



Scoil Mhuire Newsletter

September 2017

Welcome Back to a New School Year

Welcome back to all Scoil Mhuire pupils to a new school year. We are delighted to welcome our 71 Junior Infants as well as a further 17 pupils who joined different classes across the school. It is great to see the girls and boys looking so fit and well after the Summer holidays.



The pupils are enjoying wearing their new school uniform and I would like to thank our Parents & Guardians for all their great efforts in getting the children ready for the return to school. This year we are putting a special focus on attendance and punctuality, so we appreciate your help in making sure that your child is at school and on time every day.

We are delighted to announce that a Nurture Room for our pupils has just been opened. As space is very tight in the school, the Family Room (former Parents Room) has moved to the Breakfast Club/Homework Club prefab. We look forward to welcoming you to the new Family Room in the coming weeks. Our HSCL teacher, Laura Flynn, also has a new office in the school where she can meet with you in a quiet and relaxing space.

In order to keep you up to date with all that is happening in Scoil Mhuire, we plan to issue a monthly newsletter this year. You're also very welcome to visit our website to view the regular blogs from your child's class.

I hope that your child is enjoying being back at school and is settling in well.

Every good wish to all our Parents, Guardians and families

Mags Jordan
Principal

Scoil Mhuire Office Opening Hours

The Scoil Mhuire office will be open from 8.30am to 4.00pm daily. It will be closed from 10.45 to 11.00am and 12.45 to 1.15pm each day.

Pupil Safety

In Scoil Mhuire, it is very important to us that we do everything we can to ensure that your child is safe at all times.



We ask that Parents/Guardians co-operate with the following:

1. On dry mornings, your child will line up in the yard. Parents/Guardians who bring their children to school are asked to stand back from the line at lining up time.
2. On wet mornings, your child will line up in the hall. Parents/Guardians of Junior & Senior Infants may walk their child into the hall but are asked to leave promptly. All other Parents/Guardians are asked to say their goodbyes at the door coming in to the school.
3. Please wait in the yard when collecting your child at the end of the school day.
4. If you wish to make an appointment to speak with your child's teacher, Michelle in the office will arrange an appointment for you.

5. If you're collecting your child early for a medical appointment, please go to the office. Michelle will call your child from their class while you are signing him/her out.
6. If you need for any reason to call to the school during the day, please go to the main entrance at Michelle's office only.

Split The Pot

Our weekly draw for Split the Pot has had a great start. The first three draws of the year have already raised €660 for the school, with the same amount being shared by three lucky winners. Thank you to Parents & Guardians for supporting this very important fundraiser.



Sport

The Girls Mini Sevens Team played a blitz last Thursday in Coolcotts. They played The Mercy School, St. John's Road in their opening match. Although they had numerous chances, the match ended in a draw. Their second match was against Gaelscoil Charman. The girls played really well as a team but were defeated by a stronger opposition. Gaelscoil Charman progressed to the next round. Well done to our girls who showed some great skill and talent.

Scoil Mhuire Boys Football Team began their Rackard League campaign with a loss to Oylegate on Monday. Next up is Gaelscoil Charman on Thursday. Best of luck boys.

Congratulations to the Clonard U12 and U10 teams on their recent county success.

Fish

Thank you to Rainbow Yellow Class for the new fish in our fish tank. How many can you see?



Scoil Mhuire School Band 2017

Our 6th class school band resumed their lessons last Friday and we are all looking forward to a music filled year. The band teachers this year are Louise Malone (woodwind/recorders), Mark Fitzgerald (brass) and Pete McCamley (percussion/recorders). Watch this space for some upcoming performances later in the school year.



5th class band will begin this Friday and all the children are eagerly awaiting news of their new instruments! We are very excited about this new venture. Please remind children to look after their instruments and to practise for 10 minutes every day.

The Junior **Holy Family Confraternity Band** now takes place in Scoil Mhuire every Wednesday from 5.30pm to 7.00pm. This is a fantastic opportunity for our children to continue their interest in music outside school and new members are welcome. Please speak to our teacher Siobhan Roche if your child is interested in joining.

