

June 2008

Scoil Mhuire Primary School Newsletter



Each person through positive learning experiences will be stimulated to achieve his/her full potential, face life confidently, find fulfilment and be respectful in an ever-changing world.

TODAY, WEDNESDAY OUR GAELIC TEAM PLAY IN THE COUNTY FINAL



Congratulations to our Gaelic team who were victorious over Moore N.S. in the county semi-final of Cumann na mBunscoil. So far they have defeated Boyle, Strokestown and Castlerea. **The final is in the Hyde Park, on Wednesday 18th June, at 6.00p.m.**, when they play Strokestown, once again. Please support them by turning out for the match. Our colours are navy and blue. Well done to all involved especially our teachers Ms. Gaughan, Ms. Kilcullen and Ms. O' Connor. Thank you also to Séamus Gilleran for his help. By Ebony. We usually do Gaelic during lunch time but we also do it after school. Gaelic training is fun but sometimes we get tired. By Karolina, Isabella, Thayna

BEST WISHES

Congratulations to all in our school who made their First Communion. Best wishes also to our 6th class pupils who were confirmed. May God keep them safe always. Thank you to Ms. Heneghan and the school choir for singing so beautifully at the Confirmation.

Congratulations to all the teachers that got engaged, married and had new born babies - Ms. Fallon, Ms. Acton, Ms. Greene, Ms. Mitchell, Ms. Mc Dermott, Ms. Connaughton and Ms. Feeley. Best wishes in the future. From Leah and Clodagh.

SPORTS DAY A HUGE SUCCESS, DESPITE RAIN

A big thank you to all involved in Sports Day. Over thirty parents volunteered to help us and they were fantastic. Ms. O' Connor put huge work into co-ordinating the event along with Ms. Morris. Children had a wonderful time even when it rained. Thank you to the student Gárdaí - Michael, Vikki, Stephen and Brendan who also helped out on the day. Derek Mc Conn and Murtagh Brennan were employed to organise and set up the activities. The day cost €1,000 but with the good ideas we picked up this year costs should be alleviated over the next few years.

ROS FM 94.6

Our class was divided into groups of four. Every group got the opportunity to write their own script and broadcast their own radio programme which went out on Ros FM 94.6 on a Monday evening at 5.30p.m. - 6.00p.m. The groups covered a variety of topics—book reviews, film and CD reviews. They read stories and poems, played their favourite music and interviewed many different people. 5th class

DATES TO REMEMBER

TODAY, Wednesday 18th June: COUNTY FINAL, HYDE PARK, 6.00P.M.

Thursday/Friday 19th and 20th June: ARTS DAYS
€5 per family please to cover Artist's fees

Friday 27th June: school closes for Summer Holidays

Monday 1st September: school opens for start of school year

Literacy Awards

Congratulations to Rosie O' Meara, Jenni Kilduff and Ella Mahon for winning prizes in the 'Write a Poem' project sponsored by Carrick on Shannon Education Centre. Rosie's poem is to be published in a book to celebrate the event.

Well done to Róisín Mc Caffrey and Rosie O' Meara who won a Merit Award. Shannon, Quigley, Katie Dolan and Jacinta Gaffey's books were highly commended. The Special Merit Awards ceremony is on Monday, June 16th in the Bush Hotel, Carrick on Shannon.

1st/2nd class.

Our class wrote a class novel *Having to Learn the Hard Way - Utterly Unusual Adventure*. We sent it to two publishers - one said it was good but too short. The second one said 'no thanks'. Our class really enjoyed writing it. We sent copies around the school and the children loved it.

Translators needed

Thanks to Mary Lanigan, on the Parents Association committee, who is working on getting our school booklet translated into Portugese. Our school booklet is now available in Polish, thanks to Dr. Wojciech Wawrzynek, a member of the Board of Management. The school needs a pool of parents who would be able to translate letters, information etc. into different languages. If you are interested would you please contact Ms. Caroline Gannon, teacher, who has recently been given a post in the school for overseeing the successful integration of pupils from foreign countries.

