



Scoil Ghráinne CNS Newsletter

February, 2019

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As many of you will be aware, Scoil Ghráinne was subject to a **Whole-School Evaluation** by the Inspectorate division of the Department of Education during early December 2018. We are extremely pleased with the findings of the report and the recommendations that have been made. It is a true testament to the diligence and hard-working staff members here in our school. If you are interested in reading the full report please visit our school website www.scoilghrainnecns.ie

Mother Hubbard's pre-school and crèche have contacted the school in relation to parents parking outside their establishment especially at collection times (1:30 and 2:30). We would kindly request for parents to avoid parking outside Mother Hubbards as it hinders their access and can place some of their children at risk.

Early collection from school: In all cases where a child needs to be collected early from school parents must write a note to the class teacher. Please also note that should you arrive to pick up your child during break-time that you may have to wait for your child.

10 Year Celebration: Scoil Ghráinne is celebrating its 10th year in existence. In order to mark this milestone the school will be putting on a show called 'Gráinne - This is Us' on Thursday the 4th of April. The show will take place in the Community Centre hall and all children from 3rd to 6th class will be performing. Tickets for this event will be going on sale soon. More information to follow.

Many thanks,
Ken Scully

DATES TO REMEMBER

School Closure: School will be closed Monday March 18th for St. Patrick's weekend.

Literacy Week: Monday March 4th - Friday March 8th

Seachtain Na Gaeilge: Monday March 11th - Friday March 15th

Easter Break: School closes Friday April 12th @ 12 and will reopen Monday April 29th.

Junior Infants have been learning about 3D shapes in maths. Our role play area was The Construction Site and we made houses from junk art. We read the story of the Three Little Pigs and created art out of materials. This month we had a clothes shop as our role play area and we read 'The Smartest Giant in Town'. It was fun dressing dolls and making clothes. In science we tested materials to see if they were water proof. We also kept a weather diary and went on 'weather walks'. In SPHE we discussed people who keep us safe.

Senior Infants have been very busy learning about the number 9. We are fantastic at explaining what 9 is the same as and also what two numbers altogether make 9. In Gaeilge we learned about éadaí and Cochailín Dearg. We have been doing Gymnastics in PE and love practicing and experimenting with balances using small and big body parts

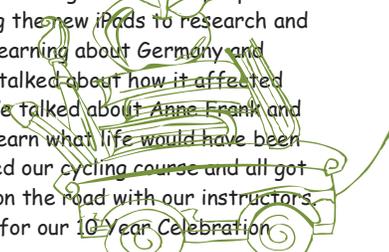
Ms. Winter's have been learning all about the clothes we wear. We even designed our own hats. And we've had lots of fun doing gymnastics in PE

First Class This month we have been exploring really exciting Fairy tales. We have been reading stories and doing dramas in class. We have made Fairy-tale castles with 2D shapes using lots of different colours as we have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes in Maths. We were learning about Éadaí in Gaeilge and have learned lots of new words and phrases. We have learned about Sound such as what instruments makes high or low sounds. We have examined and listened to instruments all around the world! Finally we discussed our favourite toys and described them for the class. Then we compared our toys to toys in the past such as toys our grandparents would have had when they were children! We had so much fun in First Class this month

Second class Spring has certainly sprung in Second Class! We had a lovely week off and we are now enjoying the fantastic weather by doing P.E outside. We also spent this week painting some colourful spring scenes. We have been learning about time this month and can now tell the time using half past, quarter past and quarter to. We are beginning to write narratives too. We are coming up with some very imaginative stories!

Third class have been learning about fractions and decimals in maths. We had great fun learning lots about the Vikings and we painted our very own Viking long ships! We've practised our writing skills, writing reports and diary entries. We loved making Valentine's Day art such as cards for our friends and families. We are really looking forward to the new term ahead and all the fun we are going to have!

Fourth Class this month have been learning about different countries around the world. We started looking at New Zealand and learned about the indigenous Maori people. We created some projects using the new iPads to research and create. We have also been learning about Germany and studied World War II. We talked about how it affected people all over the world. We talked about Anne Frank and the diary that she kept to learn what life would have been like for her. We also finished our cycling course and all got the chance to practice out on the road with our instructors. We are busy now preparing for our 10 Year Celebration concert!





