

June 2012

Scoil Mhuire Primary School Newsletter

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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.



Gaelic: Roscommon Gaels won the under-12 county final. Many of our pupils were on the team. Congratulations to Emma Feerick, Ciara Towey, Rachel Doran, Eva Devane, Alannah Somers, Susan Brennan, Emma Kilmartin, Rachel Nally, Lisa Mullen, Ruth Mc Neill, Katie Johnson, Emily Mc Nulty Cleary, Mia Fallon, Amy Mc Neill, Ella Mahon, Ciara O' Connor, Helen Corcoran, Eva Beisty, Ava Giblin, Tara Mannion. Although our school team was defeated this year, we thank their coaches Louise Kilcullen and Aidin Ni Dhonncha who did a wonderful job in raising the standard of Gaelic in the school.

Camogie: Our team includes Aife Feeley, Lisa Mullen, Chloe Johnson, Niamh Mc Court, Emma Kilmartin, Róisín Mc Caffrey, Hannah Staunton, Tara Dolan, Ciara Corcoran, Ruth Mc Neill, Jane Horan, Martha Jane Brennan, Rosie O' Meara, Ava Giblin and Ella Mahon. We started training with Mrs. Connell in September 2011. There were a total of 24 on the panel. Training was always good craic and every session consisted of skills and then a match. When it was raining we went to the gym. It was a good substitute but I think we all preferred going outside. All of this hard work led us to a county final against Gaelscoil de hÍde. Our school was very well supported at the final, flags and banners were brought to show the pride we have for our school. We were told that the amount of resilience and spirit we showed was outstanding. It was a high-scoring match on both sides and although we were leading in the first half, the Gaelscoil crept ahead in the second half, therefore winning the game. We would like to thank Mrs. Connell for all her help and for giving up her spare time to train us every Wednesday. She is a brilliant and skilful Camogie teacher. *Article by Lisa Mullen, Niamh Mc Court and Chloe Johnson.*



Athletics: Shannon Quigley pictured left came 2nd in the 80m and 3rd in the 200m races in the recent Connacht Athletics Club championships. Shannon is also through to the All-Ireland Community Games. Laura Hynes also ran extremely well during the year. We are so proud of you both.

A message from Mrs. Feeley:

Sixth class girls started Junior Infants on the same day I took up the post of principal of Scoil Mhuire. For this reason they will always hold a special place in my heart. While watching many of them play Gaelic and Camogie, from the sideline in Roscommon and Boyle, I felt a deep pride. Our pupils showed qualities that will bring them far; a strong team spirit, resilience, perseverance and good humour, even in defeat. On the corridors I see these wonderful young ladies showing a genuine care for the younger pupils and displaying good manners and respect always towards each other and staff. We set high standards for the girls both academically and socially and they have triumphed. A sincere thank you to each and every one of you for the joy you have given me. I feel privileged to have been in a job where I could watch you develop into the wonderful girls you are. Remember you have control over your life. Make good choices.

May God keep you safe - always.



Solomia holds a Spider Crab under the watchful eyes of Sarah, Katelyn and Dania



The Midland Theatre Company visited our school and performed *The Emperor's New Clothes*. Aoife, Oliver Jericho and Britney also contributed to the performance on the day.



Disneyland Cake: Rayan Mezhidov had watched ELev8 when they launched a competition in honour of Disneyland Paris's 20th Anniversary. The prize: a trip to Paris for the class. The task was to make a large cake. Mary Feeley Flynn, grandmother of Aife Feeley, assisted Aife and two other girls in making, icing and decorating the cake. The cake took four days to make. The cake was brought to school and assembled there. Pictures and videos were taken of the cake and the class. The bottom tier was lemon, the second was orange and the top was chocolate. We were very happy with our achievement but at the same time we were a little disappointed that we wouldn't be going to Paris. But it was still a great experience and great fun! **By Aife Feeley, Chloe Golden, Niamh Tully and Amanda Vitor.**



Roscommon under-21 All-Ireland Gaelic finalists provide a day's coaching in Scoil Mhuire: Our 1st class children pictured right with Fintan Kelly, Donie Smyth and John Mc Manus.

