



Scoil Mhuire, Clontibret

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11th March 2025

March 2024 Newsletter

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 12 th March	Ceolchoirm sa Halla
Friday 14 th March	Lá Glas
Monday 17 th March	St. Patrick's Day
Friday 21 st March	Lots of Socks Day
Tuesday 25 th March	Sacrament of First Penance in the school.
Wednesday 2 nd April	School closing @ 12 noon – Primary Mathematics Day
Friday 11 th April	School closes @ 13:50 / 14:50 for Easter Holiday
Monday 28 th April	School reopens
Saturday 10 th May	Confirmation @ 11am in St. Mary's Church, Clontibret
Saturday 17 th May	First Holy Communion @ 11am in St. Mary's Church Clontibret

Enrolment for New Pupils 2025

Offers of places and Acceptance forms were sent out last week.

The Acceptance Forms should be returned at your earliest convenience but no later than Wednesday 12th March.

Lá Glas – Friday 14th March

March 1st to March 17th is designated as Seachtain na Gaeilge in all schools.

As well as encouraging the children to use the cúpla focal, informally in the classroom, in the playground and at home, we are proposing to host a Lá Glas on Friday 14th March when children may wear a green item of clothing. This may include green socks, shamrocks, hats, bows/ribbons, t-shirts or hoodies.

It is very important to stress that you are not required to purchase anything specifically for the Lá Glas.

The children will engage in fun activities such as quizzes and games, as Gaeilge, during Seachtain na Gaeilge but in particular on Lá Glas, to promote our culture and heritage and to have a little bit of fun!!

Ceolchoirm – Wednesday 12th March

Also, as part of our Seachtain na Gaelige celebrations, we have organised a ceolchoirm for tomorrow, Wednesday, 12th March. Classes will participate and will perform a range of poems, songs and dramas as Gaelige. This is a great way to encourage and promote the use of Gaelige in a fun, interactive and creative way. We are really looking forward to being entertained by all our talented pupils!

Sacrament of First Penance

Fr. Kevin will celebrate the Sacrament of First Penance with the boys and girls preparing to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on Tuesday, March 25th, during the school day at the school.

Chess Tournament

This month, we had the pleasure of hosting the Ficheall Chess Tournament at our school. Our two teams, 'The Powerful Pawns' and 'The Baddie Bishops,' made up of fifth and sixth class pupils, had the opportunity to compete against students from six other schools in the Monaghan/Cavan area. The tournament was a tremendous success, and the pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Their enthusiasm and sportsmanship were on full display, and we are incredibly proud of their efforts. A huge congratulations to all involved!

Vex Robotics

The pupils in sixth class have been working on the Vex Robotics programme. This programme was initiated as a STEM programme in primary schools by Monaghan County Council featuring Vex Robotics IQ Robots. This is a collaborative programme which focuses on all the teambuilding aspects around initially building a robot and a games arena, then learning how to drive the robot in a Vex Robotics challenge or game. This will culminate in a primary school's competition later in the year, where the children will come together with other primary schools from around the county to showcase their robot and take part in the challenge.

Activities for Pupils with Additional Needs – FAI & Bike Green

- Pat McCabe from the FAI commenced Football for All coaching on Tuesday 25th 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 Friday 28th February for all children with additional needs. Francis and Paul from Bike Green are facilitating this workshop which will continue every Friday for 5 weeks. This is kindly funded by Monaghan Sports Partnership.

Credit Union Quiz

A heartfelt congratulations to Max Berry, Aaron Smyth, Johnathan McCarron Walsh, and Evan Kirk! After winning Section A of the Monaghan Area Credit Union Quiz, they proudly represented the region at the Chapter Level competition last Sunday. The boys showcased their knowledge and determination in what proved to be a challenging and wide-ranging quiz, making both themselves and their school proud. Well done, boys!

Science Blast

Over the past number of months, the boys and girls in rang a cúig have worked very hard on their project for the ESB Science Blast Exhibition. They investigated the question 'Does Physical Activity Have an Impact on Our Concentration and Well-being in School?' by completing an experiment on rang a dó, rang a trí, rang a ceathair and rang a sé. After analysing their results and discovering a very interesting conclusion, they presented their findings last week in the RDS. They had an exciting day of presenting, exploring and learning about so many fascinating projects that boys and girls from over 132 different schools had investigated. They received excellent feedback from the adjudicators who awarded them with an ESB Science Blast trophy for their fascinating investigation. What an achievement!

Engineer's Week

On Tuesday 4th of March, 4th class received an exciting visit from Seamus Duffy in Combilift. We learned about the history of Combilift and how it has grown into the successful, global company that it is today. The children learned about various types of machinery that are manufactured by Combilift and even got the opportunity to become engineers for the day by building structures made from spaghetti and marshmallows! Each group greatly enjoyed experimenting with different styles to see which structure could stand up independently. Thank you Seamus for such an interesting and exciting morning.



Physical Education Programme

The children have been enjoying their rugby coaching sessions with Monaghan Rugby Club player, Will Arkel. The children will continue to develop their skills with Will over the coming month.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

In school, we will be celebrating Seachtain na Gaeilge from March 10th- Match 14th.

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:

10ú Márta An Luan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ciorcal Comhrá- Each class will engage in a Ciorcal Comhrá (Conversation Circle)
11ú Márta An Mháirt	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tráth na gCeist- Each class will participate in a Seachtain na Gaeilge quiz!
12ú Márta An Chéadaoin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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 have held a ceolchoirm for the past two years during Seachtain na Gaeilge and it is always a very enjoyable event, so we are eagerly awaiting our ceolchoirm this year!
13ú Márta An Déardaoin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tóraíocht Taisce- Each class will participate in a scavenger hunt as Gaeilge.
14ú Márta An Aoine	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The children will be invited 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: We will play some pop songs as Gaeilge on the yard!• We look forward to being entertained by the local junior pipers in the school yard during our Am Sosa.

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. Naionáin Shóisearacha agus Rang a hAon will be participating in a Seachtain na Gaeilge colouring competition. The winners will be announced at our Ceolchoirm, tomorrow, Wednesday 12th March

Lots of Socks Day – Friday 21st March

As you may be aware, Friday 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 Friday 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.

School Half Day Closure – Wednesday 2nd April 2025

Please note that Scoil Mhuire will close at **12 noon on Wednesday 2nd April** to facilitate a Staff Training Day in the new Primary Maths Curriculum.

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

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Principal