

June 2009

Scoil Mhuire Primary School Newsletter

www.conventprimaryroscommon.ie



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.

MRS. MARGARET CLARKE RETIRES

Tomorrow, Tuesday 30th June, our colleague Mrs. Margaret Clarke is retiring.

Mrs. Clarke is a very talented teacher who always put the children first. She expected the highest standards from each and every child, accepting each child at their level. Mrs. Clarke was consistent and the children felt secure and safe in her classroom knowing exactly what she expected of them. Mrs. Clarke never let any organisational or management issue in school take from her time with the children in her care. Every day Mrs. Clarke focused 100% on the child's pastoral needs, her teaching and each child's learning.

Mrs. Clarke spent most of her years teaching infants and in later years worked with children with special needs. Mrs. Clarke always gave that extra care and attention to children when they needed it, giving time from her own personal life, if necessary, in her effort to meet their needs. She *looked out* for children going through a 'tough time' and was always there to remind me of their needs, ensuring all that could possibly be done for the children was done. I admire her for her dedication to the job, her professionalism and her genuine care for each and every child.

Margaret we in the Scoil Mhuire school community hold you in the highest esteem and in the words of John O'Donoghue from his poem 'Beannacht'

May the nourishment of the earth be yours,
May the clarity of light be yours,
May the fluency of the ocean be yours,
May the protection of the ancestors be yours.

And so may a slow
Wind work these words of love around you,
An invisible cloak
To mind your life

WE WILL MISS YOU.

Congratulations to teachers, Mrs. Niamh Fallon and Mrs. Deirdre Crehan on the safe arrival of their baby girls.

TO ALL IN THE SCOIL MHUIRE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

This newsletter is different to previous issues in that I am going to use it as a medium for thanking all the wonderful people, - adults and children in our community who contributed towards the success we had in our school in the 2008—2009 school year. Our school website is used by many in our community to access information on our school. Information is updated weekly. The website reduces the need to go into detail in this newsletter on the many activities that have taken place in our school. Suffice it is, to give you a brief account of the main activities. For more information I suggest you visit www.conventprimaryroscommon.ie If you do not have access to the internet please let me know and we will print for you any information you require about our school. School booklists, up-to date calendar, policies etc. are available on the website. The school information booklet is in English, Polish and Portuguese.



President Mary Mc Aleese presents Ms. Morris, Rachel, Beatriz and Genevieve with the Gleo award, by Foras na Gaeilge for 'best practice' in Scoil Mhuire in promoting the Irish language.

Sixteen primary and post-primary schools throughout the island of Ireland were selected on the basis of their innovation and creativity in promoting the use of spoken Irish amongst their students. Scoil Mhuire received an award worth €3,000 in recognition of its best practice in the promotion of oral Irish. Thirty eight short listed schools were visited by the independent judges, who then selected two primary and one post-primary school from each region for the best-practice awards presented

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

I want to thank sincerely each member of the Parents Association committee and all our parents who make up the broader Parents Association for generously giving of their time to activities in the school. We are very fortunate to have parents who support the staff and school in so many positive ways. Our children and families have gained so much from their work, all voluntary. The following are some of the activities/projects parents have helped us with this year:

- The Family Fun Day
- Sports Day
- Arts Days
- Green Schools
- Organisation and purchase of Band Uniforms
- Purchase of Mathematical Equipment
- Communion Party
- Christmas Concert
- Transport to sporting events
- Polish Trip
- Photographs

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

I want to thank my fellow board members on the Board of Management who supported me during the year and for their wisdom and advice—Fr. Eugene Mc Loughlin, Mercedes Lyons, Margaret Mannion (Deputy Principal whose sound judgement is very much appreciated), Mary Feeley, Liam Corcoran, Cathal Mahon and Dr. Wojciech Wawrzyniek.

STAFF

Go raibh maith agaibh do gach duine ar an bhfoireann for your individual generosity in ensuring we are able to provide such a broad range of activities for our children. Some of our staff may not be involved in particular sporting, art or after school activities but their input behind the scenes ensures the smooth running of day to day activities in the school. To each of you for your support and help — thank you.

- Science Day
- Choir
- Computers and ICT
- Band
- Irish Dancing - county winners
- Gaelic - County semi finalists
- Camogie - County B final winners
- Quiz - county winners

- Soccer - county winners
- Beading and Jewellery making
- French
- Arts Days
- Sports Day
- Volleyball – regional winners
- Polish trip
- Green Schools
- Samba Drumming
- Health and Safety
- Playground activities
- School tours/ trips
- Planning
- Library
- Equipment/ resources
- Grúpa Ceoil - county fleadh winners
- Science Evening
- Liturgical Events
- Caretaking/cleaning
- Catering
- Homework club
- Interculturalism

A special thank you to Ann Igoe, secretary and Mary and Micky Burgoyne for keeping our school so clean and tidy.



1st Class boys and girls enjoying *Tug Of War* on Sports Day



Some of our Camogie team who won the County B Final with their coach Ms. Ann Connell.

STANDARDISED TEST RESULTS

With regard to **English and Mathematics** the following gauge may help you to better understand the comments on your child's ability in your child's recent report. Children '*experiencing some difficulty*' or lower are scoring 'below average' compared to children of similar age elsewhere in the country. Children '*managing comfortably*' or higher are scoring average/above average compared to children of similar age elsewhere in the country. If you wish this further explained to you please make an appointment to see me before Friday July 3rd.

Comment	Standardised test score
Highly capable and competent:	9 - 10
Capable and competent:	7 - 8
Managing comfortably:	5 - 6
Experiencing some difficulty:	3 - 4
Experiencing significant difficulty:	1 - 2

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 right decisions for each and every child - these precious gifts you have given us.

HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY

Una Feeley and Staff