

Cloughdub National School  
Spring Newsletter 2018



Dear Parents / Guardians,

As we approach our Easter holidays, let us take a look back over all that has happened here in Cloughdub N.S. since Christmas! It has been a busy start to 2019!

**Rugby:** Coaching in rugby is continuing in the school in association with Bandon RFC. Brandon, a rugby coach from New Zealand visits the school each Friday for a coaching session. Ms. Spillane's 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> are currently enjoying their coaching sessions. A rugby blitz will be held in Bandon RFC on Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> April to put all those skills into practice!

**Aldi Play Rugby Promotion:** We took part in the Aldi Play Rugby promotion in recent weeks collecting tokens to receive some rugby equipment for the school and entering the competition with the hope of winning the large cash prize on offer. We filled three large posters during the promotion. Many thanks to everyone who sent in stickers over the past number of weeks.

**Percussion Workshop:** In early January, two percussionists Alex Petcu and Catriona Frost treated the children to a wonderful musical performance in the hall. They played percussion instruments, and it was incredible to see all the range of instruments they brought to school and showed the children how to play them. Some of the musical pieces were instantly recognisable – Star Wars theme, Harry Potter music and Symphony by

Zara Larsson to name a few. The children really enjoyed the experience.



**10@10:** During the month of January, all classes made a special effort to have a movement break at 10am each day.

**Credit Union Quiz:** A primary school's quiz organised by the Credit Union was held in The Castle Hotel, Macroom on 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Cloughdub N.S. was represented by two teams on the day, and while they were not among the prize winners on this occasion, they performed very well. The quiz teams featured Holly O'Reilly, Aoibhín McCarthy, Caoimhe O'Mahony, Emily Ronan, Fionn O'Keefe, Isobel O'Dwyer, Anna Bradley and Ciara Sheehan.

**Drumming Workshop:** The children in all classes enjoyed a drumming workshop in early February with Patrick Naughton as part of the Music curriculum. It was a wonderful hands on activity and each child had the use of a drum for the duration of the workshop.



**Seachtain na Gaeilge:** We had a wonderful week of celebrations, organised by the Parent's Association to mark Seachtain na Gaeilge this year. On Monday, members of a local Comhaltas group from Newcestown / Copeen performed traditional Irish music, song and dance for everyone to enjoy in the halla.



On Tuesday, a local arts and crafts instructor Diane undertook arts and crafts workshops for all classes with a St. Patrick's Day theme. On Wednesday, dance teacher Lisa Hegarty held an Irish dancing workshop for all class groups. It was great fun for all involved. On Thursday, everyone dressed up in green, white and gold and we held a ceolchoirm in the halla and each class group performed a piece *as Gaeilge* such as a poem, rhymes, a song or a sketch. It was great to see everyone performing so well on stage. We all enjoyed it very much.



**Eason Spelling Bee:** Well done to Harry Murphy, 6<sup>th</sup> Class who represented the school

so well in the county finals of the Eason Spelling Bee in Christian Brothers College, Cork on 13<sup>th</sup> March. Harry reached the fourth round of the competition. He was a credit to himself, his family and our school.



**Speech & Drama:** Our new Speech & Drama teacher Donna O'Keeney commenced working with all classes in January. Each class will have a series of 10 lessons with Donna during this term.

**World Book Day:** Festivities for World Book Day were held on 7<sup>th</sup> March. Lots of children dressed up as characters from popular books and also made a donation to the Mercy Hospital Heroes Charity. €350 was raised in total! Well done everyone!



**Sciath na Scol Hurling and Camogie:** Training has commenced and has been running for the past four weeks in Cloughduv hurling pitch for the girls and boys teams entered in the Sciath

na Scol hurling and camogie competitions in April. Training is organized by Mr. Verling every Thursday from 3.15pm – 4.15pm with lots of help from many past pupils and parents. Our fixtures are as follows: Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April in Cloughduv V's Dunderrow.

Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> April in Cloughduv V's Aghabullogue and Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> April in Cloughduv – Two matches: V Rennies and V Coachford. We wish them the best of luck.

### **Mini Junk Kouture Competition:**

Congratulations to some of our 6th class students who won 1st prize in the McEgan College art competition. The children, working in groups had to create a piece of art work using recycled materials. A number of groups attended on the day with the pieces they had created. The winners in the 6th class category were our students Brian, Bláthín, Grace and Sean.



**Cór Fhéile na Scol 2019:** The children in Junior Infants, Senior Infants and 1<sup>st</sup> Class under the guidance of Ms. Linehan and Mrs. Landers performed at Cór Fhéile na Scol in City Hall on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April. This was the first time in over 20 years that Cloughduv NS participated in Cor Fheile na Scol - a non-competitive musical performance. Their 'Disco Kids' routine was a wonderful, energetic and lively performance which the audience really

enjoyed. It was fantastic to see all our young performers on stage!



*Photo Credit: John Henry Donovan*

See our recent blog post on the Cór Fhéile which has a link to lots of lovely photos from the performance kindly provided by John Henry Donovan.

**Swimming:** All children from 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Classes will commence a series of five swimming lessons in Leisureworld, Bishopstown on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> May. The dates for swimming are: 13<sup>th</sup> May, 20<sup>th</sup> May, 27<sup>th</sup> May, 10<sup>th</sup> June, 17<sup>th</sup> June.

**Green School News:** We have had a very successful term working towards our ENERGY flag. Our meter readings are showing that there is a 30% reduction in the kWh we used for the first two months of this year, compared to January & February 2018. 4th, 5th and 6th helped to write our Green School Code which is displayed in the school. On Feb 6th we were visited by Mr. Dave Brooks from An Taisce, who carried out our "Green School Renewal Visit". He met with Mrs. Landers, the Green School Committee, Mr. Verling's class and Mrs. Landers' class. He questioned us on our activities to check if we had completed the 7-step programme. He was very happy with the knowledge the committee displayed and all the work being done in all classes to support our Green School. He said he would



be writing a very favourable report on our ongoing work. Our online application which also provides An Taisce with written details and proof of our work over the past two years, has been submitted. We hope to hear good news about the Energy Flag before long.

**Healthy Eating** We would like to thank all parents who took the time to fill in the online healthy eating questionnaire sent out in February. We appreciated all the feedback and have used it to develop a new Healthy Eating Policy. We were delighted to see that 97.4% of parents who completed the survey support the school in having a healthy eating policy. The policy will be available to read on our website. We plan to have three days of healthy eating activities from 27th -29th May to launch our new policy where the children will get to sample different lunchbox options.

**Birthday Cakes:** As part of our healthy eating policy, no cakes, buns or treats should be sent into school to celebrate children's birthdays. We would greatly appreciate your cooperation with this matter.

**Parent's Association:** Many thanks to the Parent's Association who helped out with many aspects of school life during the past term. They funded the wonderful drumming workshop in February that all the children enjoyed. They organised and funded a fantastic week of activities for Seachtain na Gaeilge in March. Currently they are planning for an Easter Egg Hunt for all the children next week.

The next fundraising event being organised by the Parent's Association is An American Tea Party which will be held in Crookstown Hall on Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> April. Tickets cost €10. For further information please contact Shirley Bateman.

**Upcoming Dates:**

- Half Day for Staff Meeting, Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> April (Close at 1pm)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion: Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May
- Cork City Sports, Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> May
- June Bank Holiday Weekend: School closed on Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> May and Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June
- 6<sup>th</sup> Class School Tour – 5<sup>th</sup> June
- 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> Class School Tour - 5<sup>th</sup> June
- 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup> Class School Tour – 25<sup>th</sup> June
- Jnr / Snr Infants School Tour – 12<sup>th</sup> June

School will close at 12 noon next Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> April for Easter holidays.

**Reopening:** Our school is reopening after the Easter break on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

Wishing you all a very Happy Easter!

Is mise le meas,  
Sylvia Linehan (Principal)