Dia daoibh! Tá súil againn gur bhain sibh go léír taitneamh agus sult as saoire na Cásca. Tá an cuma ann go bhfuil aimsir breá linn.

**GREEN SCHOOLS**

We’re delighted to announce that the school has been awarded the Travel Flag. This is our 4th Flag & the result of much hard work over the years. Of all the initiatives in our school this is without doubt the one that requires most energy & drive over long periods of time. Ms. McDermott & the Green School’s Committee reps will accept the flag on a date to be confirmed.

***“Téimid ar siúl mar nílimid leisciúil***

The success of our monthlong Scoot Challenge has also been recognised with a national award which the committee will accept in Dublin on the 29th of April.

Our **Easter Bonnet Parade** was a great success again this year. A huge number of children displayed great imagination & creativity. No doubt Parents also enjoyed the whole experience of designing & creating these wonderful hats with their children.

Our Green School’s Committee gave out the prizes for our month long **Slogan Competition** before Easter. Amongst the winners were chosen in each of the classes were Rebecca Waite, Rhys Behan, Daniel Clarke, Julia Teillard, Bailey Crean, Yasmine Judge, Aisling Casey, Toby Byrne, Cian Ryan, Leigh Rasmussen, Mikey Merrigan, Cormac Flynn & Adam Ralph, Ellen Savage & Oisín Timmons. Tori Byrne & Sorcha Higgins won the overall prizes with these two slogans. Other slogans are randomly scattered about this & future Nuachtlitreacha.

***Siúl, Rothaigh, Páirc agus Léim,***

***Ná bí leisciúil, Rith agus Léím - Sorcha***

***Ride to School,***

***Scoot to School***

***Skate to School***

***And you’ll be cool - Tori***

**SPORT**

Congratulations to all those who committed to a team and competed with such sportsmanship in our lunchtime **GAA Leagues**. All eight teams played in finals. The team which won out the ‘A’ Final included on the winning team of Julia Murphy, Emily Porter, Oisín McWatt, Samuel Bishop, Joseph O' Braonáin, Sam Butler, Adam Kearns &l was led by Conor Daye & James Gormley,

Dylan Lynch, Dylan O’ Donovan, Will Kelly, Oisín Timmons, Robert St. John, Ben Kelly, Cian Garland, Dan Seymour & Simon St. John make up our **Tennis** Squad. Each Wednesday the team head off to play in the Leinster Tennis League. Our home venue is Wicklow Tennis Club …. Maith sibh!

**GAA Coach** Tommy Cullen is his final rotation of classes so any classes which haven’t enjoyed learning the skills of Gaelic Games by now will do so for the final term. Tommy’s boundless enthusiasm is infectious and the children love the coaching.

Zoe Patterson completed her **Dance** programme last Friday. Zoe has been with us for many years and we really hope to have her back next Autumn.

**FINANCIAL**

Many thanks again to all those who responded so generously to our **Voluntary Contribution**. We hope that parents enjoy seeing these monies being spent wisely around the school.

**RELIGION MATTERS**

Fr. Eamonn formed a parents group to help make the whole Communion Year experience as memorable & as enjoyable as possible for the children. The group has met regularly & has certainly added great energy to the ‘Do This in Memory of Me’ masses. It’s all building up to a great weekend on the 9th & 10th of May.

**SCHOOL AND/IN THE COMMUNITY**

3 months ago we put out the word for volunteers in the Senior classes. The 13 strong group started with a blank canvas. Together with Margaret & Jimmy the group discussed, planned and created **a Garden Project**. They were hidden away in the lower grey prefab every Thursday after school. The group decided on one large sculpture - a Heron & many other smaller constructions such as, fairy doors, bird feeders & wind charms. All were constructed from natural objects found around the vicinity of the school. For anyone who hasn’t taken a stroll down around the area beside the clothes bin please do so-you’re in for a lovely surprise. There has been lots of planting which will look splendid in time. The group involved Brandon Knowles, Sophie Moore, Kean Byrne-Ryan, Cara Melia, Dylan Lynch, Katie Hayden, Éabha Boyle, Ryan Beale, Ella Byrne, James Hamilton, Ellen Madden, David Byrne & Shannon Duffy. To this group all we can say is that the whole school - Teachers, Parents & Children are staggered by what you’ve created in such a short space of time & you can be really proud of yourselves.