SING OUT LOUD

Over 80 5th and 6th class boys and girls have begun practising for SING OUT LOUD 2017. They are into their third week of rehearsals which happen every Wednesday from 2.30pm to 3.30pm. The boys and girls are also busy practising their words at home as they have a total of 6 songs and 5 medleys to learn before their big night in The Opera House on Friday 17th November. Ticket booking forms will be given out next week and orders need to be in by 11th October.



Parents Association

Scoil Mhuire Parents Association is comprised entirely of Parents & Guardians of children who attend the school. The committee organises and coordinates many fundraising events throughout the school year, like the Cake Sale, Christmas raffle, Design-a-Card, Easter raffle, to name but a few. The money raised from these events goes straight back to the school. Last year we were delighted to be able to donate €1,000 to purchase new reading material for the school.

On Wednesday night the Parents Association hosted Peadar Maxwell, Clinical Psychologist, to deliver a talk on 'Understanding and Responding to Anxiety in Childhood'. There was a great turnout for what was a very informative presentation. Pictured are Sam Moran (Chairperson, Scoil Mhuire Parents Association and Peadar Maxwell).

The Parents Association annual AGM will take place on Wednesday 4th October in the Family Room. We hope



many of you will be able to attend.

Looking forward to working with you during the year

Samantha Moran, Chairperson

Student Council

After recent elections, our Student Council for this year is now in place. We look forward to a busy and exciting year ahead. Pictured, is the new Council at its first meeting.



Art Competition

At the end of 3rd class last June, Ms. Brady's and Ms. Stamp's class entered the *Art in the Open Competition*. Every Primary School child in Wexford was asked to design a banner which would promote all the best things about Wexford. The winning designs were turned into flags which are currently on display on Wexford Quays. Imagine Jack Browne's delight when he got the phone call in July to say that his design was one of the winning entries.



Guess the Score

This year our *All Ireland Guess the Score* raised €1090. There was one lucky winner of the €250 prize, Alan Kenny, a parent of one of our pupils from Senior Infants, who correctly predicted the final score. Maith thú.

Attendance

Scoil Mhuire's overall attendance last year was 93.7%, a slight increase on the previous year. Well done to everyone. We would encourage that all pupils are on the school grounds by 8.45am. It is also very important that pupils remain in school for the full day. Look how many of our pupils who did not miss a single day last year.



Book Fair

The Book Fair returns to Scoil Mhuire for one week, from Monday 16th October. Bígí ag léamh.



Pumpkins

Our annual pumpkin sale, will take place from Monday 16th October. Pumpkins are donated by Ballycross Apple Farm and all proceeds go towards our Rainbow Unit.



Supervision of Pupils

The school is open to pupils at 8.35am. No responsibility is accepted for pupils arriving before that time. Pupils will be supervised in the yard on dry mornings and in the hall on wet mornings. Classes begin each day at 8.50am and all pupils should be in school by this time. Classes end each day at 1.30pm for infants and 2.30pm for all other pupils. Parents/Guardians who wish to collect their children should make their own arrangements to have them met at the school exits. The person to collect them should be at the school not later than 1.30pm for infants and 2.30pm for all other pupils. The school cannot accept responsibility for looking after the children after that time.

Home School News

As most of you will know by now, we love to involve families in day to day life here in Scoil Mhuire. We have lots of exciting activities and workshops lined up again for this year. Some of these activities will be taking place in the classrooms so if you think you would like to participate in these, or any in-school activities, it is essential that you complete the Garda Vetting process for this school. The vetting regulations are in place to ensure the safety of your child and every child in the school. Garda Vetting forms are available from Michelle in the office.



Upcoming HSCL Events:



You will receive notification via text or a note home about all upcoming activities.
I can be contacted on the school number or alternatively on 085-8668381. Please give me a ring or a text if you would like to arrange a meeting or if you require information about any of the upcoming activities.

Looking forward to seeing you all during the year.

Laura Flynn
HSCL