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Scoil Mhuire Newsletter – June 2019



We have had a very busy term since Easter.

Well done to the boys and girls from second class and room 3 who made their **First Holy Communion** on May 18th. The 5th and 6th class did a wonderful job singing in the choir. A huge thank you to Ms. O'Grady, Ms. McCarthy, Ms. O'Mara, Ms. O'Connor, Ms. Corduff, Ms. Kelly and Mrs. Mescal for helping all the children to prepare and practise for this special day.

On May 21st three representatives from the Green Schools Committee and Ms. Dowling went to a ceremony in the Helix to collect our 7th **Green Flag** for Global Citizenship and Energy. A small ceremony was then held in the school on June 12th to raise this flag on the school flagpole. Well done to the Green Schools Committee for their hard work!

The bad weather resulted in the **Sports Day** being held on May 31st. Thanks to parents and guardians for being understanding of the last minute changes. It was a brilliant day, with sportsmanship shown by all students.

The Student Council and Ms. O'Mara hosted a very successful **Table Quiz** on June 7th. The Junior Section winners were Tom Harrington, Aoife Keating, Patrick Flynn and Clara Murphy. The Senior Section winners were Diarmuid O'Connor, Kaithlin Lawlor, Calum Doyle and Chloe Stanley. Well done!



On June 12th the school organised a '**Walking Bus**' to celebrate earning the 7th Green flag. The 'walking bus' left Beech Park at 8.40am and walked down to the school. Despite the bad weather, there was great excitement along the route. Well done to all who got involved and helped out.

The school hosted its fourth **Intercultural Day** on June 14th. The day included a super parade, excellent performances in the hall and classroom visits from many parents. It was a great day, enjoyed by all! Well done to Ms. Lenfestey and Ms. Dowling for organising this event.

Congratulations to all the winners at the **Sports Award Ceremony** on June 17th. A special mention to 'Most Improved Player' Dylan Clarke, 'Girls Footballer' Saibh Dunne, 'Overall Sportsperson (Boy)' Kurians Biju and 'Overall Sportsperson (Girl)' Tara Mooney.

A **Running Event** was organised by Scoil Mhuire on June 17th on the track in the Leixlip Amenities. The three Green lane schools and Scoil San Carlo sent teams to this great event. Runners from 4th, 5th and 6th class competed in short distance, long distance and relay races.



The theme for the annual **Declan O'Toole Poetry/Illustration Competition** was 'My Dreams for the Future.' The winners were:

Junior Infants – Kayce O'Sullivan and Patric Pinteá, Senior Infants – Nicholas Gojoric and Daniel O'Shea, 1st class – Eoin Kelly, 2nd class – Erika Rabillier, 3rd classes – Ava Byrne and Aaron Murphy, 4th classes – Harry Dunne and Sara O'Hara, 5th class – Shaira Andos, 6th class – Ciarán McCarthy.



A huge congratulations to the overall winner Ailbhe Mooney for her fantastic poem. Thank you to Ms. O'Grady for organising this competition

We got a great surprise when a Bouncy Castle was set up in the school on June 19th. Every class got a chance on the two inflatable obstacle courses. It was great fun!



After school on June 19th a very special ceremony was held to mark the opening and naming of the school garden. This wonderful area is to be known as **Gairdín Uí Dhálaigh** in honour of the work, dedication and grá Mrs. Daly had for the school garden. Thank you to the 6th class who bought a bench for the garden. A huge thank you to everyone who helped to organise the ceremony and prepare the garden and school for this event. Well done to the 5th and 6th classes who sang so beautifully. This was a very special occasion for all the friends and family of Mrs. Daly.

Mr. Lynch and Coach Michael received the **GAA 5 Star Centre Award** on behalf of Scoil Mhuire at a ceremony in Hawkfield, Newbridge.

The school **Read-A-Thon** ran from the 5th - 19th of June. Thank you to the Student Council and Ms. O'Mara for organising this great event. Well done to Ms. O'Grady's class who were overall winners!

The school achieved the **Discover Primary Science and Maths Award** for all their hard work in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM). Thank you to Mr. Lynch who coordinated the school's award entry.

This year's **Cake Sale** was held on June 21st. Well done to the Student Council, 6th class and Ms. O'Mara for all their hard work. Thank you to everyone who baked or donated goodies to help make the day such a huge success. A whopping €2000 was raised and will be split between the two charities: Peter McVerry Trust and Feileacáin.



