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NEWSLETTER 8– April 2018

STANDARDISED TESTS

Standardised tests are taking place at the moment in many classrooms. In reality, these tests often only measure how good your child is at the Standardised test and doesn't reflect the rich diversity of their individual abilities. Some children can get quite anxious about their results in these tests and I hope you can support us in allaying their fears and anxieties.

FAI CUP 5 A SIDE

Our boys qualified 5 a side County finals for the first time in the school's history. This will take place in Newbridge tomorrow. Well done boys and best of luck in the finals.

BLITZ IN BARNA

Scoil Mhuire's girls will take part in a Gaelic football blitz on Thursday. This is the first time the girls have participated in this blitz and we wish them every success.

FOURTH CLASS, GRÁINNE MHAOL AND CLARE ISLAND TRIP

Fourth class and their teacher Mrs Vaughan have planned a trip to Clare Island tomorrow Wednesday 25th April, Michael Gibbons will join them on this exciting journey to the headquarters of the legendary Grace O'Malley. The Class have dedicated a lot of time to the famous pirate, reading up about her, dramatizing her exploits, singing songs and engaging with children from Fish Kill Elementary School in the USA, relaying her story to

them. It follows that they are due a trip to the lovely Clare Island.

This will be additional to the end of year outing that the class usually has and will therefore be subsidised by the school, so the cost to each child is €15, covering bus, boat and soup in the hostel.

They will leave Scoil Mhuire at 8.30am sharp and return at 6.30pm approximately.

Children will wear regular clothing with good walking shoes.

They will carry a small back pack with: A bottle of water, sandwich/es, a bar of chocolate/fruit, a small towel, a rain coat and an extra pair of socks. (*The bag should not be heavy as the children will be walking quite a lot.*)

I think it is fair to say that the children are quite excited (as are the teachers who are accompanying them) about this upcoming trip.

THIS TRIP HAS BEEN POSTPONED DUE TO BAD WEATHER

SOCCER TOURNAMENT

An in-school soccer tournament will take place in May/June. We hope that the finals will take place during Active school week.

HEALTH SCREENING

The Public Health Nurse will visit the school this week to do Hearing and Vision check for Junior Infants on the 30th of April and the 1st of May.

Dates for the diary

APRIL

Tuesday 25: 4th class tour to Clare Island
Newbridge Soccer FAI cup

Thursday 26: Furbo Girls Football

Monday 30: Hearing and Vision for Junior Infants

MAY

Tuesday 1: Hearing and Vision for Junior Infants
6th class After School Tour

Wednesday 2: Transfer to Clifden Community School

Friday 4: School closed

Monday 7: School closed for May Bank Holiday

Friday 11: Infants parents information meeting

Saturday 12: First Holy Communion

Monday 15: Start of ACTIVE SCHOOL WEEK

Thursday 24: Intergenerational Day

Friday 25: School closed for Polling

NEW ENTRANTS

A meeting for parents of New Junior Infants for 2018/19 will take place in Scoil Mhuire on the 11th of May at 14.15. This will focus on preparation for Infants and paperwork will be handed out on the day. The meeting should be finished before 3 pm. This meeting is for parents ONLY. A later meeting will be announced for June, when the current Junior Infants will entertain the new comers. More important paperwork will be given on that day as well.

SWIMMING

First and Second classes have started their swimming lessons in the Station House. All the children are enjoying the classes and making good progress. We remind you that hats are compulsory to get in to the swimming pool and that parents cannot entry the changing room area unless they have been Garda vetted by the school.

INTERGENERATIONAL DAY

Scoil Mhuire and residents of Clúid are celebrating Intergenerational Day 2018 on Thursday the 24th of May. Clúid residents are lending us their quilt for the week! Scoil Mhuire children will have a chance to view it and to make their own square, about their own life, on paper. On the Thursday, the residents will come to talk about their own square in the quilt and the children can share their square and stories with them. The children's square will be displayed in the classroom/school, to form their very own quilt. We are hoping to have some entertainment in the hall after lunch, to finish off the day.

TRANSITION PROGRAMME AND VISIT TO THE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Sixth class are extremely fortunate to work with Fergal Clancy-a mentor . Fergal works with many primary and post primary schools in the surrounding areas. He is ex-

amining many areas with the pupils from Scoil Mhuire, including transition to secondary school and making this transition as smooth as possible. Fergal also looks at respect; respecting ourselves and others. The children are doing a lot of work on self-help tips about dealing with difficult situations and the appropriate procedures to help you overcome these situations. The students of Scoil Mhuire are really enjoying these sessions and are gaining great coping skills and life skills as a result.

As part of this transition programme, Sixth class will be visiting the Community school on the 2nd of May.

SIXTH CLASS FORUM TRIP

Sixth class are going to Killary Adventure Centre as a celebration of their completion of the Forum After School Club. This will take place on the first of May.

SCHOOL BAND

Our school band embraced the opportunity to strut their stuff in a parade to open Tradfest. A big thank you to Marie Walsh and all Tradfest committee for inviting us.

HISTORICAL TOUR OF ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

Last Friday Second class visited St Joseph's Church on a historical tour. Fr Ronayne acted as our official tour guide. He explained the history of the church, when and why it was built. We learned about the different areas of the church and their importance. Did you know that the founder of Clifden Church is buried within the church itself? We looked in detail at all the stained glass windows and we learned that they were donated by local people. We also visited the parish office and examined some of the records including our own. We explored the old graveyard and found out that this is where the original Clifden Church stood. We look forward in presenting all our information in a project for you all to see.

Award Winners	Student of the Week	Best Effort	Best Person
Junior Infants	Amelia Duke	Flynn O'Malley	Dylan Prauer
Senior Infants	Ryan Morrissey	Harry Sun	Rory Ashe
First class Mrs Salmon	WHOLE CLASS AWARD		Oliwia Gnela
First class Mrs Clancy	Klara Ktobukowska	Cara McNamara	Alex McGowan
Second class	Shona O'Toole	Joey Loveland	Aiden Tevlin
Third class	Arfin Chowdory	Sean Coyne	Leah Shaughnessy
Fourth class	Heather King	Tracy Annabelle Conroy	Adam Duke
Fifth class	Luke Acton	Sean Walsh	Molly Morgan
Sixth class			
Special Awards	First Class Mrs Salmon for best attendance in March Senior Infants for Walking to School Award Sixth Class Award for Science Fair Ella Coohill		