



## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I find it hard to believe that we are at the end of May already, the school year has absolutely flown by.

### Official Opening of our New School Library:

We were delighted to have the official opening of our new school library. It looks absolutely fabulous. The children will be able to borrow books from the library from September onward. I'd like to thank the numerous people that were involved in this massive project.

### Wearing of shorts during the good weather:

Please feel free to send your child into school in shorts when the weather is fine. Your child must still wear their tracksuit polo shirt. If possible, please try to send your child in dark coloured shorts (preferably black or dark blue) and please ensure that the shorts are long enough (an inch or two above the knee would be ideal). Grants school uniform providers will be in the school on Thursday the 7<sup>th</sup> and Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> of June from 1 pm to 4 pm. Along with the new school tracksuit another addition is a pair of school shorts. From next year onward the only shorts permitted will be school shorts.

### Access to the school building:

In the interest of the Health, Safety and Security of all the children in the school we would ask that all visitors to the school report to the school office upon arrival. Please do not enter the building without checking with reception. Under no circumstances should a parent or visitor make their way to their child's class during the school day.

As school begins to wind down towards the summer break, I would like to thank you all for your continued support for our school. On behalf of the whole staff I would like to wish you all a very pleasant summer break and we look forward to seeing you all again at the end of August.

Many thanks,

Ken Scully

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Teacher Training Day: Friday June 1<sup>st</sup>.

June Bank Holiday weekend: School closed - Monday June 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday June 5<sup>th</sup>

Summer Break: School closes Friday June 29<sup>th</sup> @12.

**Junior Infants** our theme this month is summer time and our play area is 'The Ice-Cream Parlour'. We were making smoothies and painting pictures of our favourite flavour ice-creams. We are revising all our sounds and tricky words at the moment and need lots of help at home to make sure we are all ready for senior infants. We really enjoyed watching the puppet show in the hall!

**Senior Infants** In Seomra Dearg we read Sharing a Shell by Julia Donaldson. We experimented with things that mix with water and some things that don't mix. We even made a homemade Lava Lamp using water, oil, food colouring and Alka Seltzer tablets! During Art we learned about Jackson Pollock and got messy making one of his splash paintings! In Seomra Oraiste we have been reading the story 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch'. In geography we have been learning about the seaside. We listened to the sounds of the seaside. In Science we made butter using cream. In Seomra Corcra, we were reading Snow White and the Enormous Turnip. We learned about different types of homes in Geography, and in Science we explored different materials and designed our own homes. For Art, we decorated crowns and tiaras.

**First class** have been working very hard learning about effects of wind. We even made windmills in Art! The children also learned how much a kilogramme weighs and we are now starting to learn about money.

**Second class** have been learning about the Titanic. We are exploring the different parts of the ship and the facilities that were available to passengers. We are also trying to imagine what it must of felt like when the passengers realised the ship was about to sink. This month we hope to use our outdoor classroom a little bit more as the weather is getting nicer. We are learning all about the season of summer and activities we might engage in during our summer holidays.

**Third class** have been learning about Impressionism and the work of Claude Monet. We have just started swimming in the National Aquatic Centre. We'll be learning about water safety in preparation. In Maths we have been learning about Money and how to calculate change. We have been busy writing letters to our pen pals in English and creating portraits inspired by Cubism in Art. Finally, we have all been practising very hard for the Summer Show and are looking forward to performing on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Ms Ryan's class** have been very busy this month. We have enjoyed gardening in the fine weather, and have been going on little walks around the locality. The class have been learning about occupations, and have learned a lovely song called "Occupations" by The Learning Station

**Fourth class** have been very busy doing lots of tests this month, but luckily we have also started swimming in the National Aquatic Centre and we are having great fun at it! We are also really enjoying our GAA sessions. This month we are learning all about the food pyramid and what foods we should be eating to stay healthy and strong. In geography, we are learning all about the counties and provinces of Ireland and about some of the rivers and mountains throughout the country. It's really interesting.

**Fifth class** are learning all about the country Spain. We are learning lots of information about the culture, history, famous landmarks and Spanish people and we are even learning a few words of Spanish from the children that come from Spain. In maths we have enjoyed constructing 3D shapes and learning about their properties. We are also very busy preparing for the 5th and 6th class summer performance which is happening next week. We are practising singing our songs and doing our artwork for the show which we hope you enjoy!

**Sixth class** are well and truly on the countdown. After 8 years in primary school we only have a number of days remaining. As we come into our last few weeks in school, we are working harder than ever to make sure that we have everything covered and that we are good and ready for secondary school. Even though we are coming to the end of one chapter in our lives, we still have loads to look forward to. Our performance on the 30th of May, swimming lessons on Thursdays, our school tour on the 12th of June and our graduation on the 26th of June. We are very busy at the moment!!

### PARENTS ASSOCIATION NEWS

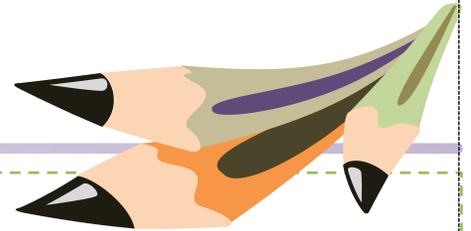
Since our last newsletter update the PTA has registered with the National Parents Council. This will be so beneficial as the NPC provide support to parents and children on a range of issues like positive mental health and wellbeing to helping out with homework etc. They are hosting an event on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May @7.30pm in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Blanchardstown. This event is to support your child to build healthy friendships and relationships. This is a free event.

The PTA is passionate about improving facilities and learning experiences for pupils and parents alike. The Spring raffle in April raised over €350 which will go a long way in helping out. These funds are much appreciated and we would like to thank all students and parents who contributed.

This year's sponsor walk will take place on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June. Sponsor cards will be distributed over the next week to all students. Email: [pta@grainnecons.com](mailto:pta@grainnecons.com)

### THANK YOU!

A big thank you to all the parents who donated books in their different languages for our library! The children were delighted to see books in their own language. Also, thanks to Aida and Darryl McCann's parents for the donation of some beautiful new books. Our library is officially open now and it looks great. We are very excited for all the children to see it.



### MS. KAVANAGH

Introducing Ms. Sarah Kavanagh. This is Ms. Kavanagh's 3<sup>rd</sup> year with us here at Scoil Ghráinne. Ms. Kavanagh is from Kildare (up the lilywhites! - She's a keen GAA supporter!) Ms. Kavanagh is the middle child in her family, she has an older brother, younger sister and a dog called Charlie. Charlie is her favourite family member! Ms. Kavanagh is involved in lots of after school activities. She coaches camogie and teaches piano. Ms. Kavanagh is very sporty and helps run the GAA blitz in school. She also enjoys playing hockey. Ms. Kavanagh's class can often be heard singing as you walk by as she is very musical. But her favourite subject to teach is art. Ms. Kavanagh studied Psychology before obtaining her B.Ed in education. Ms. Kavanagh loves to travel. In the last few years alone, she has visited Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, Greece, Portugal, Poland, Germany, New York and Chicago. Ms. Kavanagh walks around the school smiling and bringing lots of positive vibes to all the staff and children! Ms. Kavanagh runs Camp Grainne along with some of the other teachers and says 'All children from junior infants to 5th class are welcome. We do Sports, Art, Science, Baking, Dance and more. It runs from the 13th-17th of