We hope to encourage the children to teach each other basic words in all the different languages used by children in the school - Polish, Portugese, Urdu, Chechen, Russian, Lithuania, Indian, Latvian etc.

Our pupils have enjoyed teaching their immigrant peers the Irish language and many of them have reached a very high standard in *labhairt na gaeilge*. I want to thank our pupils, Caroleena from Poland and Isabell from Brazil who acted as translators at our recent Information Evening for parents of new entrants.



MUSIC

The Fleadh Ceoil Roscommon, took place in Athleague this year. The Grúpa Ceoil came 1st in the group category. Niamh Mc Dermott came 3rd in solo Banjo. Sara Mc Dermott, Aoife and Ciara Garvey came 1st place in the Trio and all are now through to the Connacht final in Westport, Co. Mayo. Fiona Doherty comes from Sligo every Tuesday to teach the girls violin. We thank Ms. Morris for the great music she has been teaching us. Sara and Louise



AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

After school activities and Homework Club continue to be a great success with many children taking part in Gaelic, Basketball, Volleyball, Irish Club, Music, Choir, Camogie. Thank you to all staff who run these activities: Ms. Acton and Ms. Duignan (co-ordinators). Ms. Kearney will be organising this for September. Ms. Heneghan, Ms. Greene, Ms. Shaughnessy, Ms. Kilcullen, Ms. Gannon, Ms. Connell, Ms. R. Carney, Ms. Gaughan, Ms. Mc Dermott, Ms. Connaughton and Ms. Morris.

CAMOGIE

For the month of June 3rd and 4th classes are being trained in Camogie skills. Recently we took part in a Camogie Blitz. It was great fun. Thank you to Ms. Mc Dermott and Ms. Connell for helping us with camogie.

Lord, as the year draws to an end, we thank you for each and every child: each one of them is a special gift and we promise, with your help to do all we can to help them develop the skills and confidence they need to be happy and content in life. We thank you for the staff, parents and wider school community, for their willingness to do every day what is best for the children in our care. Now as the year is ending, Lord, we ask you to be near, to be our guide and guardian throughout the coming year and help us to make the



AN INTER-GENERATIONAL PROJECT

In April and May 2008 fifth class girls from our school met with residents from the Nursing home and seniors from the Day Care Centre to share stories in a project sponsored by Roscommon library. We shared stories on a variety of topics including: *Local Heroes, Entertainment, Food and Cooking* and *Where we live*. We acted as scribes for the elderly. A book was published titled *In My Day* which is available in the library. We had a book launch on 3rd June in the Sacred Heart Hospital where we celebrated the launch of the book with the elderly. It was fantastic. If you want to know more you can read the book in the local library.
By Amy Dolan

Promoting Gaeilge in our school - Gaeilge sa Scoil

Scoil Mhuire hosted the Regional final of Féile Drámaíochta in the school on March 13th. All classes from 1st to 6th took part and five were nominated to go forward to the Connaught Final in the Linenmill Theatre in Castlebar in April. The following plays were performed at the féile and the children also performed on stage for their parents during the week prior to the competition. - Rang a haon - An Mealbhacán Uisce Ollmhór - Ranganna ½ Plúirín Sneachta, Ranganna ¾ Hanzel agus Gretel, Rang 4 Beidh aonach amárach, Rang 5/6 Codladh Céad Bliain, Rang 1 Rí na Coille, Rang 2 Bróga Briste Draíochta., Rang 3 An Zú, Rang 5 Luaithrín, Rang 6 Clan Lir.

