



Scoil Mhuire Newsletter – Easter 2022



World Book Day was celebrated on March 3rd. The students dressed up as characters from their favorite books and stories. There were lots of book related events happening throughout the day, including making bookmarks, designing new book covers, writing stories and D.E.A.R Time.

This year's theme for our annual **Sheila O'Hora Art Competition** was 'My Family.' The standard of the paintings was very high and the external judge had a very difficult time choosing the winners! Well done to Ms. O'Grady for organising the event. Junior Winners: 1st: Ava Rose Gaffney, 2nd: Úna Moran, 3rd: Chloe Brady. Senior Winners: 1st: Clara Bernard Ryan, 2nd: Molly O' Hagan, 3rd: Alex Delaney. There was also a highly commended prize in each class.

There were many great activities organised to mark **Seachtain na Gaeilge**. A Tráth na gCeist for 3rd to 6th class was held over zoom on March 11th. There was a winning team in each class. The whole school celebrated Lá Glas on March 16th. We started off the day watching songs and poems by each class on Zoom. This was followed by a traditional music session with Donal Fallon and friends in the school yard. Later in the day we danced the Dreoilin and proudly sang Amhrán na bhFiann together. It was a great celebration. A huge thank you to Ms. O'Mara for all her hard work in making it a success!



The **Student Council** has been busy over the last few weeks. With the fine weather they have reintroduced soccer at lunch time. The students in fifth and sixth class are really enjoying this! They also organised an art competition. The theme for the competition was 'Ireland' and entrants could use any medium to display this theme. There were prize-winners in each class and the three overall winners were: 1st place Ziyen (6th), 2nd place Clara M (4th), 3rd place Samanvitha (5th).

On March 21st the two second classes made their **First Confession**. They celebrated a lovely ceremony in the school hall and then went to the church for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. All of the children were excellent and represented themselves so well. A special thank you to Ms. McCormack, Ms. Haughney and Ms. Kerr for preparing the children for the ceremony. Thanks also to Ms. Kelly, Ms. Daly and Ms. Hogan who accompanied the children on the day. The children are now very busy getting ready for their First Holy Communion. This special occasion is on May 14th.



Everyone in Scoil Mhuire has been so busy this term working towards the **Active Flag**. We have been running a four week "Run Around Ireland" challenge, where each class has chosen different destinations around Ireland to run to. We have also created an 'Active Walkway' which is a walkway around the school. Classes have really enjoyed exploring this and have even used it during Maths, Geography, English and Irish lessons.

This week is **Active Schools Week** (April 4th - 8th) and so far, it has been a great success! There has been lots of different activities organised over the week, including - "Wake Up Shake Up" every morning, Marathon Monday, an obstacle course, dance with Ms. Milner, races and rugby with Barnhall Rugby Club. On Friday we are looking forward to 'Friendship Friday' where every class will do a PE activity with their buddy class from Friendship Week. Well done to Ms. O'Grady and Ms. Milner for all the work and effort that they have put into these activities.



Ms. Doyle and Ms. O'Grady's Junior Infants have been enjoying the Aistear theme 'The Puppet Show' over the past month, with children putting on performances, building houses for the Three Little Pigs and making their own finger puppets. They've also planted cress seeds, chive seeds and spread wildflower seeds in our garden to help the bees. Junior Infants have now finished the 42 phonics sounds and are well on their way to reading fluency. Thank you to Ms. McCarthy and Ms. Coughlan who have been working with the two classes over the last few weeks.

Ms. Cleary's Senior Infants have been learning all about Spring. They made spring daffodils in art. They planted potatoes and strawberries in the garden. They have been working hard on their 'comhra' and each week they have a 'Cailín na Seachtaine' and a 'Buachaill na Seachtaine.' They had great fun making bridges for Engineers' week and they learnt about balancing in P.E during gymnastics. They enjoyed having Ms. Hayes in their class for the past few weeks.

Ms. McBrearty's First Class enjoyed spending time with 5th class during Friendship Week - they hosted a wonderful quiz for first class via zoom, played games together on yard and both classes made Friendship Week cards for each other. As Spring sprung, they planted garlic in the school garden with Mr. Brennan and went on an outdoor walk discovering the different signs of Spring.

Ms. McCormack's Second Class enjoyed Engineers' Week. They designed and made 'Our Dream Playground.' They wrote wonderful reports on St.Patrick. In PE they completed a number of gymnastic lessons working on skills such as climbing, balancing and jumping. Ms. Flood has been with them for three weeks and completed some exciting lessons.