The Arts Centre: Our school choir performed in the Arts Centre with *The Three Tenors*. This was a wonderful experience. We also went to see *Bag of Queens* in the Arts Centre. It was great fun. **By Lauran Jordan.** We went to *Back to the Eighty*, which was performed by the pupils in the community college. It was brilliant and a credit to the students of that school.

Féile Drámaíochta: This year at Christmas, Junior Infants – 4th classes performed a play. They were so good. In March, 5th and 6th classes performed Irish plays including Annie, Rumpelstiltskin and Sleeping Beauty. All three classes went to the Connacht final in Galway. Two classes performed. On their way home they stopped off at the beach and had their lunch. **By Megan Burke.**

We were all so proud of ourselves. I was Miss Hennigin and one of my best friends was Annie. I watched my Mum and she was so proud of me. She says I was born to sing and perform. Even though we did not win it was the taking part that counted. **By Megan Farrell.**

When my class and I were practising and saying our lines in Irish, it was like saying it in English. Nobody really noticed that we were actually speaking Irish. Mrs. Feeley came in and said that even though we didn't win she was still really happy for us, because we did our best.

Snow-White with a twist !: Instead of dwarves we had jockeys. It was really cool. I loved practising for it. As the night got nearer and nearer we got very nervous. Now it was our time to shine. Everyone did so well. Everybody remembered their lines and it was outstanding. It was amazing. Poor Alexia fell but she got straight back up. **By Emma Mannion.**

Halloween: Halloween this year was brilliant. The teachers and students dressed up (so did Mrs, Feeley). Ms. Fallon dressed up as Homer Simpson. **By Tara Crowley.**

Music:

Since that joyful day in 2nd class when Mrs. Morris announced that we could become members of the band, we began to love music. Now we are in 6th class and we are competing in competitions all over Ireland, but we would never have made it this far without the help and support of Scoil Mhuire. Every year the 2nd class girls get the chance to join the school band. It's great that every child gets the opportunity to play music and hopefully they will continue to love and play music as we have.

Each year we enter the biggest traditional music competition of the year—the Fleadh. This year both of us made it through to the Connacht Fleadh. We are practising hard and hopefully we can make it to the All-Ireland.

Myself (Annie Mc Nally) and my brother Jack auditioned for the television programme *Feis and Blood*. A few days later they told us we got through. *Feis and Blood* is a family competition that takes place every year in the RTE studios. We had a great time performing and it was a lovely opportunity that we will never forget.

We want to thank Mrs. Morris and Mrs. Feeley for all their help and support.

By Aife Feeley and Annie Mc Nally.



Our wonderful musicians who will be representing Roscommon in the Connacht Fleadh: Mary-Elizabeth Connolly, Aife Feeley, Chloe Fallon, Annie Mc Nally, Niamh Finnegan, Leonie Mc Namara and Niamh Tully. Bronagh Cassidy, Carolina Pazio and Jagoda Swynarczuk.

Sixth class tour: The first activity we did was rock climbing. The best activity was jumping into bog holes. We were so filthy but it was so much fun. The holes were full of water from the rain and as a result were very muddy. It was great craic and the highlight of our day. Then we went kayaking and in no time we were squeaky clean. Then we had a shower and got back into our uniforms. Thank you Mrs. Crehan for a great day out. *Lauren England, Tara Mannion.*

Swimming: Congratulations to Tara Dolan, Jenni Kilduff, Keela and Hannah Farnon who will be swimming in the All-Ireland finals in Athlone in August. They all received gold medals in the Connacht finals. Well done also to Jade Gallagher and Alexia Grecu.



Cycle Training: We had cycle training with three safety professionals led by Noel Feeley. There were quite a few things for us to do! There were braking exercises, balancing exercises and some slow races. Use your front brake gently first, as it slows you down faster. Then use your back brake to halt you altogether. This way you won't fly over the handlebars! We had to slalom in between a row of three and four cones. After we all had been around about twice, the cones got tighter. Then even tighter! You had to judge your turns EXACTLY right, not too tight or not too wide, or you would knock the cone over and lose your balance.

