



Scoil Mhuire, Clontibret

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6th March 2024

March 2024 Newsletter

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day / Character Day
Monday 11 th March	Junior Infant Vaccination Day
Thursday 14 th March	Ceolchoirm sa Halla
Friday 15 th March	Lá Glas
Sunday 17 th March	St. Patrick's Day
Monday 18 th March	Bank Holiday
Thursday 21 st March	Lots of Socks Day
Friday 22 nd March	School closes @ 13:50 / 14:50 for Easter Holiday
Saturday 23 rd March	Clontibret Litter Pick Day
Monday 8 th April	School reopens
Saturday 13 th April	Cash for Clobber Collection Day
Saturday 27 th April	Confirmation @ 11am in St. Michael's Church Annyalla
Saturday 11 th May	First Holy Communion @ 11am in St. Mary's Church Clontibret

Inside Out Day

Sincere thanks to everyone for your generosity on our first ever, "Inside Out Day".

An amazing €1220 was raised on the day and will be donated to Pieta House and Special Olympics Ireland.

Cash for Clobber – Parent's Association

As part of the 2024 fundraising efforts, the Parent's Association are having a "Cash for Clobber" event again this year.

This involves getting all of our old clothes, shoes and handbags, sheets, towels and bedclothes together and a company pays by weight for them. This has been a very successful event in the last number of years.

The "clobber" will be collected on Saturday 13th April from the community centre.

School Funds

It is important to note that the Capitation Grant from the Department of Education to run the school is €183 a year per pupil, which is €1 per child per day.

With the ever increasing day to day cost of running the school, these fundraising events such as the Cash for Clobber, Bake Sales, the League Forecasting and the Lotto are vital to help pay the everyday costs of insurance, heating, lighting, water, waste etc.

Your support of the Parents' Association and all of our fundraising events is crucial to help meet our every day costs. Thank you sincerely for your ongoing support.

Enrolment for New Pupils 2024

Offers of places and Acceptance forms are being sent out this week.

The Acceptance Forms should be returned at your earliest convenience but no later than Wednesday 13th March.

Chess

We hosted the Ficheall Chess Tournament in our school this month for the first time. Our two teams, 'The Mighty Knights' and 'The King's Army', consisting of pupils from fifth and sixth class, got the opportunity to compete against children from four other schools from the Monaghan/Cavan area. A very enjoyable day was had by all.

PE Programme

The children have been enjoying a variety of coaching over the past month. The pupils from fourth, fifth and sixth class got the opportunity to take part in a block of hurling sessions with Coach Eamon Blaney from Ulster GAA.

The children from Junior Infants to third class are taking part in both Gaelic and Hurling sessions with Coach Ann McKenna from Cloghan, and our senior pupils are also getting the opportunity to take part in rugby coaching with Monaghan Rugby Club player, Will Arkel.

Activities for Pupils with Additional Needs

Paul Smyth and Pat McCabe from the FAI commenced Football for All coaching on Tuesday 20th of February for children with additional needs. These coaching sessions will continue every Tuesday for 6 weeks and are kindly funded by the FAI.

Inclusive Cycling commenced on the 22nd February for all children with additional needs. Francis and Paul from Bike Green are facilitating this workshop which will continue every Thursday for 5 weeks. This is kindly funded by Monaghan Sports Partnership.

Science Blast

The boys and girls in Rang a Cúig represented Scoil Mhuire at the ESB Science Blast Exhibition on Monday 4th March, at the RDS in Dublin with their investigation into the question 'Do Different Music Genres Affect Our Concentration?' They had an exciting day of presenting, exploring and learning about so many fascinating projects that over 4,000 boys and girls had investigated all across Ireland. They received excellent feedback from the adjudicator who awarded them with an ESB Science Blast trophy for their fascinating investigation. Well done to everyone involved.

Engineers Week- Combilift Visit to Rang a Trí

The pupils in Rang a Trí have been really enjoying Engineers Week! Earlier in the year, we participated in the STEPS Young Engineers Award, so the pupils were very excited to have the opportunity to re-visit the area of engineering.

This week, we were fortunate enough to receive a visit from Shauna McKenna from Combilift. Shauna spoke to us all about engineering in Combilift, about the different types of engineers and the roles that they have. We watched some very interesting videos and even did a very fun quiz.

The children really enjoyed the visit and learned a lot- a huge thank you to Shauna and Combilift for providing us with this exciting opportunity!



Seachtain na Gaeilge

Seachtain na Gaeilge runs from March 1st – March 17th. In school, we will be celebrating Seachtain na Gaeilge from March 11th- March 15th. The pupils will be participating in a range of interesting and exciting

initiatives and activities throughout the week with the aim of promoting the Irish language in our school, and enabling the children to have fun with the language.

We will be participating in the following daily activities:

- **An Luan 11ú Márta:** Ciorcal Comhrá- Each class will engage in a Ciorcal Comhrá (Conversation Circle)
- **An Mháirt 12ú Márta:** Tráth na gCeist- Each class will participate in a Seachtain na Gaeilge quiz!
- **An Chéadaoin 13ú Márta:** Peer learning- Each class will work with their buddy class to do something as Gaeilge as part of peer learning this week.
- **An Déardaoin 14ú Márta: Ceolchoirm-** Each class will have the opportunity to perform something small/short as gaeilge for other classes. This is not for perfection in performing. It is purely for the children to have the chance to speak, hear and hopefully enjoy Gaeilge. We had our first ceolchoirm last year and it was a great success, so we are really looking forward to this year's event!
- **An Aoine 15ú Márta: Lá Glas-** The children will be asked to wear something green to celebrate our Lá Glas. On this day, St. Patrick's Day Assembly will be hosted by Rang a Trí. We will all make an extra effort to speak as Gaeilge as much as we can during our Lá Glas!

Ceol Sa Chlós: Our 'Feel Good Friday' will become 'Ceol sa Chlós' on Friday 15th, as we will play some pop songs as Gaeilge on the yard!

The following activities will be ongoing throughout the week:

- **Damhsa: An Dreoilín-** All classes will be learning this dance. Cuiditheoirí from Rang a Sé will be helping teach the dance to the younger classes.
- **Gaeilgeoir an Lae:** Each class will have a 'Gaeilgeoir an Lae' every day.
- **Poster competition:** Rang a Dó- Rang a Sé will be creating a poster based on an Irish seanfhocal, which is an old Irish proverb. Naíonáin Shóisearacha, Naíonáin Shinsearacha agus Rang a hAon will be participating in a Seachtain na Gaeilge colouring competition. The winners will be announced at our Ceolchoirm on Thursday 14th March.

Lots of Socks Day – Tuesday 21st March

As you may be aware, Thursday 21st March is World Down Syndrome Day.

As a school, we have been delighted to take part in this campaign and it has been very successful over the last few years. This is just one additional way to bring about an awareness and to celebrate our inclusiveness as a school.

Therefore, on Tuesday 21st March, we invite all pupils and staff to wear '**Lots of Socks**'.

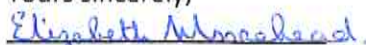
Donations will be accepted on the day, which will go towards the local Down Syndrome branch.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any assistance to you or if you wish any further clarification regarding the information above at office@scoilmhuireclontibret.ie.

In conclusion, I wish to thank you all for your continuing support of our school.

I wish you and your family a peaceful and enjoyable week and weekend ahead.

Yours sincerely,



Elizabeth Moorehead

Principal