes! A 'míle buíochas' to Ms. O'Mara for organising the table quiz.

On March 22nd the HSE **Dental Nurse** visited Junior Infants, Senior Infants, 1st, 3rd and 5th classes to discuss oral hygiene. On March 1st - **Ash Wednesday**, the priests of the parish visited the school to distribute ashes. On 7th March, **Zeeko** discussed Internet Safety with all classes and with parents.



Intercultural Day was a great success this year. We began with our parade and it was great to see all the different national costumes. The hall was full of colour and every class performed a song related to the country they had learned about. Every class had a visit from a parent who taught them about their country. Many thanks to Ndipmong who set up a stall in the corridor and taught lots of classes about Africa. It was a fantastic Day. A huge thank you to Ms. Shelly who co-ordinated the event.

The Credit Union Quiz- Well done to Diarmuid O'Connor, Ciarán McCarthy, Ava Carey and Cathal Manley who represented the school in the Chapter Round of the Credit Union Quiz on Sunday 5th March. They studied 600 questions in preparation for the quiz showing their dedication and they answered some very difficult questions on the day. Everyone was delighted with their 3rd place result! They did the school proud!

Student Council- The student council have been working on some new initiatives recently.

Cara sa Chlós- this is where two student council members monitor the Junior Yard and ensure everyone has a friend to play with. These student council members can be identified by their yellow armbands and this project has been working very well.

Games in the Junior Yard- the juniors have been provided with balls, skipping ropes and bean bags etc. to play with in a cordoned off area. These games are supervised by the student council. The children look forward to their 'games day' enthusiastically!

Goals for lunchtime soccer- The student council made a request to Mrs. Mescal before Christmas for goals on behalf of the students and their wish was granted. Thanks to Pat for assembling the goals. The pupils can't wait for their allocated days on the pitch now! Rain, rain go away!

The Student Council will soon meet the Board of Management to let them know how they have been getting on.

Dates for your diary

April 4th First Confession 2nd class - 6pm Leixlip Church

April 7th School will close at 12.30pm for the Easter holidays

April 9th PTA Easter Egg Bingo 3pm in the GAA.

April 10th -13th Easter Camp

April 24th - School will reopen

April 24th - 28th Active Schools Week

May 1st - School closed for Bank holiday

May 20th Communion 2nd classes - 11am Leixlip Church

May 22nd - Communion photos in the school hall.

May 26th PTA Coffee Morning 9.30am SEP Hall

Beannachtaí na Cásca!

*Enjoy the
Easter holidays
from Mrs.
Mescal, Mrs.
McAuliffe and
all in Scoil
Mhuire.*