After that we moved to an activity using hand signals and brakes too. It was like an all-in-one. After that we did our slow races. The rules were simple: if the feet touch the ground you're out and the person who finishes last (yes LAST) wins. We have learned all we need to know about cycling on the road and are hoping to cycle on the road sometime before the end of the year! *By Merissa Partabh.*

AWARD OF SCIENCE AND MATHS EXCELLENCE

2011/2012: Scoil Mhuire has achieved the *Award of Science and Maths Excellence for 2011/2012*. The standard of log books and the wide variety of science and maths work being carried out impressed the assessment panel. Well done everyone!

GREEN SCHOOLS FLAG AND ACTIVE SCHOOL DAY

MONDAY 25TH JUNE: Our 7th Green Flag will be raised on Monday. Children are encouraged to walk or cycle to school. Children from 5th and 6th who have passed their Bike training will be taken on a 'bike tour' around Roscommon town with Tiernan Mc Clusker, Cycle Gardaí and teachers. Any parents available are welcome to join the group at 11.15a.m. Children must wear helmets and high-visibility vests. **Children are encouraged to wear green on this day.**

Wondering what books to get your child over the Summer? Hi, I'm *Laura Regan* and I am an avid reader of books. I read lots of things in my spare time such as cereal packets, magazines, advertisements and lots more. The top 5 book I have enjoyed reading are: *Dizzy* by Cathy Cassidy. *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins. *Holes* by Louis Sachar. *Hetty Feather* by Jacqueline Wilson and *Glitter* by Kate Maryon.



Staff say thank you to all our parents who have got involved in so many activities during the year. They have been a wonderful asset to the school. Their advice and support is very much appreciated. Sharon Harrington, Chairperson, is pictured above helping out on Sports Day with Margaret King in the background. Margaret spear-headed the calendar project which took place at Christmas. Thank you all!

The Parents Association has had a very busy year. We would like to thank all the parents that have helped out on numerous occasions at the church gate collection, Communion party etc., throughout the year. We would also like to thank you all for adhering to the parking rules in the vicinity of the school. The safety of our children is of utmost importance. As parents you are all members of the Parents Association and you are all very welcome to attend our meetings during the year. Keep an eye out for our AGM early next year, our meetings are informal and a great way for us as parents to get involved in the school community.

We would like to compliment the fantastic children on all their hard work and successes during the year. We are proud of each and every child and finally a special word of thanks and appreciation to Mrs. Feeley and all the staff for your hard work and dedication shown to our children throughout the year. We wish you all a restful and sunny summer.



Eva, Karolina and Vitoria in Senior Infants enjoy using **StreetSmart**. StreetSmart is an exciting initiative set up by the Road Safety Authority which aims to bring issues of road safety to life for young school children. StreetSmart is designed for three distinct age groups: 4-5, 5-8 and 8-12 years. There is a combination of interactive activities available for each age group. StreetSmart also involves a streetscape mat which invites children to carry out typical, everyday cycling or pedestrian tasks. They can dress up and adopt various roles. All our children had an action packed, fun filled week that enhanced the children's knowledge of the rules of the road.

Reflection by Aoife Regan: I was going to write about the play my class did this year but then I thought – well you know what – it's the little things that count like little visits to the church or choir or even getting a visit from Mrs. Feeley. If you put all those little things together, it would be as good as a trip to Portugal. Look at Sports day. Look how happy it made all the little kids. Fifth/sixth just want to show you how the little things can be amazing.

SYMPATHY: Scoil Mhuire school community extends its deepest sympathy to all families who have loved ones that passed away during the 2011—2012 school year. We remember you in our prayers . A Dhia, coinnigí faoi do chumhadach gach duine acu I bhFlaitheas.

PRAYER: We ask God to look after all our families during the Summer holidays. Watch over them and keep them safe.