



Scoil Mhuire
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NEWSLETTER 7– March 2018

DRAMA WITH ROS

Drama classes are currently being delivered to 3rd and 4th classes by Ros Coyne of 'Tegolan Theatre'. Under Ros' direction, the children are exploring their expressions of themselves via movement and speech. Using a variety of drama exercises the children are encouraged to develop specific skills such as listening and oral language. Though children love to perform, it is not our objective that these classes end in a one off production. However, they are producing wonderful presentations in small groups in the hall. 4th class have chosen to develop their project about Gráinne Mhaol in dramatic terms thereby entering into a deeper understanding of that moment in History. 4th class are engaged in improvisation on selected pieces of poetry.

STANDARDISED TESTING

Classes from First to Sixth will begin their standardised tests in English and Maths from the 23rd of April. A standardised test is a test that measures a child's achievement compared to other children in all schools at the same class or age level. We will send out end of year reports in early June. The report card will be the same as the one used last year. It will include the results of the standardised tests which will be described as a 'Sten score'. Sten scores go from 1 to 10. About one third of children have scores in the average range of Sten score 5 and 6. A Sten of 7 means that the child is a high average and a Sten score of 8-10 mean that the child is well above average. A Sten score of 4 means that the child is a low average and a Sten score of 1-3 is a score well below average. It is important to remember that no matter what score a child gets one score taken in isolation is not a complete picture of a child's learning in that particular subject.

We will send an information leaflet for parents in relation to standardised testing and Sten scores with each child's report. Parents are welcome to

make an appointment to discuss the reports with the relevant teachers if they wish. Please note that these Standardised tests are taking place earlier than usual in the school year and this may adversely affect the outcomes.

SCHOOL BAND

The school band will be opening the Tradfest at 11.30 on Friday 6th of April. Full school uniform must be worn. The band will gather at the school at 11 and then assemble on the Galway Road. The band will complete their performance on the square.

We are looking forward to a wonderful day!

PS: Please keep a close eye on your phone: Should the march be rescheduled due to bad weather, we will text all families.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Many thanks to the children of Scoil Mhuire who marched in the St. Patricks Day parade. The theme chosen this year was that of **"Grace O' Malley - Granuaile and her Eco-Pirates rescue (clean up) our seas"**. The young pirates had fantastic fun on the day and everybody was so impressed with the effort put into the costumes. Great appreciation is due to the Parents Association for co-ordinating this project. Well done!



EASTER HOLIDAYS

The School will close for the Easter break this coming Friday 23rd March. Infants and their siblings will leave at 12:15pm and the rest of the children will depart at 12:30pm.

THE CONNEMARA YOUNG SCIENTIST FAIR

Sixth class are taking part in this year's Connemara Young Scientist Fair on Wednesday 11th April. Every fortnight Declan Holmes delivered science workshops to 6th class. These workshops included The Science of Sound, The Science of Space and Rockets and a Microbit and Energy workshop. The

Dates for the diary

MARCH

Monday 19: Bank Holiday. School is closed

Friday 23: 12.30 Easter Break. School closes at 12.30

APRIL

Monday 9: School reopens

Wednesday 11: Science Fair

Wednesday 11: FAIS School Competition in Carraroe

Monday 23: Standardised Testing begins

MAY

Week of 7 May: ACTIVE SCHOOL WEEK

workshops will culminate in a Science Fair on 11th April, where schools in the area will showcase their projects. The Connemara Young Scientist Programme have set up a Facebook page to showcase the projects of the pupils in the area and also to recognise and thank the Whalen Foundation for their continued sponsorship of this project.

FIRST PENANCE

Congratulations to the children of Second class who had their First Penance ceremony on Saturday 10th March. The children made this occasion so special with their wonderful reading and singing. Many thanks to Marie Walsh for her help in coordinating the music. A truly special occasion.

SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE

Seachtain na Gaeilge (Irish Language Week) is an International Irish language festival and one of the biggest celebrations of our native language and culture that takes place each year in Ireland. The festival gives everyone including our schools an opportunity to enjoy Irish by running many fun and entertaining events. Scoil Mhuire S.na G is currently ongoing and will end on Friday 23rd March.

CYBERBULLYING AND INTERNET SAFETY TRAINING

Yesterday we had a series of workshops for the children on the area of cyberbullying and Internet safety with Jeremy Pagden. The Internet and digital media can help our pupils learn, create and communicate in ways that we would never have imagined in our youth. The online world is very much part of their lives, they are "growing up digital". Schools have a duty of care to their pupils and this includes helping children to use digital technologies safely and responsibly.

OLYMPIC HANDBALL

Recently the boys and girls of 4th, 5th and 6th classes in Scoil Mhuire participated in the Connemara Olympic Handball finals in the West Connemara Sports and Leisure Centre. Teams from Clifden, the North Connemara area and Cashel were in attendance. The standard of Handball was extremely high among all the age groups and a great level of sportsmanship was shown by all. Scoil Mhuire had 6 teams participating and indeed were very successful. The U-11 boys and girls were runners up in their section while the U-12 had a clean sweep in their competition. Finally the senior boys took the honours in their section defeating a strong Kingstown team. Medals were presents by Mr. McAleer at last week's assembly.

GAA

Players from the successful Naomh Feichín Clifden U12 team were presented with their County medals at Assembly by their manager Gerry Gannon and Juvenile Club Treasurer Olive Carty. The team was captained by stalwart Rónan Mannion who was ably assisted by Eoin Mannion and Cillian Gannon in the backs, Micheal King in midfield, Daniel Conroy, Jake Bann, Timmy Malone and Rónan Heanue in the forwards. Also, part of the panel were players of the future-Luke Acton, Séamus King and Jude McEvaddy. Medals of honour were also presented to Cillian Mannion and Darragh Conroy for all their help throughout the year. The school and club are very proud of the boys' achievement and the hard work and dedication throughout the year.

Ní ceart go cur le chéile!



Award Winners	Student of the Week	Best Effort	Best Person
Junior Infants	Samuel Damski	Rachel Ward	
Senior Infants	Milo O'Flaherty	Matthew O'Flaherty	Bridget Ella Conroy
First class Mrs Salmon	Ella Morrow Aoife Gorham	Conor Canavan Drew Lambert	Aaliyah Bankole Nelly Harris
First class Mrs Clancy	Alex McGowan	Benjamin Waligorski	Clodagh Lee
Second class	Emma Madden	Ciaran King	Megan Griffiths
Third class	Lucas O'Halloran Stephen O'Rourke	Cillian Mannion Lillian Damska	Amy Heffernan James Canavan
Fourth class	Aoibhin O'Connor	Maksymilian Waligorski	Clodagh O'Toole
Fifth class	Jade Flaherty Zak Mahon	Eoin Griffin John Lambert	Jack Kennington Eve McCarthy
Sixth class	Ronan Heanue	Reynaldo Hannon	Paddy Atkinson
Special Awards	UI2 Football team, subs and helpers who were presented with medals Walk to School and Attendance Award: 6th class Bridget Ella Conroy- Ellieann O'Toole- Eoin Griffin- Jack Kennington		