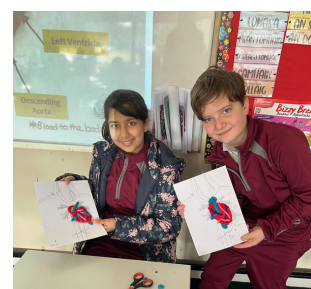
Ms. Haughney' Second Class have started "PenPals" with another second class in Lucan. They love receiving letters and learning more about their new pals. They are busy writing different procedures in class and even wrote a spell on 'How to turn your teacher into a goat!' In Art, they drew themselves as superheroes. They also did some blow painting which was really fun. Check out the pictures on the website!



This term **Ms. DeBarra and Ms. Kelly's Third Classes** have been busy learning about the Vikings! They also learned about habitats and gardening. They planted some seeds in the classroom and are hoping that they will start to grow soon. They really enjoyed the 'Run around Ireland' challenge and can run five laps now without stopping! They had an important zoom call with RSA Ireland to learn how to keep safe on the roads and on their bicycles. Thank you to Ms. Henry who has been working in one of the third classes.

This term **Ms. O'Dea's Fourth Class** have been very busy learning all about The Celts and the Great Irish Famine as part of SESE. They explored gravity to create amazing parachutes which would land a Lego figure safely to ground. They are now very excited to take part in the Egg Drop challenge. Fourth class love music and have created their own rendition of 'Amhrán na gCupán.'

Ms. Flynn's Fifth Class made a model of the lungs and hearts in science. They also completed the 'Paws Water Safety Awareness' programme. This provided them with the knowledge of what to do in emergencies related to water in pools, farms, beaches and more. To finish off a great term they were taken on a scenic walk by Mr. Brennan along the canal and to the waterfall where they learned a lot about Leixlip.



Ms Milner's Sixth Class have been working really hard since Christmas. They have learned all about France and World War II and completed projects on both of these. They are running laps of the yard every day and are even on the second marathon of the year - What an achievement! They also visited Leixlip Castle and were lucky enough to get a tour of both inside the castle and around the gardens.



Ms. O'Mara's Sixth Class made 'scribblebots' with Intel for Engineers' Week and they completed an excellent Webinar with Chris Hadfield (astronaut). They also organised the Whole School Census, acting as enumerators delivering forms, collecting them when completed by the classes, tallying the results and presenting the data in graphs. On Tuesday they went on a tour to Weston Airport!

The children in **Ms. Irwin's Class** have been busy this term doing report writing. One of the children in Room 3 was going to Nigeria with his family so they decided to complete a report on Nigeria. The children really enjoyed taking part in this activity. They have also started reading a novel - Tom Crean, the Adventures of an Irish Antarctic Hero, Ice Man. The children are really enjoying listening to the story!

Ms. Kerr's Class went for lovely walks along the canal, to Squirrel Wood and to the train station. They did lots of cooking and baking this term, including pizza, cookies, pancakes and chocolate buns. There were also lots of fun art activities - Spring wreaths, St. Patrick's Day hats, flower paintings, Easter pictures and clay pieces. In science they made bouncy eggs, coloured flowers, oobleck and cloud dough.



Our school website is updated regularly, so be sure to check it out!

www.scoilmhuireleixlip.com

Remember to check the class pages as well as the home page.

Upcoming Dates:

April 8th	Half Day for Easter Holidays
April 25th	School Reopens after Easter Holidays
May 2nd	School Closed - May Bank Holiday
May 14th	First Holy Communion
May 16th - 27th	Standardised Testing - English and Maths
June 2nd	*Sports Day - Weather permitting
June 3rd	*Sports Day - Back up day
June 6th and 7th	School Closed - June Bank Holiday
June 11th	2nd Class Tour
June 13th	1st Class Tour
June 16th	4th and 5th Class Tour
June 21st	6th Class Graduation
June 22nd	Junior and Senior Infant Tour
June 23rd	3rd Class Tour
June 27th	6th Class Tour

Newsletter Edited by Ms. Dowling

Other Notices

- We are delighted to announce that **Gaeilic Football training** for boys and girls in 3rd to 6th class will recommence after Easter. More details to follow.
- Course: Positive Parenting – For Changing Families**

Understand Your Child's Emotional Development & How To Manage Behaviours In Young Children

This programme supports parents of children in primary school. The concept of the 'Good Enough Parent' supports parents to examine their parenting style and explore how this impacts on the relationship they have with their child. During the programme parents are asked to become more confident in how they parent, allowing them to be assertive in how they handle the many challenges that young children can present. Parents will learn the importance of positive attention, routines and consistency, quality time, quiet time and the active listening. We will also examine the difference in discipline versus punishment, helping parents to teach children as they manage childhood behaviours.

When: Wednesdays April May 4th - June 8th incl. 10 - 12noon.

Where: Leixlip Library, Capatrain's Hill, Leixlip.

Further details and to book a place contact: Bridie Clancy, Tusla.
Email: Bridie.clancy@tusla.ie Mobile 086.3807917