



LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are delighted to have all our pupils back to school. There are some small changes with starting and finishing times. We apologise to those families with a number of children, coming and going at different times, who may find this challenging, but it is working well in terms of stopping the large congregation at the gate. Please try and arrive at your designated time. We look forward to a final term when we can enjoy the outdoors hopefully with all our classes. We would like to develop our outdoor areas and if you are available or interested in volunteering to help with gardening/landscaping / painting etc you could contact the office.

You will be asked to complete a declaration for your child before they return in April. This is mandatory for every school. I wish you all an enjoyable Spring break and good health to all. At this time of year, I realise that I have so much to be grateful for as Principal of this school. I thank the parents, Board of Management, Parents Association, Staff and of course, their children for your continued support and collaboration. As a staff, we are glad of the break and endeavour to come back reenergised for an exciting third term.

DATES TO REMEMBER

EASTER BREAK:

Pupils who begin school at 8:50am will go home on Friday 26th at 11:50 (1st & 2nd, 5th and 6th) all others will go home at 12:00 on Friday 26th of March. School will re-open on Monday April 12th

Junior Infants have been very busy since they came back to school. We had fun reading Jack and the Beanstalk and The Train Ride and we've been learning the nursery rhymes Little Bo Peep and Hey Diddle Diddle. Bhíomar ag foghalim faoi Lá Fhéile Pádraig agus an aimsir, sa Ghaeilge. In Maths, we were learning all about length and we were busy sorting collections and making patterns. We planted some seeds and learned all about parts of the plant. We enjoyed doing art for St. Patrick's Day and Easter. We are so happy to be back at school!

Senior Infants have been so busy since returning to school. We are delighted to be back and have been working so hard. We have started Daily 4 which is very exciting. We have four literacy stations: Read with teacher, word work, work on writing and listening to reading. The children are reading each night at home, practicing their tricky words, and are learning word attack strategies. Our Aistear theme is the Zoo and the children have been having lots of fun playing with the animals in small world, visiting the zoo and taking care on the animals in role play, painting zoo animals in creative area, and writing a letter to the zoo in our literacy station. In maths we have been learning about weight and have learned new maths words such as heavier, lighter, heaviest, lightest and balance. In Gaeilge we have been learning about Sa Bhaile. In PE we have been working on mobility and balance with Erin Go Bragh Live lesson and taking part in the 'Run around Ireland'.

First class Welcome back! The children in first class have been super stars both on SeeSaw and back at school. We have been planting seeds, doing lots of art and running laps for 'Run Around Ireland'. We were learning about Spring flowers and baby animals. In maths we were learning about the Hundred Square and in English we have been learning about Opposites. We are looking forward to our break and to returning to school in 2 weeks!

Second class have been learning all about Homes. In Geography, we looked at different houses around the world. For example, in Switzerland most houses are made of wood and have sloped roofs so the snow can fall off easily. In Science, we learned about how electricity is used to power appliances, and how we can stay safe around electricity at home. In Art we created Silly Cities, inspired by the paintings of James Rizzi. We also had lots of fun celebrating Lá Glas! You can check out our 'Haka Gaelach' on Seesaw!

Ms Kavanagh's class We are so happy to be back to school in Room 1. We have been settling back into routine and learning all about Spring. We have been planting sunflowers and learning all about the farm in Aistear. We love relaxing in our new sensory room and exercising on the trampoline. We hope everyone has a lovely break!

Ms. McPartlan's Class have had a fantastic month back in school. During March we learned lots about seasonal changes, we noticed lots of signs of Spring and we celebrated St. Patrick's Day at school. Room 2 have especially enjoyed one-to-one art lessons and we have made beautiful colourful paintings this month. We also made sock bunnies filled with rice which would be a great activity for everyone to try at home. Have a lovely Easter break!

