



Scoil Mhuire
Roll No. 19973V
Racecourse Road
Clifden Co. Galway

Ph: 095.21353/0838889775
Fax: 095.22200
email: secretary.scoilmhuire@gmail.com
website: www.scoilmhuireclifden.ie

NEWSLETTER 1 - September 2017

Staff 2017/2018

Principal: Dara Mc Aleer
Junior Infants: Lavinnia O'Malley
Senior Infants: Siobhan King
First Class: Tina Clancy (Assistant Principal)
Second Class: PJ Lee (Deputy Principal)
Third Class: Bairbre Ní Chonchubhair
Fourth Class: Eily Vaughan
Fifth Class: Christine Mullen
Sixth Class: Mary Joyce
Seventh Class: Ann Keogh
Eighth Class: Sile Staunton
Support Teacher: Attracta Mc Evaddy, Grainne Mitchell, Veronica Lynagh, Teresa Gibbons.
SNA: Laurence Ingelbach, Kathleen O'Reilly, Denise King, Mary Conneely, Olive Carty, Dolores O'Donnell.
Caretaker: Gerry Curran
Cleaner: Valentina Petrov
Secretary: Marie-Noelle Biddulph

Welcome – Fáilte

We hope that you and your children have had an enjoyable summer and we look forward to working with you all in the new school year. We welcome back all the pupils who were with us last year and we have a very special welcome for our new pupils in junior infants and also our new pupils in older classes also. We wish everyone a happy and successful year in Scoil Mhuire. We remember last year's sixth class and wish them every success as they begin their post primary education.

We would also like to thank the Parents Association, the many individual parents and other people who helped the school in so many ways during the last school year. Your support is deeply appreciated and is a wonderful help to the school community.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new staff member- Teresa Gibbons. It's wonderful to see ex pupils returning as fully qualified teachers. Even at this early stage it is evident that Theresa is going to be a great addition to our school community.

Jayne Gallagher, SNA, left us this year and we would like to wish her the best of luck in the future. Jayne was always willing to go the extra mile for her students and she will be greatly missed.

Yearly plan

On the reverse side of this Newsletter there is a yearly outline. Some of the events on this outline may move but the vast majority will stay the same. Newsletters will be issued on the first school Thursday of every month.

Cross Country championship

Trials for the Primary School Cross country championships took place today. The successful runners will be going to Renmore on Tuesday the 12th of September to compete in the county semi-finals.

School Mass

To celebrate the start of a new school year, Scoil Mhuire will go to St. Joseph's Church at 10.00 on Friday 29th September. All parents, family and friends are welcome to attend. If some parents do not wish their child to attend, please send a letter ahead of time and they will be supervised in the school for the duration.

Arts Week 2017

This year marks the 40th Anniversary of Clifden Arts Week!

Our school has been involved since 1992 with more and more artists, musicians and writers visiting every year. Our annual parade would not exist without the participation of our students from the 5th and 6th classes along with those from other schools, throughout the years and for this, I am thankful.

This year we have a very comprehensive programme jam packed with visitors to our school, sharing their artistic talents, be it music, drama, art, creative writing, poetry or dance.

I hope all will thoroughly enjoy this, our 40th year.

Eily Vaughan

Please take note of the new school mobile number: **083889775**. We are experiencing difficulties with our landline at the moment.

Classroom Meetings

Classroom meetings are short meetings giving a chance to the teacher to talk about their classroom rules and expectations. This year, the meetings will take place on:

Monday 11th September at 14.30 for **Senior Infants**

Tuesday 12th September at 14.30 for **Junior Infants**,

Tuesday 12th September at 15.30 for **First Class**

Wednesday 13th September at 15.15 for **Second Class**

Thursday 14th September at 15.10 for **Third Class**.

Wednesday 27th September at 15.15 for **Fourth Class**

OVERVIEW 2017/2018

SEPTEMBER	Tuesday 5: Swimming 5 th class for 6 weeks Wednesday 6: Swimming 6 th class for 6 weeks Monday 11: start of classroom meetings Monday 11: Junior Infants finish school at 14.00 Thursday 14: start of Clifden Arts Week Thursdays Music classes with Marie Walsh after Arts Week
OCTOBER	Friday 27: school closes at 12.00 for staff Inservice. Monday 30: School is closed for Mid-term Break.
NOVEMBER	Monday 6: School reopens Tuesday 7: School closes at 14.00 for staff Inservice Saturday 25: Enrolment Ceremony Communion class in St. Joseph's Church, 19.00
DECEMBER	Christmas Concert date to be confirmed Carols singing in the Community Friday 22: School closes 12.30 for Christmas Break
JANUARY	Monday 8 January: School reopens
FEBRUARY	Monday 5: start of PT Meetings and Book Fair Thursday 15 February + Friday 16: Mid-term Break Monday 19: School reopens after mid term break
MARCH	Saturday 3: First Confession in St. Joesph's Church at 11.00 Week of 12-17: Seachtain na gaeilge Monday 19: Bank Holiday. School is closed Friday 23: 12.30 Easter Break. School closes at 12.30
APRIL	Monday 9: School reopens ACTIVE SCHOOL WEEK Monday 23: Standardised Testing begins
MAY	Friday 4: School is closed Monday 7: Bank holiday Tuesday 8: School reopens Saturday 12: FIRST HOLY COMMUNION, in St. Joseph's Church at 11.00 Saturday/Sunday 19-20: Fleadh Ceol
JUNE	Friday 1: School is closed Monday 4: Bank Holiday Tuesday 5: School reopens SPORTS DAY date to be confirmed 6 th class Graduation date to be confirmed Tuesday 26: School closes for the Summer break at 12.30

Attendance

The vast majority of pupils in Scoil Mhuire have satisfactory attendance patterns. At the end of each term many children received certificates for excellent and very good school attendance. Other children get awards for improved attendance. Attending school regularly is really important to give every child the best opportunity to make friends and to learn. While the vast majority of children attend school regularly there is a group of children who were absent for twenty days or more during the last school year. In real terms this meant that they were absent for one day in every nine days or more.

Whenever a child is absent parents should send in a written note with the dates and reason for the absence to the class teacher. The school is obliged by law to keep a record of attendance and absences and to report absences and the reasons for the absences to TUSLA (previously the National Educational Welfare Board) in cases where the number of absences is more than twenty days in a school year or when there are serious concerns about absences from school. Parents may use the absence note forms in the homework journals. Where a child is sick he/she should not be at school and should be at home until he/she is well enough to return.