It’s not too often the children get the opportunity to learn from someone who is regarded nationally as one of the best there is. We were delighted to welcome back Elaine Agnew to work with our **Féile Heaney** group. It is an absolute privilege to witness a composer as talented as Elaine working with our children last year. The children composed a piece on the chime bars. This has been perfected & is totally their own. The group then joined many other elite poets & musicians at Nun’s Cross Church on Saturday. For the 2nd year in a row the group stole the show. Comhgairdeachas chuig cách agus Ms. Daly & Ms. O’ Riordan ach go háirithe as ucht an obair a chuir said isteach sa Féíle.

**TRÓCAIRE**

Any outstanding Trócaire boxes can be returned to the office when you get a chance.

***Please Walk – No Cars,***

***Don’t be a Fool***

***Walk to School***

***Be cool***

**ST. MICHAEL’S HOUSE**

Thanks to Ms. Cahill who organised & sent on a generous donation to St. Michael’s House on behalf of the school. These are the proceeds of our Book Sale.

**PRIMARY ONLINE DATABASE (POD)**

Many thanks to all those who sent back the POD forms. Department reminders will be sent out to those families if it has slipped their mind. Please do so as the deadline of the last week in April is fast approaching & Jenny spends many hours inputting the data. We need to point out that level of funding to the school cut be impacted down the line if the forms returned don’t tally with our school numbers. The Department is also entitled to ask for PPS numbers.

**PARENTS’ ASSOCIATION**

Our Parents Association will continue to subsidise our **Cycling Safety Course**. This is a 6 week course for 3rd class and a 3 week refresher course in 4th-6th Classes

The Parents Association also funds a 5 week **Healthy Eating Course** in the 6th Classes

**HEALTH & SAFETY**

The County Council continues to monitor the new traffic arrangements and will finalise shortly. The Set Down area seems to be working very well but please be reminded that cars should be able to move in and out of it freely. ***Any drivers who decide to delay other cars exiting are not only causing an obstruction but are also making the whole area more dangerous for our children. Needless to say the Uturns put our childen at risk also.***

**Yard supervision** begins at 9.10am. Reminder that the children are not supervised on the yard before this time.

***Leave your car alone,***

***Walk to School from Home***

**REFERENDUM CLOSURE**

Please note that we’ve just been notified that our school is needed for the upcoming referendum on Friday the 22nd of May so we will be closed on this day.

***Bí ag usáid bhur gcos, Siúl ar Scoil***

**OUR GARDEN**

As you can see from this ‘Nuachtlitir’ Scoil na Coróine Mhuire is not just about learning inside the walls of a classroom. The learning experience is much broader than this and as you can see we encourage & facilitate lots of mini hands-on project groups & activities across all classes. We feel the children benefit hugely when participating in these activities.

**DIALANN NA MÍOSA**

*April 14th Accord 5th & 6th*

*April 27th Cycling 3rd – 6th*

*April 28th Confirmation Retreat*

*April 29th Travel Challenge Award, Dublin*

*May 8th National Spring Clean Day*

*May 9th & 10th Communions*

*May 19th Service of Light*

**All primary schools which are required to enter pupil data on POD are publicly funded and providers of a public service, namely education. The information on POD will, from the 2016\2017 academic year onwards, be used to underpin the payment of public funds and allocation of resources to primary schools, as is already the case at pre-primary, post-primary and third level education. If you do not consent to your child’s data being entered on POD then you should inform your school in writing that you do not wish to have your child’s information entered on POD, however from 2016/2017 this may have funding and teacher allocation implications for your school going forward.**

**Q If a parent refuses to give PPS will the pupil be counted as enrolled in the school for capitation purposes? A parent is refusing to give her maiden name, how should the school proceed?**

**A Advice from the POD helpline is that if a parent refuses to give the details, they be asked for a letter saying that they do not want their child included on the database and why. The school can then produce this to explain discrepancies between POD and the annual school census for this year. Schools being advised to collect PPSN at enrolment in the future.**

**A PPS number is an individual’s unique identification number for all dealings with the Public Service, including Social Welfare, tax, education and health services. Having the PPSN on the database will help ensure that there are no duplicate records in the system i.e. that two schools do not have the same child on their roll. In the future we will be able to track pupils from early childhood education, to primary school and onto post-primary, which will allow us to ensure that every child in the State of compulsory school age is in education. As there is no legal requirement to complete this form and return it, the parents are under no obligation to do so. If they do not consent to their child’s data being entered on POD then they should inform your school in writing that they do not wish to have their child’s information entered on POD. All primary schools which are required to enter pupil data on POD are publicly funded and providers of a public service, namely education. The information on POD will, from 2016/2017 academic year onwards, be used to underpin the payment of public funds and allocation of resources to primary schools, as is already the case at pre-primary, post-primary and third level education. This may have funding and teacher allocation implications for your school going forward. POD Team POD Helpdesk – Statistics Section**