



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

Ph: 095.21353.  
Fax: 095.22200  
email: [secretary.scoilmhuire@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.scoilmhuire@gmail.com)  
website: [www.scoilmhuireclifden.ie](http://www.scoilmhuireclifden.ie)

# NEWSLETTER 9– May 2016

## 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 two new staff members- Ms. O'Connor and Ms. Lynagh. Even at this early stage it is evident that they are going to make a hugely positive contribution to our school community. I am confident that this school community will afford them the time and space to embed themselves successfully in our school.

*Dara Mc Aleer*

## Parent-teacher communication

It is imperative that parents follow procedure if their child is experiencing difficulty in a new class situation. The first port of call is to contact the school to make an appointment with the teacher regarding this and thereafter to follow the procedure as outlined in our Code of Behaviour. The code of behaviour is downloadable from our website. Please refrain from using Social media to comment on these matters and always remember that Parent's Association Class representatives are not to be used a conduit for complaints against individual teachers.

## Parent-Teacher Meetings

These one on one meetings will take place on the week of 13th February 2017. Appointments will be sent in due time.

Our Book Fair will coincide with the meetings.

## Clifden Arts Week

Clifden Arts Week started this week in school. The school will partake in a number of activities including: Creative Writing, Drama, Dance and Movement, Sean nós Dancing, Poetry, Literature, Art, Drumming, Animation to name a few.

## Dates for the diary

September 14th	Clifden Arts Week Schools Programme starts
September 15th	Drumming and Dance
September 16th	Drumming
September 19th	Art, Drama, Poetry and Music
September 20th	Art, Theatre, Drama and Poetry
September 21st	Literature, Art, Music, Songs and Dance
September 22nd	Art, Drama, Poetry, Theatre, Music, Literature
September 23rd	Theatre, Drama, Poetry, Art

## 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 26th September at 14.15 for **Senior Infants**

Monday 26th September at 15.10 for **Second Class**

Tuesday 27th September at 15.10 for **Fourth Class**

Tuesday 27th September at 15.30 for **First Class**

Wednesday 28th September at 15.10 for **Third Class**

## Homework

Homework is set to give pupils an opportunity to revise and practice skills outside school at home. This also gives parents an opportunity to be actively involved in their child's learning. Parents should sign the homework notebook when the child has completed the set exercises and send this into school each day with the child. Please note also that the homework journal contains absence note forms and parents might find these notes a handy way to let the school know about absences. If you feel that your child is spending too long doing homework, please inform the class teacher and the matter will be resolved quickly.

## Staff 2016/2017

**Principal:** Dara Mc Aleer

**Junior Infants:** Eily Vaughan, Bairbre Ní Chonchubhair

**Senior Infants:** Siobhan King

**First Class:** Tina Clancy (Deputy to Vice Principal)

**Second Class:** Lavinnia O'Malley

**Third Class:** Grainne Mitchell

**Fourth Class:** Veronica Lynagh

**Fifth Class:** Mary Joyce

**Sixth Class:** PJ Lee (Vice Principal)

**Seventh Class:** Ann Keogh

**Eighth Class:** Sile Staunton

**Learning Support:** Attracta Mc Evaddy, Christine Mullen

**Resource:** Eileen Salmon, Siobhan Aspell, Sean Bourke.

**SNA:** Laurence Ingelbach, Kathleen O'Reilly, Denise King, Mary Conneely, Olive Carty, Dolores O'Donnell, Jayne Gallagher.

**Caretaker:** Gerry Curran

**Cleaner:** Valentina Petrov

**Secretary:** Marie-Noelle Biddulph

## 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.

## Uniforms Reminder

Please read the Code of Behaviour for details of uniform requirements.

## Fairy Trail

The Fairy Trail starts at 11.30 this Saturday at Christ Church. Come along!

## School Mass

To celebrate the start of a new School Year, the school will go to St. Joseph's Church for Mass at 10.00 on Friday 7th October. All parents and families welcome to attend.

## Birthday invitations and treats

Birthday invitations should not be distributed by parents or children in the school or on the school grounds. Birthday cakes or treats are not allowed in the school. Each class marks a child's birthday on the actual day and each week at assembly we mark the birthdays falling around that time.

Award Winners	Student of the Week	Best Effort	Best Person
Junior Infants	Matthew O'Flaherty- Caoimbhe Foyle -Shane Conneely- Ruth Abraham		
Senior Infants	Ella Morrow	Kevin Coyne	Leyla Rose Sweeney
First class	Rayhana Soe Paing	Alan Kelly	Mikayla Folan
Second class	Dara Conroy	Ella Coohill	Ciaran Coohill
Third class	Isobel Walsh	Dubheasa O'Connor	Adam Duke
Fourth class	Zak Mahon	Ciaran Davitt	Angela Thornton
Fifth class	Sebastian Smith	Ronan Heanue	Meibh Dickinson
Sixth class	Isabelle King	Mark Mahon	Annie Sweeney
Seventh class	Faye Walsh		Noe Walsh
Eighth class	Ciaran Coohill		