Fifth class have started learning about World War I. We have been looking at what it was like to fight in the trenches. Trench warfare was pretty horrible! Many of the troops were forced to sleep, eat, and even live in the trenches as war raged all around them.

Sixth class this month we have been learning about Irish saints and scholars and some of the physical features of Ireland. We have also been identifying countries and capital cities in Europe. We enjoyed finishing our class novels and are busy drafting and redrafting our narrative stories in English. We are learning some new vocabulary and phrases relating to 'an aimsir' in Gaeilge. We are also really enjoying our GAA and rugby coaching, and playing different games in PE.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Scoil Ghráinne Literacy Week

Next Monday March we will be celebrating everything to do with books and reading. With our beautiful new library now up and running, the children have been enjoying our huge selection of books. It has been great to see them get such enjoyment out of it. We want to encourage them to read as much as possible. We should all work together to promote a love of reading in our children. There will be a chance to 'dress up as a favourite book character' on **World Book Day March 7th**. We will hold some fun competitions throughout the week. Our very popular book fair is returning to our school and this year you can use your €1.50 book voucher that every child in the school gets! Please join us in encouraging your children to put down the TV remote, limit the screen time, pick up a book, and READ READ READ!!

Seachtaine na Gaeilge

From the 11th - 15th of March, Scoil Ghráinne will be having our traditional Seachtain na Gaeilge celebrations. Many activities through the Irish language will be arranged for all the children during this special week. Our wider community will be also be involved when students from transition year in Coláiste Pobail Setanta will be arranging a table quiz in Irish and teaching some of the children some traditional Irish dances. There will also be a Lá Glas celebration where parents will be invited to enjoy performances by some of the children in the school. Beidh Scoil Ghráinne ag ceiliúradh Seachtain na Gaeilge ón 11ú - 15ú Márta. Beidh cuid mhór imeachtaí ar siúl i rith na seachtaine speisialta seo do na páistí go léir. Beidh dáilte ó Choláiste Pobail Setanta ag teacht chuig ár scoil chun damhsa Gaelach agus tráth na gceist a dhéanamh le cuid de na páistí. Freisin, beidh taispeántais ar siúl i rith Lá Glas le linn na seachtaine agus beidh fáilte roimh na túismitheoirí uilig.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

We would like to thank all who contributed to the Non-Uniform day before mid-term break. These much needed funds will go towards the cost of blinds for the school hall which we are in the process of fundraising for. It was decided that we would alternate each month from morning to evening meetings and it will be reviewed at the end of the school year. Our next PA meeting will be an evening meeting on Monday 11th March 7-8pm in the staff room. All are welcome to attend. The PA can be contacted at the following address: scoilghrainnepa@gmail.com



Ms. Kealey

Introducing Fintina Kealey! This is only Ms. Kealey's second year teaching with us at Scoil Ghráinne and already, she is a big part of our family. Last year Ms. Kealey taught 2nd class and this year, you can find her jumping around and singing with our Junior Infants! Ms. Kealey is originally from Meath. She moved up to Dublin to study education in St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra. She has two sisters, Ann Marie and Emily. Ms. Kealey loves animals and has had lots of pets in the past, including three sheep, dogs, rabbits, fish, a cow and now she owns two horses, Rosie and Carnisle. Ms. Kealey is very sporty and follows GAA. She says she supports 'the royal county'! She also plays camogie for her local club and plays badminton in her spare time. Ms. Kealey loves to bake and enjoys anything to do with outdoor activities. Her favourite subjects to teach are Gaeilge and PE. She hasn't travelled to as many places as she'd have liked yet, but she has visited Athens and the Greek islands last summer and she has also been to Budapest, London, Lausanne, and Barcelona. Ms. Kealey is fantastic with the children. She is full of energy and has an infectious smile. She spends lots of one on one time with any of the children who need it. Ms. Kealey is up for any challenge this job brings. She is so helpful and kind, the children love to be around her, as do the staff!