

Scoil Ghráinne CNS Newsletter

March/April, 2017

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Guardians,

There were a great deal of activities taking place in Scoil Ghráinne CNS during March and April. During March the Catholic children from 6th class made their Confirmation, our school quiz team reached the National final of the Credit Union Quiz, swimming in Mainstream classes and in Croí commenced in the National Aquatic Centre and in Aura DePaul swimming pools. We celebrated 'Seachtain na Gaeilge' and we really enjoyed our Spring performances.

During the Easter break Scoil Ghráinne had Wi-Fi installed in the school. We are awaiting the final connections but we hope to use technology as a tool to enhance teaching and learning over the coming months.

Next Wednesday the 10th of May Scoil Ghráinne will be having an in-service day. The Department of Education is providing training for all primary schools in the country on the introduction of a new Primary language Curriculum which will be introduced on a phased basis over the coming years. Therefore, the school will be closed next Wednesday.

Scoil Ghráinne is in the process of establishing a Board of Management. This is a very welcome departure for Community National Schools nationwide and we look forward to its establishment. The Board will consist of 2 Patrons representatives, the school principal and one other teacher representative. 2 community representatives and 2 parent representatives. The nominations and elections of the parents' representatives will take place in the school hall at 9 am on Tuesday the 9th of May. Everyone is welcome and please note that you must be present at the meeting to cast your vote.

Many thanks,
Ken Scully

DATES TO REMEMBER

Anti-Bullying week: Monday May 22nd - Friday May 26th

June Mid-term break: School closed Monday June 5th and Tuesday June 6th

School Tours: Week of June 12th

Junior Infants were learning about Transport before the Easter break. We played in the Airport during Aistear time and some of us even made our own passports! Now we are learning about People who Help Us and we have our own doctors surgery in our classrooms. We had our last GAA session and we would like to thank Paul from Erin Go Bragh for teaching us all the new skills. We'll be ready for Croke Park in no time!

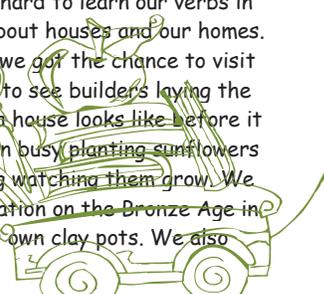
Senior Infants were learning about Spring and the new life that arrives during Spring. We discussed the new baby animals that are born, the flowers that shoot out of the ground and the change to the weather. We have been doing Athletics during PE to prepare for our Active Week coming soon. We learned all about new life in our families and how we need to take special care of babies when they are born. In Gaeilge we are learning about the theme of "ag siopadorieacht" (shopping) and have been 'ag ceannach' new things in our class shops!

Croí Ms Ryan's class had a very productive fortnight with Ms. Carrick as their teacher. They learned about different types of bugs, and sewed lots of seeds. The students worked very hard last week doing their standardised tests. In Ms. Egan's class we've been reading the story The Very Hungry Caterpillar. We have been learning the names for all the fruits. And we have been learning all about animals and their young.

First Class had so much fun doing their Spring performances. Our theme was The Jungle and we made art associated with our theme. We planted seeds and learned about farming. We worked so hard this month doing our standardised tests. This was our first time doing a test and we all tried really hard and did our best. We were exhausted after it!

Second class have been learning about the Arctic and Antarctic. We are really enjoying learning about polar bears and penguins and have learned some fascinating facts. Using clay, we made polar animals and igloos. They look great and the children are looking forward to painting them! Over the next couple of days, we will be planting their lettuce in the school garden. Keep an eye out for them!!

Third class have been trying very hard to learn our verbs in Irish. We have also been talking about houses and our homes. We were very lucky this month as we got the chance to visit a building site. We got the chance to see builders laying the foundations for a house and what a house looks like before it is furnished. In SESE we have been busy planting sunflowers and peas. It has been very exciting watching them grow. We have also been researching information on the Bronze Age in history and designed and made our own clay pots. We also learned about Light this month.



