



Scoil Ghráinne CNS Newsletter

June 29, 2023

A little rundown of our class activities

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we approach the end of another school year, it's a good opportunity to reflect on Scoil Ghráinne's accomplishments and express my sincere appreciation for the efforts and contributions of our entire school community.

Scoil Ghráinne CNS has had a number of successes this year. Earlier in the year we were proud to have raised the Yellow Flag, symbolizing our commitment to inclusivity. This achievement reflects the school's collective efforts to foster diversity, understanding, and acceptance among our pupils.

Our sports teams have also achieved notable accomplishments. Congratulations to all pupils who participated in the school's sports activities, particularly our school soccer team which finished joint top of the league, and our athletics team which won their regional event. The pupil's dedication, teamwork, and sportsmanship have made us all very proud. We also had the formation of our new volleyball team which demonstrates our pupil's enthusiasm to explore new sports and the willingness of our staff to give the pupils these opportunities.

Furthermore, we were delighted that Scoil Ghráinne CNS was awarded the Gaelbhratach flag, highlighting the school's commitment to promoting the Irish language, culture, and heritage. This achievement is a testament to our students' engagement and passion for Irish language learning. Academically, the pupils have worked diligently and consistently throughout the year. The gaps in learning due to the previous school closures have reduced significantly this year due to the combined efforts of the teachers, pupils and parents. It's likely that there may continue to be some gaps next year but the long term strategy to learning recovery will serve the school well. On a similar front, Scoil Ghráinne CNS were crowned DDLETB quiz champions recently. Well done to the teachers and pupils involved!

I would also like to take a moment to express our appreciation for how well the pupils conducted themselves when representing Scoil Ghráinne across all our extra-curricular activities. Their exemplary behaviour, respect, and good nature has been mentioned to me on many occasions this year from referees, trip hosts, bus drivers and teachers from other schools. This is just as important as any academic or extra-curricular achievements and always makes the staff happy to hear such positive feedback.

Wishing you and your family an enjoyable and restful summer break!

Jonathan Hanley

DATES TO REMEMBER

Summer Break: School closes @12 June 29th

Junior Infants read a lovely story called 'Sharing a Shell' and had lots of fun in Aistear playing with the sand and 'Ice-Cream Parlour' and at 'The Beach'. We made some cool ice-cream art and even had an ice-cream party! We had our very own caterpillars in our classrooms watched them transform into butterflies. In maths we played Snail Trail and Memory Match. We had a brilliant time on our school tour to Newbridge Farm!

Senior Infants have been learning about the Post Office and the Seaside. We role played as staff in a post office. We learnt about the journey a letter or parcel goes on to get to our homes and we read the story *Meerkat Mail*. Our next story was *The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch* and we had great fun playing at the seaside and pretending to visit an ice-cream shop. Our school tour was to Funky Monkeys.

First class have been doing lots of reading in Daily 5. We are now much more confident writing independently. In maths, we learned about tens and units and can add and subtract numbers up to 100! We'll finish the year on a high with their school tour to Dublin Zoo.

Second Class had a wonderful day out to Kildare Maze for our school tour. We loved the enormous hedge maze, the wooden maze challenge, and crazy golf!! This year, we worked together on Science projects about 'Sea Creatures' and 'The Solar System'. We also grew sunflowers in our classrooms. In SESE we learned about games from around the world.

Croí Ms Benville's class & Ms. Donegan's Class went on their school tour to Mellows Tour Farm in Athboy. It was lots of fun. Last month we went horse riding, and the children had great fun trekking on horses while looking at the beautiful sea!

Third class improved our maths so much and are ready for trickier multiplication & division sums next year! We've completed loads of SESE projects, such as on the Medieval Times and enjoyed researching on the iPads in school. For music we loved body percussion & the song 'Lil Liza Jane'. We've published lots of English work as reports, narratives & recounts. In Gaeilge we've practiced lots of comhrá (conversations) We took part in many orienteering activities and visited landmarks for 'Run around Ireland'. Our school tour took us to Jumpzone and the playground which was a fantastic time!

