Scoil Ghráinne CNS Newsletter

**September, 2016**

**Junior Infants** have settled in really well and are learning all about playing together nicely in the yard and getting along in You Can Do It. They have also been learning about ‘myself’ and ‘when we were babies’. Welcome to Scoil Ghráinne Junior Infants!

**Senior Infants** are delighted to be back in school. In Seomra Dearg we have been reading about The Little Red Hen and learning all about the farm. We even became farmers ourselves and grew our own cress seeds. In Seomra Corcra we read about Zog the alien. We designed and created our own clay aliens too. In Seomra Oráiste we read about and went on The Train Ride. We have had fun learning all about train journeys and we even constructed our very own trains.

**Croí**   
Seomra Glas have been learning all about dogs and trees this month. We had a special visit from Ryan's mum, his brother Darragh, and their dog Zana. We all enjoyed seeing Zana do her tricks!

**First Class** First class are so excited to be back at school. We have been learning about the life cycle of a frog, so we painted frog pictures using Pointillism. We read the story “When we were Giants” about the human life cycle. We went on a walk to examine the different types of homes and houses. We have started doing Mental Maths every morning to keep our brains sharp and we are really enjoying our Daily 5 activities in reading. We were learning about Mé Féin in Gaeilge. We are working so hard!

**Second class**! The children in 2nd Class have settled in very well to the new school year! This month the boys and girls have been very busy learning about the theme of 'myself'. The children created timelines of their lives to date, identifying important milestones in their lives and their many accomplishments. The boys and girls enjoyed sharing some of their baby photographs with their classes.  They also shared some interesting stories and facts that they learned about themselves, after interviewing their parents.

**Third class** had an exciting visit from the Fire Brigade! They were called away to an emergency right in the middle of the lesson! The children have also been painting self-portraits and taking their finger prints and examining how unique each child is.

**LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all the new families and staff members that have joined Scoil Ghráinne this year. The school has grown steadily over the past 8 years and now in our 9th year of operation we have 678 children representing 61 different Nationalities and more than 20 religious backgrounds.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of our teaching and non-teaching staff for helping the new school year to get off to a terrific and smooth start.

Scoil Ghráinne CNS had many great successes last year. We received accreditation as a ‘Digital School of Distinction’ for all of our work relating to the use of digital media in our school. I would like to thank the E-Learning committee and all members of staff who helped to make this possible.

We also received recognition as a school that recognises and celebrates the diversity within our school community. This was achieved through the ‘Yellow Flag’ programme. Again I would like to thank Ms Jenny Gallagher and all of the staff members, parents and children who were a part of the Yellow Flag Committee.

We have great plans for this academic year too. We’ll keep you posted throughout the year. Please keep an eye on our school website for updates, class blogs and upcoming events. [www.scoilghrainnecns.ie](http://www.scoilghrainnecns.ie)

Many thanks,

Ken Scully

**Dates to remember**

**Midterm Break**: School Closes for midterm break Friday October 28th and re-opens Monday November 7th.

*A Special Thanks to Doireann's mum Aisling for the donation of books to the school.*



Ms. Bonnie

Introducing Ms. Ciara Bonnie Before her life working as an SNA Ms. Bonnie was a pre-school teacher in a crèche for 2 years. She has also worked in a bank and was a manager in brown Thomas. Ms. Bonnie has a diploma in childcare and Education. Ms. Bonnie loves to travel and has travelled to many different countries. This year she visited Croatia. She has also been to Mexico, New York, Budapest, Prague, Thailand. She enjoyed Thailand so much, she went back again! When she was 21 Ms. Bonnie moved to Australia for a year. She worked in an architect’s office and had an amazing time travelling the east coast of Australia where she snorkelled on the Great Barrier Reef. While travelling, she swam with dolphins, rode on an elephants back and ate scorpion and kangaroo! Yuck! Ms. Bonnie also loves travelling around Ireland and doing outdoor activities like climbing mountains. At home, she has a pet dog called Missy and a bird named Joey. Ms. Bonnie gets involved in lots of activities in Scoil Ghráinne as well as her roll as SNA she has coached the basketball team and is now trying her hand at the girls GAA team. Ms. Bonnie is on the social committee and enjoys organising activities and trips. She has organised some really fun team building activities for the staff. Ms. Bonnie’s main hobby is going to the gym. She loves to keep fit and has been known to encourage other staff members to take part in gym challenges! The children who Ms. Bonnie works with are so fond of her, she’s like the big sister they all want and the staff call Ms. Bonnie “BonBon” because she is so sweet.

**Fourth Class** were doing the body in science - looking at muscles and bones. We were also looking at sketching in Art, drawing fruit and musical instruments using shading techniques.

**Fifth Class** have been busy getting back into our new school year routine! We have been learning all about ourselves and our families. We discussed our likes and our dislikes, our goals for the year and what we would like to achieve. In science we built series and parallel circuits and learned all about conductors, insulators and circuits. We learned about schools in the past and made creative projects to display what we had learned. In geography we leaned about tectonic plates and different types of rocks. We've had a busy September in 5th class!

**Sixth Class** have been doing a bit of work on the local area. We were examining industries in the local area as well as tourism. We designed posters and brochures to get people into the Dublin 15 area. We also did investigations on how the local area is being polluted and changed.

**Eid Mubarak!**

Some of the boys and girls in Scoil Ghrainne were celebrating Eid-al-adha last month. This is a very important festival in the calendar of our Islamic community. We wish them all Eid Mubarak!

