

June 2013

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.



A message from Mrs. Feeley.

We are so proud of our 55, Sixth class girls who are examples to us all, of how people from different nationalities and cultures can learn and live happily together (Ruth, Eva, Elisa, Daniele and Shelby).

Our children have had the privilege of learning with boys and girls from all over the world. All of these girls speak English fluently. Many of us, their parents, have not had the privilege of a 'common language' or the experience of mixing informally every day with such a diverse population. Due to differences in language and culture we as adults find it challenging and this is understandable. I know parents in Scoil Mhuire who have tried, despite these challenges, to play their role in promoting integration in our school. I admire them and thank them.

What values do we want our children to hold when they eventually leave us? We are their role models. Many of our young Irish population are working abroad and in so doing every day are mixing with people from many different countries. Our girls, from their intercultural experiences in Scoil Mhuire, value the uniqueness and richness of the culture, language and history of a country. They have a very important role to play in all our futures—to lead the way in showing the world how people can be proud of and respect their own unique culture and language be it Irish, African, Brazilian, English, Polish, Chechen, Lithuanian, Latvian, Russian, Indian, Italian etc. while at the same time acknowledging, accepting, valuing other cultures and celebrating difference. Their intercultural experience has provided them with very important skills for their future lives as they travel, work and study here in Ireland and abroad. After all, our children are our future.

A message from Scoil Mhuire Parents Association.

The Parents Association Committee would like to thank Mrs. Úna Feeley and all the staff and parents of Scoil Mhuire who joined and helped with the numerous activities we organised this year including:

- Halloween dress up day
- Lenrec clothing recycling collections
- Christmas Carol singing
- National Parents Council information night
- Easter egg raffle
- Church Gage Collection
- Communion Party
- Second-hand uniforms sale
- Refreshments for incoming Junior Infants at the Information Evening.

A special word of thanks to the many parents who volunteered to help for Family Fun Day, which was such an enjoyable day for children and adults alike. Events like this require lots of help but are memorable for the whole school community.

We wish everyone a happy and restful Summer break and we look forward to the academic year ahead.

On behalf of the staff and Board of Management in Scoil Mhuire I want to thank the Parents Association committee for all the work they do in supporting the school.

I also want to thank sincerely our 100+ parents who volunteered to help at the Family Fun Day.

Thank you. Go raibh a mile maith agaibh,

Úna Feeley and staff.

Thank you to all who support and promote sport in our school.

Sports Day was held on Thursday 13th June. Thank you to Cathy O' Connor and all our parents who supported and helped out on Sports Day. A wonderful time was had by all the children.

Camogie and Gaelic: Congratulations to our football and camogie teams who both got through to the county finals. While they were not victorious on the day we are proud of each and every one of the girls. Thank you to Jane who captained the Camogie team and Alannah who captained the Gaelic team.

Ruth Mc Neill represented our school in the county Gaelic skills competition and Jane Horan represented our school in the Camogie skills competition. Jane came 3rd in the county which was a wonderful achievement.

Hurling Wall: Michael Carroll showed children and staff how the school Hurling Wall can be used very effectively to develop ball skills. We look forward to this wall getting plenty of use next year.

Spikeball: Congratulations to our girls who played on the Community Games Spike Ball team and came 2nd in the All-Ireland.

Cycling: Thank you to Noel Feeley and Sports Partnership who arranged training for our senior school pupils in cycling. **We are asking as many pupils as possible to cycle to school tomorrow, Thursday , 27th June. A group picture will be taken of all cyclists.**

A special thank you to our teachers who train our school teams – Ms. Kilcullen, Ms. Ní Dhonncha, Ms. Mc Aleer and Ms. Connell.

Community Games: Congratulations to all our pupils who competed in our local Community Games. Some of them will represent our county. Well done!

ARTS DAYS this year took place on the 28th and 29th May for infants to 6th classes. Many people came to help out with the activities and the days were a great success. Thank you everyone. We did printing, quilting, drumming, dancing , baking and painting. We also made clips, collages, puppets, sun catchers and dream catchers. Thank you to Ms. Crehan and Ms. O' Shea for organising the events. Congratulations to Rosie O' Mara, Keela Farnon, Lucy Henderson and Emma Feeley who were presented prizes for their art work on 'Road Safety' by the Garda Síochána.

MUSIC: Ms. Shaughnessy and Ms. Killeen gave classes in accordion after school. Ms Carey taught the flute bringing a new dimension to the sound of music in the school and Ms. Casey, in addition to accordion worked with our young violinists. Musical highlights were entertaining Santa and the crowds who came to see him turn on the Christmas lights in December and the Christmas concert at which the school band and Grúpa Ceoil took part. A group of teachers took part in Samba drumming workshops earlier the year and brought their skills back to the school band for their performance in the Easter Parade. A large group of children also performed at the Feile Ceoil in Athlone and the ten children in the Grúpa Ceoil were successful in the Roscommon Fleadh in Strokestown on Easter Monday. They will perform at the Connaught Fleadh in Carrick on Shannon on July 6th.

Communion and Confirmation: Congratulations to our children who celebrated these sacraments. Thank you to their teachers, Monsignor Travers, Canon Eugene, Bridín Regan and parents who prepared them for these special events. **We ask God to look after all our families this Summer and may they all return safely to us after the holidays. SCHOOL reopens on THURSDAY, 29TH AUGUST.**