

Scoil Ghráinne CNS Newsletter

April 8, 2022

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Hello everybody and here we are at the end of term 2. It is great to see everybody's smiles at last without their masks. We can now choose whether or not to wear masks in school but it is recommended in crowded situations. Anyone with symptoms must still stay home. Congrats to children who made their first confession last week and best wishes to all families who will be observing Ramadan over the next month.

We are proud of all the boys and girls who took part recently in the inter school GAA league. School tours have been finalised for June so you will be hearing about them soon enough. Swimming is also back for our senior children who will be travelling to the national Aquatic Centre.

We have enrolled some new students from Ukraine where we have places available. There are waiting lists for some classes so we will not be enrolling children for those classes.

Thank you to our PA who are working away in the background, supporting the school when we need them. Please give them your support and help if you can. Thank you to all parents who attended Parent Teacher meetings and if you missed your meeting you can make another appointment. Research shows that if parents show an interest in their child's education, the children will have better outcomes in school.

There are a number of coats in Lost property if you are missing something, please enquire at reception.

I had my first meeting this week with the Student Council. I was so impressed with their self confidence and their ability to express themselves and represent their classmates. They had lots of suggestions like banning uniforms and homework! I told them we would have to survey parents so watch this space.

Finally, thank you to all the staff for their commitment and hard work. Without that Scoil Ghráinne would be a very different place. "Ní neart le chur le chéile"...there is no strength without unity.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Easter Break: School closes Friday April 8th at 12.00 and re-opens Monday April 25th.

A Quick Run down on what some of our classes have been busy doing...

Junior Infants have been learning about "Plants". We loved playing in the Garden Centre and they even got to plant their very own grass seeds. The plants are watered every day and it is very exciting watching them grow. The children painted cherry blossom trees in art and enjoyed making headbands for St. Patrick's Day. We are working on being safe on yard and remembering our school rule of "keeping our hands and feet to ourselves".

Senior Infants have been enjoying the story book "Sharing a Shell". They have been learning all about different sea creatures and even made some beautiful paper plate fish with crepe paper and jelly fish with paint. During Aistear, they have loved pretending to visit the swimming pool in the role play area and building water parks with bricks and blocks in the small world area. All of the Senior Infants have started getting ready for First Class and they are practicing their phonics, CVC words and tricky words every day! They have also made a great effort in writing sentences news by themselves, and their teachers love listening to them practice with their readers. Their Maths have been getting harder and harder but they are doing a fantastic job and this week they were even able to do the story of 8 - which is very impressive for Senior Infants!

First class have been learning about Spring and baby animals and flowers. We have been working hard on our tens and units in maths and have created lots of beautiful art for Spring. We really enjoyed taking part in all the activities during 'Seachtain na Gaeilge'. We loved playing outside in the sunny weather.

Third class have been learning about Division in Maths. In English, we have been putting the final touches to our Narrative Writing stories and we look forward to sharing them with the whole class. In Gaeilge, we have been learning about Éadaí (clothes). We also enjoyed the ceilí, siúlóid dúlra and Lá Glas during Seachtain na Gaeilge.

Croí

Ms Benville's class. Mary-Kate's Croí class have been enjoying going on walks around the school grounds, PE in the halla and sensory play. A yoga instructor is visiting our class over the next few weeks which we are all looking forward to. We will be going on an Easter egg hunt before the midterm and hope to find lots of eggs!

Ms. Kavanagh's Class have completed our work on our polar animal project. We hope to present our work to some of the other classes. In maths we have been learning about length and measuring different items using a ruler. For music we have been learning a new song for spring 'Here Comes the Sun'. We have also just started Yoga lessons with Tanja. These lessons will take place every Monday for the next 4 weeks. We practiced our breathing techniques, listening skills and tried some new poses. It was very relaxing, we had a great time and can't wait for our next session.

Fourth class have been working very hard over the last couple of weeks. In English we have been learning all about narrative writing and have planned and written our own stories. In Science we made catapults and learned all about electricity and how to make a simple circuit. We have also been learning all about being persistent and not giving up both inside and outside school. In history we looked at how persistent Helen Keller was and how much she achieved in her life despite many obstacles and challenges.

Fifth class Fifth Class have been exploring different creative and folk dances in P.E. We have been examining prefixes and suffixes and the right places to include these. As gaeilge bhíomar ag foghlaim faoin eadaí difriúla. In maths, we learnt about the different ways to represent Data. A big highlight over the last few weeks has been researching and presenting our WW1 projects.



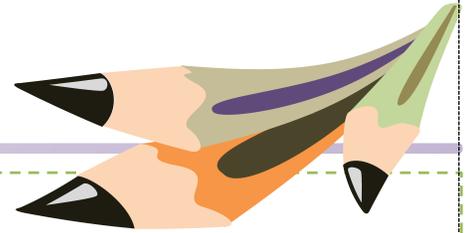
YELLOW FLAG NEWS

The Scoil Ghráinne community, as usual, have been busy celebrating our diversity in lots of different ways. Over the last few months, we celebrated World Book Day, Crazy Hair Day, Rock Your Socks, Banners for Ukraine, International Women's Day and Seachtain Na Gaeilge. An activity the children particularly enjoyed was when the children from 5th and 6th class came to read to the younger classes in Irish! Some of our students are marking Ramadan and have been excitedly chatting and sharing their experiences with their friends. The Yellow Flag Committee have been interviewing teachers for a project we are doing and we are looking forward to sharing it with everyone in June during our Intercultural Week. Thank you so much for voicing your opinions in the Yellow Flag survey!



MEET OUR STUDENT COUNCIL

Meet Scoil Ghráinne's first Student Council. Our representatives have been selected by their peers. The students will represent their year band, sharing their ideas, suggestions and hopes for Scoil Ghráinne. They will work with staff and parents to contribute to the decision making in our school. Well done to everyone who took part in the elections, the standard was very high, it was clear that a lot of work went into the speeches and presentations and the teachers were very impressed!



MR. MC BRIDE

Introducing Mr. Conor McBride!! This is Mr. McBride's second year here with us at Scoil Ghráinne CNS. Mr. McBride taught 6th class last year and this year, he is enjoying teaching 4th class. Mr. McBride was awarded his Bachelor of Education with Marino Institute of Education. He comes from Co. Donegal and he has a younger brother, Sean. They have no pets but he secretly always wanted a dog! Mr. McBride loves anything sporty and is often seen joining in with the 5th and 6th class playing football in the yard! He especially enjoys GAA, golf and kayaking. Mr. McBride's favourite subject is history and he has a real love of Irish history. Mr. McBride really enjoyed working with the boy's football team for Cumann na mBunscoil. Like most of our staff, Mr. McBride loves to travel. He has travelled the Wild Atlantic Way last summer and he particularly enjoyed Kerry. He said it was an 'unreal' experience. He spent a whole summer in Vancouver and he has been skiing in Austria and Bulgaria. No stranger to the limelight, our own Mr. McBride once appeared on Junior Dragons Den as part of a Transition Year mini company project! Mr. McBride is a fantastic addition to our team and the children love being a part of his class. They say he is always happy and teaches with a smile!