Fourth Class have been looking at the Celts. We've been learning about their pastimes and clothing. We also learned that the Celts were very creative and that much of their work has influenced modern day artists. We studied their intertwining designs and created our own in Art based on Celtic designs

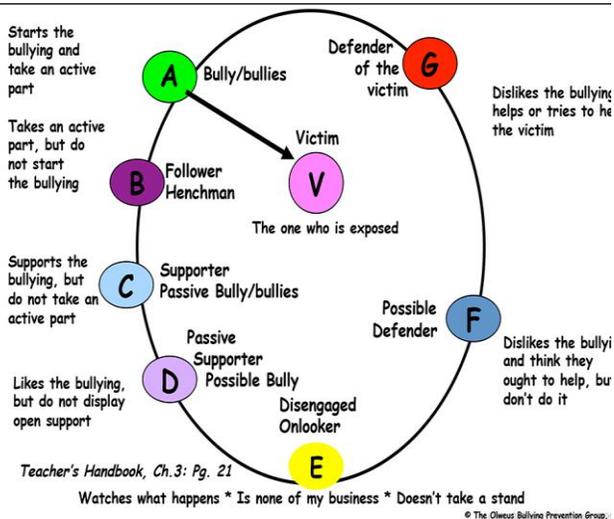
Fifth class had great fun doing their spring performance. We all performed songs from The Lion King. We made masks and lots of art work for the performance and we wore our jungle themed clothes. Our theme was transport and communication. We learned about material in science.

Sixth Class have been learning a bit about the European Union and Greece in particular. We learned that Ireland joined the EU in 1973! In art, some of the classes have been using pictures and trying to mix colours to match the colours in the picture. Others have been using clay to create Greek statues.

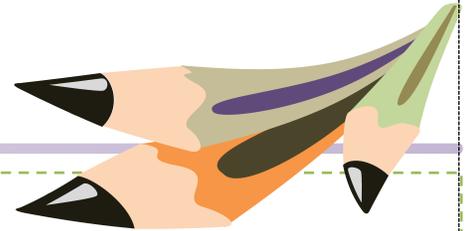
ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

We are holding an Anti-bullying week beginning May 22nd. This is a really important issue that effects everyone. You can help at home by familiarising yourself with what bullying is and having a chat with your children about it. Bullying is a repeated behaviour, when a child is treated differently under any of the nine grounds. The Equal Status Act bans discrimination across nine grounds. They are as follows: 1) Gender 2) Family Status 3) Civil Status 4) Age 5) Sexual Orientation 6) Race 7) Religion 8) Disability 9) Membership of the Travelling Community. There are different roles children take in a bullying situation. We call it 'The Bully Circle'.

The Bullying Circle



Encourage your children to be a hero and chose to be The Defender!



Ms. Egan

Introducing Ms. Caitriona Egan. Ms. Egan originally studied music and English at Trinity College. She lived in Edinburgh for a year, where she completed her Masters in English literature. She then came back to Ireland to qualify as a teacher from St. Patrick's College. Ms. Egan is currently doing a postgrad in Special Education. Ms. Egan is a Galway girl, she grew up in the country but her family live in Salthill now. Ms. Egan's great grandmother was also a teacher, and her brother married another teacher! Ms. Egan plays the double bass and was a member of the Irish Youth Orchestra for six years. Ms. Egan loves reading. She has set herself a challenge to read 20 books this year! Ms. Egan is table quiz enthusiast and loves going to quizzes, she goes to a quiz at least twice a week. Her favourite round is always movies. Like most of our staff, Ms. Egan has the travel bug and she loves going to new places. She's travelled to India, Australia, and lots of places in Europe, Iceland, Spain, France, Austria, Germany, Czech Republic. She had an amazing experience doing a 2-day trek in the Himalayas. One of her favourite countries to visit is Italy...mostly because she enjoys the food and wine so much! Ms. Egan loves working in Scoil Ghraíne. She is such a positive and friendly person to work with. She is an inspiration to us all with her work in Croí. She leads a fantastic, supportive team, with two classes of amazing kids. She makes it a happy place to go every day.