Fourth class had swimming lessons, cycling lessons, GAA lessons, a sponsored walk, an excellent school tour to Clara Lara, inter class football and rounders games and some more fun to come during active week and the final week. We have really enjoyed creating projects and are currently writing poems and short rhyming stories. The imagination and use of language is really impressive, and the children are working well both in groups and individually.

Fifth class made great projects on capital cities in Europe. We are also learning about Greece and creating clay sculptures of famous Greek Gods. We have been using Lego to create robotic projects too. We have worked hard on Procedure writing- we have created recipes and instructions on playing different games. Our school tour is Emerald Park.

Sixth class

This year has been a great year for 6th class. We've experienced lots of fun things such as our school tour in Emerald Park, swimming in Aquazone, Spelling Bees, Credit Union and ETB quizzes, soccer and GAA matches and Santry running. Not all of our best memories come from 6th class however. For example, in 2nd class we hatched chicks and went to Fort Lucan. In 4th class, although we couldn't go anywhere because of covid, a reptile zoo came to our school along with a magician and ice cream van. In 5th we went to Aquazone and the sports centre for our school tour. All these memories and more will always have a special place in our hearts.

By Chloe



CREATIVE SCHOOLS

The Creative Schools Club have been working hard on building our Outdoor Classroom. We had an artist in to paint a mural. The children decorated the planters and planted all the plants.



GREEN SCHOOLS

All classes enjoyed visiting the school wormery this year and helping Robbie to feed them with scraps from the staffroom. We harvested nutritious compost and re-bedded it again to start a new cycle. Classes were then able to use this compost for planting flowers and vegetables. The wormery shows us how nature can renew itself, and composting food waste is a strategy for combatting climate change. The school also earned our Travel Flag from Green Schools this year and Mr. Byrne and Ms. Duffy took Megan Mankaa Fube and Saanvi to the awards a few weeks ago.



PARENTS ASSOCIATION

What a year our PA have had! Here's a few highlights from this year with our Santa visit, tokens for children, Scoil Ghraíne Soccer gear (jerseys + shorts + socks), Tokens for Mr. Hanley's office, Easter Raffle, 6th class graduation t-shirts, Sponsored Walk, Ice Cream Van, Sports equipment, Uniform exchange Facebook page. Thank you so much for all the work your do! From the Scoil Ghraíne staff.

ACTIVE SCHOOLS

Gaelic football started with games against our local rivals St Benedicts & Scoil Bhríde. The emergence of both boys & girls soccer teams was a real highlight and they trained very hard this year challenging at the top end of their league. The Athletics team took home 3rd place in the Fingal league and had three great days out competing against other schools. Hurling & camogie teams were our most recent teams and both teams showed great heart, and commitment. Filip Steopan & Ruben Varghese set up a school volleyball team and conducted the trainings before school which was a fantastic initiative.



YELLOW FLAG

We were so proud of our school this year in achieving their Yellow Flag renewal for promoting inclusion and diversity. Here are some of our committee, Dan Karsten Titus, Rabab Mehdi, Esta Geevan and Amaris Soni, who performed at the ceremony with RTE presenter/children's author/activist, Emer O'Neill, two of the Yellow Flag organisers, and an extremely proud Ms. Cashman! Emer sent a message after to say: 'Wasn't it just a beautiful day? I was just so proud of the kids. Brightens the world to see our future leaders with such compassion and openness.'



DDELTB CNS QUIZ

Ms. Egan was beaming with pride to bring a team of young brains to the DDELTB National School Quiz. And Guess who were the winners? Scoil Ghraíne CNS! Congratulations Nan Smith, Aashin Alex, Filip Steopan and Dara Dunne!



BOOK FAIR

We raised over €1,000 worth of books at the School Book Fair. There will be lots of new fantastic books for the children to enjoy in their classroom libraries! Thank you so much to the wonderful parents who bought a book.