



Scoil Mhuire na Trócaire, Ardee, Co. Louth



NEWSLETTER No. 5



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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

- All classes covered a series of daily activities and lessons including prayer services and intercom messages on the theme of "Celebrating the Work of our Local Catholic Schools".
- The honour of hosting **Grandparents' Day** is given to our 2nd class each year and once again Mrs O'Malley and her pupils organised a very special morning of prayer, entertainment, chat and of course tea and cake.
- Lent** starts on Wednesday and classes are timetabled to attend Mass over the Lenten period.
- The **Diocesan Religious Advisor**, Sr Ann visited our school today and worked with 3rd-6th classes. Sr Ann was full of praise for the great work she observed in the classes.

ENROLMENT WEEK

We are still taking enrolments for September 2019 and beyond. Please contact the school office for an enrolment pack.



SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2019-2020

We are very happy to issue you with a copy of next year's school calendar. See back page for details.



SPELLING BEE

Once again our senior pupils have battled it out for a place in the Eason's Spelling Bee competition. In a nail-biting encounter two pupils emerged as class champions:-

Atene Grigaityte - 5th class
Laura Hennessy - 6th class

Laura emerged as our overall champion and will represent our school in the competition. Best wishes Laura.

PEACE PROMS

Congratulations to 3rd class and their teachers Ms McClean and Mrs King who participated in the Dublin Peace Proms 2019 in the RDS Arena on Sunday 3rd February. Our girls joined with choirs from all over the country to perform with a full symphony orchestra. Both the singing and choreography were outstanding and it was incredible to see the months of hard work come to fruition. We hope the children will have positive and lasting memories of this special occasion.



Credit Union Quiz



Our junior and senior quiz teams represented our school in the recent Credit Union Quiz held in the Bohemian Centre. 21 teams took part and our 2 teams performed strongly with our junior team finishing in 2nd place.

Congratulations girls and thank you to Mrs Rust for all her work with the weekly quiz sessions.

Junior Team: Sophia Keogh, Alesha McKeever, Molly Keenan, Emily Callan, Holly Kirkpatrick.

Senior Team: Eve Rogers Corbally, Emma Colreavy, Kate McCormack, Eimear Callaghan, Róisín Kerr.

Green-Schools News



We are working on our 11th Green Flag theme ~ Global Citizenship: Travel.

From our first travel survey we discovered that a very high percentage of pupils arrive at Scoil Mhuire na Trócaire in a car.

We want to encourage everyone to walk to school not just on WOW days (Walk on Wednesday) but every day.

If you live too far away from school to walk all the way here we want you to leave the car down the town and walk the rest of the way to school, we call it Park and Stride.



CHILD PROTECTION POLICIES & PROCEDURES



- Our Board of Management has conducted the annual review of our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.
- Our Child Safeguarding Statement is available on our website and a copy is available on request.
- Our Designated Liaison person (DLP) is Mrs Sweeney and our Deputy DLP is Mrs Kirby.
- As part of our SPHE programme (Social, Personal & Health Education) we cover RSE (Relationships and Sexuality Education) and the Stay Safe Programme. You can go to www.staysafe.ie for further details.
- We are also implementing the "Friends for Life" programme. Mrs Kirby and Ms Haughian are trained facilitators for this programme which promotes resilience, self-coping strategies and general emotional well-being.

INTERNET SAFETY



Classes covered on-line safety and cyber bullying as part of our recent Stay Safe Lessons in SPHE and for Internet Safety Day.

Last week Ms McKenna's 4th/5th class presented an excellent assembly on the theme of on-line safety and they clearly conveyed the messages STOP-BLOCK-TELL in words, songs and a catchy rap.

Speak to your child about her on-line use. It is best to do this in a calm and open manner so that they are re-assured that it is ok to chat to you about any worries or unusual behaviour that may be happening on-line. It is important that children only contact people online that they know in the real world and that you monitor their devices regularly.



WORLD BOOK DAY



We're all looking forward to our World Book Day celebrations this week.

- On Wednesday, **author Ruth Campbell** will visit our school to read with Senior Infants, 1st classes and 3rd class.
- Guess Who's Reading!** Teachers and staff have taken "obscure" photos of themselves reading and pupils have to guess the teacher. There will be prizes.
- 2nd class will visit Ardee library on Thursday where the **author Gillian Pendue** will read to them.
- Big Book Breakfast for Junior Infants:-** Junior Infants will enjoy breakfast in our school hall at 9.30am on Thursday - orange juice, cereals and toast will be on the menu followed by story time.
- Mother Tongue Time:** Children from other countries will bring in a book in their native language/mother tongue to show to the class. They will also read extracts and translate to promote an appreciation of different languages and cultures.
- All classes are invited to **dress up as a favourite book character** and we look forward to seeing teachers' costumes too!
- We'll also have art displays of favourite book characters as well as paired reading between older and younger classes and DEAR time (**D**rop **E**verything **A**nd **R**ead).



It promises to be a great celebration of books and reading.



PARENTS' ASSOCIATION NEWS

Thanks you for your on-going support for our monthly fundraisers. The recent Board Game Day and Damhsa Dearg were much enjoyed.

Our fundraisers for the next few months are:-

- March Fundraiser:** Paddy McShamrock - all families are reminded that orders need to be in for this Wednesday.
- April Fundraiser:** Mad Hatter Hair Day
- May Fundraiser:** Annual Sponsored Walk
- June Fundraiser:** Shorts and Shades Day



St Patricks Day Parade: We plan on entering this year's parade and will be inviting pupils from 3rd & 4th classes to volunteer to represent our school.



Scoil Mhuire na Trócaire School Calendar 2019/2020



We're Going Back To School



Back to school	Re-open	Thursday 29 th August 2019
Mid-Term Break	School Closed	Monday 28 th October – Friday 1 st November 2019 (inclusive)
	School Re-opens	Monday 4 th November 2019
Christmas Holidays	School Closing at 12.20pm	Friday 20 th December 2019
	School Re-opens	Tuesday 7 th January 2020
Mid-Term Break	School Closed	Thursday 20 th & Friday 21 st February 2020
	School Re-opens	Monday 24 th February 2020
St. Patrick's Day	School Closed	Monday 16 th & Tuesday 17 th March 2020
Easter Holidays	School Closing at 12.20pm	Friday 3 rd April 2020
	School Re-opens	Monday 20 th April 2020
May Bank Holiday	School Closed	Monday 4 th May 2020
June Bank Holiday	School Closed	Friday 29 th May & Monday 1 st June 2020
Summer Holidays	School Closing at 12.20pm	Thursday 25 th June 2020

