



# Scoil Mhuire, Clontibret

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18<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## January 2023 Newsletter

Dear Parent/Guardian,

### Important Dates

23 <sup>rd</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Catholic Schools Week
Fri. 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Credit Union Schools Quiz in Sean McDermott's GAA Complex
Mon. 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Internet Safety Training workshops 2 <sup>nd</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> class
Sun. 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Fifth & Sixth Class perform at the Peace Proms in the RDS
Mon. 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	School Closure Bank holiday
Fri. 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Fifth Class participating in the Creative Clusters Day in the Iontas
Mon. 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	School photographer
Mon. 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Internet Safety Workshop for Parents @ 7pm via Zoom
16 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	School Closure Mid-Term Break

### Communication & Aladdin Connect

Please note that as and from **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023**, all communication from the school will be through the **Aladdin Connect App only**.

**Text Messages will only be sent in exceptional urgent circumstances.**

**Emails will be sent in the event that there is a problem with the Aladdin App.**

### Enrolment for September 2023

Children who have reached the age of four by 30<sup>th</sup> September of the year of enrolment are eligible to be enrolled. Children cannot start school prior to their fourth birthday. Only pupils newly resident in the school catchment area will be enrolled during the school year.

Enrolment for September 2023 is open from **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February** until **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February**.

Enrolment packs will be available by contacting the school at [office@scoilmhuireclontibret.ie](mailto:office@scoilmhuireclontibret.ie).

A copy of your child's Birth Certificate and your child's PPS Number will be required.

### Credit Union Quiz

The annual Credit Union Quiz will take place on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January @ 7pm in the Sean Mc Dermott's GAA Complex, Threemilehouse. Every best wish to the pupils representing our school.

### Spelling Bee

We ran our very first Spelling Bee in Scoil Mhuire this month. Well done to all the pupils from 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class who took part. There was a high standard of spelling on display as the children competed for a place in the regional Spelling Bee competition. Congratulations to Conor McGuigan, who was our winner, and will go forward to represent Scoil Mhuire in this year's competition.

### **Annual League Fundraising**

This week marks the beginning of our National League Forecast fundraising initiative. Your support is crucial as the Forecast has become critically important in raising funds for the day to day running costs of the school. An information letter and the first week's forecast sheets will be sent home with your child tomorrow, Thursday. Your support would be very much appreciated.

### **Internet Safety Workshops**

Internet safety workshops have been arranged for pupils and parents in the coming weeks. The children from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class will participate in the workshops in school on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January with external facilitators from REIM Training Solutions.

### **A Parent's workshop has been arranged for Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm via Zoom.**

Please see attached flyer for further details.

A link will be sent via Aladdin closer to the date. This Internet Safety Workshop is available for all parents. It is important for parents to keep informed and up to date on internet safety. As parents it can be difficult to monitor screen time and internet safety. It can also be difficult to keep up to date with all the various apps and games, while at the same time, building a relationship of trust with your child and the internet.

I would encourage all parents to join this Internet Safety Workshop. There is no cost to parents. As parents we need to be aware of the challenges our children, teenagers and young adults may face online.

### **Catholic Schools Week & Grandparents Day**

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January has been dedicated as Catholic Schools Week. Each class will acknowledge this by having a prayer service daily.

An integral part of Catholic Schools Week is Grandparents Day. It is hoped that we will celebrate Grandparents Day later on in the year by inviting the grandparents of Second Class and Sixth Class to a prayer service and celebration in An Halla Spóirt. Further details with arrangements to follow.

### **Peace Proms**

The pupils in fifth & sixth class are looking forward to participating in the Peace Proms in the RDS, Dublin on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 1pm. The pupils have been rehearsing weekly after school with Ms. Lauren Murphy with the help of Ms. Arlene Brennan since the beginning of November.

This music education programme is culminating in a large scale performance of over 2500 children and a live orchestra. It will be a super experience for the children and a musical extravaganza for parents or family in the audience.

### **Photographer – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February**

The school photographer has been booked for Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February.

A group photograph will be taken of Junior Infants & Sixth Class.

A Proof Copy of the photographs taken will be sent home to each family with details of packs available, however, there is absolutely no obligation on anybody to purchase.

### **School Grounds Work**

The final phase of the school's grounds work is due to proceed at the beginning of March. It will include the provision of additional playground / field area, drainage, fencing, kerbing, direct access to the astro-turf and external painting. We look forward to the completion of these works and having an official opening before the summer holidays.

## **Creative Schools**

Scoil Mhuire has been fortunate to have been selected as one of four schools in Monaghan to be involved in the National Creative Cluster programme for the two year programme 2022 – 2024.

The Creative Clusters scheme provides schools with access to creative people, skills and resources and supports them to draw on their own skills and experiences and those in the wider community.

As it is a two year programme, our current pupils in Fifth Class will work alongside, Fifth Class in Annyalla N.S. and First Years in Beech Hill College and Castleblayney College.

The first day of workshops will be held on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February in the Iontas. The pupils will have an opportunity to work in a Physical Theatre workshop with Fiona Keenan, a Visual Arts workshop with Joanne Behan and a Creative Writers workshop with David Maine. This will surely be a very enriching and enjoyable experience for all involved.

## **Admissions Policy**

The Department of Education have informed all schools that the following text is to be included in the Admission Policy of all primary schools and that this legislative change is to be brought to the attention of all members of the school community.

*“Scoil Mhuire will cooperate with the National Council for Special Education in the performance by the Council of its functions under the Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs Act 2004 relating to the provision of education to children with special educational needs, including in particular by the provision and operation of a special class or classes when requested to do so by the Council.*

*Scoil Mhuire will comply with any direction served on the patron or the board, as the case may be, under section 37A and any direction served on the board under section 67(4B) of the Education Act.”*

Scoil Mhuire’s Admission Policy has been amended to reflect this legislative change.

## **Attendance**

In the event of a pupil being absent through illness or for any other reason, please inform the class teacher of the reason for absence via the Aladdin Connect App. If it is anticipated that the absence will be of a lengthy duration, the class teacher should be informed as soon as possible. This is required by the Child and Family Agency TUSLA.

## **Healthy Eating**

We have a Healthy Eating Policy in school and we actively encourage healthy lunches. We ask you to encourage a healthy lunch right from the start, which should include fruit, bread, a dairy product and a drink of milk, water or juice (no fizzy drinks or cans allowed).

A selection of the following can be included in lunch boxes: bread, scones, sandwiches, fruit (except nuts), natural or fruit yogurts (as opposed to those with ‘chocolate corners’), vegetables, pasta, cous-cous, water, milk or diluted fruit juice. Where senior pupils prepare their own lunches, the same recommendations apply.

Inclusion of the following is unacceptable: chocolate, sweets, cake, buns, snack bars, crisps, cereal bars, nuts, fizzy drinks or fruit drinks with a high sugar or saccharin content.

Working together, we can make a positive and lasting difference to lifelong eating habits.

I thank you for your ongoing support and I wish you all continued health and happiness for 2023.

Yours sincerely,  
Elizabeth Moorehead  
Principal