Third class have been super busy for all of the girls and boys in Rang a Trí. We began working online from home on Seesaw, but we were all very happy to get back to school! We were working hard on Procedural writing activities, adding and subtracting money and learnt loads of new things about the Vikings and Norse Mythology. We welcomed 'Seachtaine na Gaeilge', where we participated in lots of fun activities 'as gaeilge' such as, PE, scavenger hunts and music lessons. We also learnt about St Patrick and created Shamrock art to celebrate our national holiday 'St Patrick's day'. We also learnt about Easter traditions around the world, Easter symbols and made sock Easter Bunnies for art. We have really enjoyed our time back in school and are looking forward to term three already!

Fourth class are excited to be back in school! We are trying to spend as much time as possible outside, so we are delighted that Mr Quilty has set us the "Run around Ireland" challenge. Our cycling safety course has recommenced which is very enjoyable, especially in this fine weather. In maths we are learning about decimals and focusing on revision. In the Stay Safe programme, we are focusing on Feeling Safe and Unsafe. We hope everyone has a nice 2 weeks off. .

Fifth class had fun settling back to school after lockdown. We participated in lots of fun activities such nature walks as Gaeilge, classroom exercises and meditation. Mr Garvey's class also enjoyed some baking as Gaeilge! We revised some maths topics and have been practising our long multiplication and division. We have started to look at examples of narrative writing in English. We have been using our atlases in Geography and have been exploring the different rivers of Ireland. We are looking forward to the next term after Easter.

Sixth class Rang a Sé class are delighted to be back seeing their friends every day after putting in some great work on Seesaw during lockdown. In English we are working hard on Explanation Writing activities, whilst our maths brains were working overtime on Fractions, Decimals and Percentages. We loved making decorations and dressing up for Lá Glas as part of our St Patrick's Day and Seachtain na Gaeilge celebrations. Rinneamar iarracht mhór chun Gaeilge a labhairt i rith an lae! We have been studying Irish history and the 1916 Rising in particular. We can't believe it's Easter already and are looking forward to our final ever term in Scoil Ghráinne!!!

PARENTS ASSOCIATION NEWS

Although our Parents Association have not been able to do much in the current climate, they still managed to provide funding for a complete collection of books for the GMGY programme for the whole school and for a new Aquarium. They also sponsored the renovation of the Croi classrooms. Thanks PA!!



MS. ORLA MCDANIEL

Introducing Orla McDaniel! Ms. Mc Daniel studied for four years as an undergrad in St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra. Ms. McDaniel is currently doing a Masters in Special Education and Additional Learning Needs with the University of East London. There are four people in her family, her mam Joanne, her dad Tommy and her brother Conor. They also have a black Labrador called Jessie. Ms. McDaniel is very proud to hail from Carraroe, Co Sligo! When she is not teaching or studying, Ms. McDaniel likes to go cycling, enjoys reading lots of books, loves to play and watch GAA. She also loves Music of any kind. In fact she is a huge West Life fan!

Like most of our staff, Ms. McDaniel loves to travel. After college, she lived in New York for a year. She then taught KG2 (Senior Infants) in Abu Dhabi for a year. She has travelled to Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Beirut, Oman, Bahrain, the West coast of the US, Canada, Mexico and interrailed all around Europe. Wow! She has seen a lot of very interesting places! Above all, she loves spending time at home, in Sligo with her friends and family. This summer, she hopes to do more staycations in the south of Ireland. Ms. McDaniel has lived in Dublin for seven years now. Here in Scoil Ghráinne, she teaches 3rd class. Her favourite subject to teach is SESE (History, Science and Geography). Ms. McDainiel also does GAA, book club and tag rugby with the children after school (pre-covid). It's no surprise then, that Ms. McDaniels is a member of active schools committee! She stayed back to help re-organise the whole library at the end of last year. That's just the type of thing she does. Ms. McDaniel is such a warm teacher, she is fantastic with all the children around the school. She is always offering to help and always has a friendly ear to listen.