



Scoil Ghráinne CNS Newsletter January, 2020

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Many parents have downloaded the **Aladdin Connect App** to date but we are keen that as many families as possible will sign-up to use this. Going forward the Aladdin Connect App will be the main method of communication between Scoil Ghráinne and all families.

Using the App! - You can view your child's attendance and submit absence reasons. The full school calendar is available at your fingertips. You have access to standardised test results and all previous school report cards. From 2020 you will be able to schedule your parent-teacher meetings using the App. If you haven't downloaded the App yet please do as soon as possible and if you are experiencing any difficulties please inform the office without delay as we'd be more than happy to help.

Later this week we will welcome community Garda Rosanna McCaul who will be giving Internet Safety talks to our 5th class children.

Many thanks,

Ken Scully

Dates for you diary:

February Mid-term break: School closes at 2:30 pm on Friday 14th February and reopens on Monday 24th February

Dress in Red, Pink or White: PA fundraiser. Children can wear their own clothes to school on Friday 14th February to mark St. Valentine's Day. €2 contribution per child.

Junior Infants We have been learning all about the 'Construction Site'. In Aistear, we learned all about the jobs that a builder and an architect do. They are definitely kept busy! We talked about the many different houses that we live in and we now know what a semi-detached house, detached house and apartment look like. We really enjoyed reading the story of the Three Little Pigs. We love learning different sounds in Jolly Phonics

Senior Infants Our Aistear area this month was The Train Station! We were learning about transport and the different types. We read the story 'The Train Ride' and we did some role play in our classes. We've been doing a bit of gymnastics in PE and we are learning how to roll and tumble.

Croí Ms. Winter's have been learning all about transport and set up a train station in croí, we love Aistear time. Next week we will go to a real train station. We went to the National Sports Campus and did gymnastics we had so much fun and can't wait for next week.

This month Ms. McPartlan's class have been learning about transport and tasting new fruit and vegetables with Food Dudes. Our class have enjoyed delivering the Food Dudes packs around the school. We are lucky to be attending the National Sports Campus weekly with two trainers. We've been making big improvements in our gymnastics skills. We're looking forward to ending the month with a trip on the train!

First Class Since the winter break first class have been learning about light and the New Year. We had fun talking about our New Year's resolutions and talked about what we would like to get better at in school. In geography, we have been discussing maps and how they help us. We really enjoyed drawing aerial views of our classroom. We are focusing on getting along this term and how it is important to be kind to everyone in our classroom!

Second Class have been learning all about the space this month. We have learned the names of the planets in our solar system and we learned about the first moon landing 51 years ago. We listened to audio recordings and watched video footage of the event. We have also been learning about desert habitats and the amazing animals who live there. In Maths we have been working hard on a new concept - subtraction with renaming. It's very challenging but we're determined to master it

Third class have been busy learning all about the Vikings and their journey around the world. We made our very own Viking ships in Art! In Maths, we are learning how to divide and share things equally. We are writing a lot in class and planning interesting narrative stories.

Fourth Class have been learning all about New Zealand and the Maori people. In art we had the opportunity to make Maori jewelry from clay and create Maori masks, we're looking forward to bringing these home! We finished our cycling course with the RSA and the students were proud to receive their certificates, the course was great fun but also taught us a lot about being safe when cycling. One of our favourite moments was the 'Hour of Code' programming days, it was great fun to learn about how coding works and code our own games

Fifth class are learning all about ancient Egypt. We are researching the life of the Egyptians, examining different artefacts and we have started working on projects, looking at how they lived at this time. We have begun narrative writing in English, where we are learning how to tell and write a story. We are also writing our own story together as a whole class. We have constructed houses in art and we are learning lots of new vocabulary and phrases about where we live in Gaeilge. We have discussed our intentions for the New Year and what we can do to achieve these goals.

Sixth class An mhí seo bhí na buachaillí agus na cailíní gnóthach i Rang a sé ag foghlaim faoin téama: "Sa bhaile" i nGaeilge. The children have begun the process of writing narratives in English and they have been exploring fractions, decimals and percentages in Maths. They have been learning about inventors and inventions in History, famous contributors to science in Science and natural features of the environment in Geography. The boys and girls have also been developing their gymnastics' skills in PE.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who sourced/donated prizes for our Winter Raffle in December and especially everyone who bought a ticket. Once again, it was a huge success and your support is greatly appreciated.

The PA will be hosting a number of NPC courses which cover a range of topics over the coming months. Dates to be confirmed in the coming weeks. All details will be posted on Facebook.

Our next PA meeting will be held Friday 28th February, at 9.00am in the staff room. We hope to see you there.

The PA can be contacted at the following address:
scoilghrainnepa@gmail.com



Ms. Boyle

Introducing Ms. Ruth Boyle! You see her every day working hard in the office and answering the phones. Ruth is our school secretary along with June. Ruth is originally from the UK but she has lived here in Ireland for almost 17 years! Ruth lives with her three daughters, two of whom are twins! Before this job as school secretary in Scoil Ghráinne she used to work in banking as a fraud analyst. Ruth has a degree in philosophy from Kent University, which comes in handy in such a diverse school. Ruth's loves to keep fit and healthy. She enjoys running, yoga and also jiu jitsu! Ruth's favourite distance to run is a half marathon and she has completed many of these. Ruth loves socialising with her friends. She loves to dance! She is always the first one out and the dance floor with loads of energy. She is also learning how to ride a unicycle! Ruth has worked with us for almost three years now and she says it is by far the most enjoyable job she has had! Ruth always makes time to chat to the children, they absolutely love her! She is just so helpful and friendly to all the parents and staff alike. We don't know what we would do without her!