



Scoil Mhuire
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NEWSLETTER 2 - October 2017

Back to School Mass

We celebrated our return to school with a Mass on the 29th of October at 10 am in St. Joseph's Church Clifden.

School Cross country

Oisín Maher and Aoibh Morrow represented the school in the Cross Country School championship finals. Aoibh finished just outside the qualifying times but performed remarkably well in her first Cross Country race.

Oisín qualified for the Connaught finals by finishing fourth. We wish Oisín the best of luck in the finals. Many thanks to the parents– Declan Maher and Ian Morrow for supporting us in this event. Well done!

Literacy interventions

Scoil Mhuire has invested a significant amount of money and time in early literacy interventions. We have available to us a graded reader system known as PM readers which we use as part of an intensive programme of Reading and Writing, which gives the pupils lots of opportunities to read books at their own level of competency. We have also invested heavily in teacher training to implement a programme called Reading Recovery. Reading Recovery is an early intervention designed to reduce literacy problems through early intervention.

Arts week

The children were given the opportunity to engage with a huge variety of Arts ranging from drumming to theatre. We had the privilege of being involved in the opening ceremony where our Sixth class drummers produced a remarkable display of drumming for President Higgins. The benefits of this week may be intangible and unquantifiable, but they are real. Learning to create and appreciate the Arts may be more important than

ever to the next generation as they grow up. A special word of thanks has to go to Brendan and Eily for their hard work and dedication, thus ensuring that schools remain at the centre of the Clifden Arts festival.

Parent's Association AGM

The PA's AGM took place last Monday night and unfortunately there wasn't enough parents in attendance to elect a new committee so it was decided that the present committee would continue on. I'd like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude as a school community to those who have volunteered and contributed so much to Scoil Mhuire. The PA funds a wide range of initiatives and resources in our school. Over the course of the last academic year alone the PA has funded our music lessons with Marie Walsh, our school website, musical instruments for the band and Therapeutic Riding lessons. Well done to everyone involved!!

Library Visit

Fourth class visited the library on Monday where and were involved in a workshop hosted by the children's author, Debbie Thomas. Debbie was a very engaging, entertaining and informative host and all the children enjoyed themselves thoroughly.

Sea Week

As part of this programme we will have ecologist/artist Gordon Darcy and marine biologist Dave McGrath visiting Scoil Mhuire.

Spaces, a band that requires a huge amount of audience participation, will also be playing as part of Sea Week. We look forward to hosting them.

Dates for the diary

Tuesday 24 October: Spaces Show

Wednesday 25 October: Gordon Darcy from Heritage Ireland

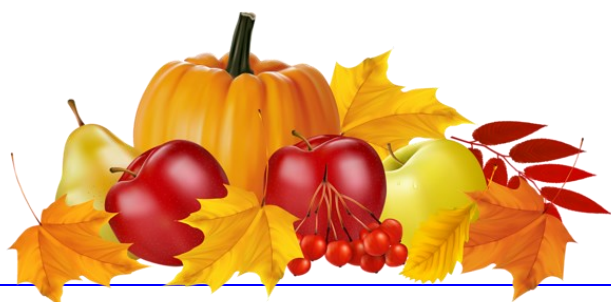
Thursday 26 October: Dave McGrath from Heritage Ireland

Friday 27 October: school closes at 12.00 for staff Inservice.

Monday 30 October: School is closed for Mid-term Break.

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.



Coding

Sixth class will start studying computer coding on the 6th of November. There is evidence that this form of learning has benefits beyond the realm of software applications and that it enables children to develop higher level thinking in both a creative and logical sense.

AWARDS FOR SEPTEMBER 2017

	STUDENT OF THE MONTH	BEST EFFORT	SPECIAL PERSON
Junior Infants	Zarah Joyce- James O'Flaherty- Jake Lambert- Emetas Bielskis- Daniel Otvos- Rachel Ward Megan O'Rourke—Samuel Damski—Ewan Prevost		
Senior Infants	Ruth Abraham Aoibhin O'Malley Rory Ashe	Bridget Ella Conroy Shane Conneely Oisin O'Sullivan	Mimi Brow Harry Sun Ailbhe Gavin
1st Class ES	Aaliyah Bankole Nelly Harris Conor Canavan	Drew Lambert Devna Das Kevin Coyne	Leyla Rose Sweeney Matthew Carey Zuzanna Bobrowska
1st Class TC	Cara McNamara Oisin Gavin Ava Mitchell	Alex McGowan Teresa Conroy Klara Ktobukowska	Darragh Keenan Siobhan McGonagle Alex McGowan Barry Loveland
2nd class	Taylor Kelly Filip Dros Evan O'Malley	Roisin O'Toole Ellen Conneely Edel Nee	Tom Mansfield Tadhg McDonagh Joey Loveland
3rd class	Oisin Maher James Canavan Holly O'Toole	Chantelle Sweeney Georgia Lambert Niamh Heanue	Ella Coohill Stephen O'Rourke Sean Coyne
4th class	Adam Duke Ellieann O'Toole CLASS	Stephen Dickinson Dubheasa O'Connor AWARD FOR	Clementine Lavelle Adam Gavin ARTS WEEK
5th class	Zak Mahon John Lambert	MacDarragh Coneys Nils Prevost	Chloe Conneely Jade Flaherty
6th class	Kevin Allen Stephanie Conneely Emilia Jarosz	Kathleen Sweeney Daniel Conroy Nathan Davis	Clíodhna Conroy Jake O'Flaherty Mia O'Connor
Special Awards	Faye Walsh Oliver Birmingham		