The adjudicator at the féile was Mr. Séamus McCormack and he praised the children for the high standard of gaeilge and overall performance. Lauren Hunt won best actor and her prize was sponsored by the Oifigeach Gaeilge in Roscommon County Council -Dónal Mac Aodha. The féile was only one of several events run in the school during Seachtain na Gaeilge. Roscommon Co. Council presented the school with a set of Irish books in recognition of the school's promotion of the Irish language. The school hosted a Tráth na gCeist in which several schools took part and again prizes were awarded courtesy of Roscommon Co. Council. Dónal worked with the school in planning activities for the week. As a result of this cooperation the children were treated to a show 'as Gaeilge' performed by a well known Theatre Group 'Branar' One of the highlights of the show was the fact that it was held inside a marquee, which was assembled in the school hall. Roscommon Art Centre has been very active in the promotion of Irish Language for the children and several classes have attended and enjoyed shows and workshops at the Centre.

Irish Dancing

We had two teams of Irish Dancers in the County Roscommon Fleadh Ceoil. The Senior group took 1st place and the Junior group came 2nd. They are now through to the Connacht final. We are looking forward to it. By Kirsten.



Ms. Kearney's trip to Ethiopia

As you know we have been raising money for the poor children in Ethiopia. Ms. Kearney is going to visit Ethiopia this Summer and help some children there, who are living on the streets and others in an orphanage. So far we have raised €2,305.72. May all the wishes of these children come true and may they be happy with everything they get.

Thanks to the help of Nuala Dolan, parent, ice-cream will be on sale on Sports Day to help raise money for this good cause.

By Gabia and Hayleigh.

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT

Many children in senior classes received certificates of *Junior Achievement* following training provided by Roscommon County Council on Science, natural, human and man-made resources, planning etc. Each child completed a work book. We made our own town out of paper and cardboard. We pretended to own a shop and restaurant and some of our class were the customers. We received Junior Achievement certificates. We had good fun. By Colleen, Nicole, Michaela

THE PARENTS ASSOCIATION

The Parents Association has gone through many changes in the past school year and the committee would like to thank all the parents for their support and help. We've had a great year.

Easter Parade

The Easter Parade was the highlight of 2008 when we won a 1st prize for our school float. A big thankyou to all the parents and teachers who helped with creating the float. The children had a great day and the school band did us proud.

Fundraising

In May we raised €1,630 at the church gate collection. Again, thanks to all the parents for their help with this. Also in May we collected over €500 for the May Day No Uniform Day. We were delighted to be in a position to give €1,000 towards the school band.

Communion Party

On the 17th May parents of 1st class children organised the First Holy Communion Party in the halla. It was held after a lovely service in the church. The children had a great time and parents and relatives enjoyed a well earned cup of tea.

Thankyou

On behalf of the parents we would like to compliment the children of our school for their hard work and their successes and efforts in the year. We are very proud of their achievements. We would also like to thank Mrs. Feeley and all the staff for their help, hard work and dedication throughout the year.

All parents of children at Scoil Mhuire are members of the Parents Association and we always encourage you to attend meetings. *For the safety of the children please drive and park carefully outside the school.*

ENJOY THE SUMMER

Mary Feeley: Chairperson, Scoil Mhuire Parents Association



PARENTS ASSOCIATION GIVE €1,000 FOR SCHOOL BAND

Our Junior Infants and Ms. Feeley receiving a €1,000 cheque from Teresa Duke on behalf of the Parents' Association. In the background you may notice a black and white drawing. This is the Parents' Association's logo of two hands, designed by Angie Duignan; a child's hand and a parent's hand interlinked, which links with our own school logo, also focused on hands. Parents have also volunteered to help on Sports Day and Arts Days. Thank you each and every one of you for all your help. I want to thank all our parents on the **Board of Mangement**: Mary Feeley, Liam Corcoran, Mercedes Lyons, Cathal Mahon and Dr. Wojciech Wawrzyniek.

SYMPATHY

Scoil Mhuire school community extends its deepest sympathy to Mary Feeley and her family whose father passed away last Thursday night, 12th June. At this time we remember in our prayers all who suffered bereavements during the 2008 - 2009 school year. A Dhia, coinní gí faoi do chumhdach gach duine acu i bhFlaitheas.