Well done to all the children who entered the **Write-a-Book** competition. There were some super books this year. The winners were: 1st class – Tom Byrne, 2nd class – Renee Power, 3rd class – Emily Geraghty, 3rd class – Aaron Murphy, 4th class – Caoimhe Dunne and 5th class – Shaira Andos.

All classes from 1st to 6th completed standardised tests this term. Reports were sent to all homes by post. If you did not receive a report, please let the office know.

A message from your Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

This year has been another successful year for the PTA. Our fundraising activities raised approx €9,000 for each of the three schools. We had lots of successful activities and events including the annual Christmas fair, three coffee mornings, Easter bingo, two clothes recycling drives and a book fair, which raised over €3,000 for the school libraries. We assisted the schools with communion teas and end of year masses.

We are always looking for new committee members and volunteers. Our volunteers give as much time as they have available, every hour counts! Our committee meetings take place once a month during term time and are a great way to brainstorm and share ideas for the plans and activities for the term and year ahead. If you would like more information or want to join the PTA please email leixlipPTA@gmail.com or talk to any of our members.

We look forward to welcoming new members in September and continuing to make our schools the best possible place for our children to be.

Following the PTA survey re changing the school tracksuit, as the majority were in favour of change it is the intention to change the tracksuit in September 2020 - further details will follow.

Highlights from Each Class

Mr. Lynch's Junior Infants went on a nature trip down to the River Rye and the Canal. They had a great day on their school tour in Imaginosity and Marlay Park Playground.

Ms. Lenfestey's Junior Infants baked buns and decorated them with chocolate icing and sprinkles. The class had eye tests with the nurse. They even planted runner beans in the beautiful garden.

Ms. Gilsean/Ms. Doyle's Senior Infants learned about different types of weather in SESE and the clothes we wear during the different seasons. They visited Caragh Farm for their school tour.



Ms. McBrearty's Senior Infants also had a brilliant day at Caragh farm. They loved feeding the animals, holding the rabbits and racing against the teachers and mums in the obstacle course.

Ms. Milner's 1st class learned about France and made monuments from Paris out of recycled materials. Since September each child has completed an amazing 210 laps of the yard which equals a marathon!

Ms. O'Grady's 2nd class made learned all about Africa and sang an African song for Intercultural Day. They went on their tour to Lullymore Heritage Park. They really enjoyed the train ride and learning about the famine.

Ms. Cleary's 3rd class visited the library to watch Matila after reading the novel as a class. They made two new scarecrows for the garden. They went to Croke Park and Base for their school tour.

Ms. Barrett's 3rd class also went to the library to watch 'How to Train your Dragon' after reading the novel. They made delicious brownies. They went on their tour to Croke Park and Base.

Ms. McCormack's 4th class sang and danced to a Moldovan song for Intercultural Day. They went on their tour to Causey Farm. They loved the bog jumping. The 5th class taught them how to play chess.

Ms. O'Regan's 4th class had lots of fun learning about Switzerland. They enjoyed the many visitors to the classroom on Intercultural Day and even learned 'The Sardans,' a traditional Spanish dance.



Ms. O'Donnell's 5th class went on a wonderful tour to Kilmainham Gaol and the National Aquatic Centre. They also read the BFG for the class novel and visited the library to watch the film.

Ms. O'Mara's 6th Class celebrated their graduation on the 18th June. It was a lovely evening. They enjoyed some extra rewards in June which included a basketball match against 5th, extra P.E., treats and a walk to Castletown.

Ms. McCarthy's class enjoyed a brilliant school tour to Clonfert Farm. They have gone swimming every week over the last term. They planted grass caterpillars and watched them grow.

Ms. Kelly's class went to Howth, visited a restaurant and the cinema. They learned about different modes of transport. The hairdresser came in for a visit and all the boys had their hair cut.

Finally we'd like to take this opportunity to compliment the children on all their hard work and good behaviour this year. Thanks to our wonderful parents for your continued support of the school. Thanks to our teachers, SNAs, ancillary staff, Board of Management, PTA and all the volunteers. We've had a busy year again in Scoil Mhuire and it's a pleasure to see everyone working together as a team for the good of our students. Enjoy the summer!

Kind Regards, Mrs. Mescal and Ms. O'Mara