

Scoil Mhuire Community School, Clane

Summer Newsletter 2022



As we approach the end of the school year I want to wish our 3rd year and 6th year students the very best in their exams which begin next week. The school year was very busy with the return of extra-curricular activities and school trips. Well done to all the students who represented our school. We are very proud of your achievements. Our 6th years graduated last week and it was a fantastic evening. It is three years since we had a proper graduation. We wish the class of 22 every success in the future. I would like to thank all the staff who helped keep this big ship afloat during the year. The old saying "many hands make light work" is so true. To all staff and students, have a very enjoyable summer and I look forward to seeing you in August.

Padraig Nolan, Principal

Prefects 2022-2023

Goodbye and thank you to our excellent 2021/22 prefects who have had a very busy and successful year. We wish you all well for the future. We welcome and wish the newly elected prefects for 2022/23 success. The new team is:

:Head Prefect Enda Keane - Deputy Head & Fifth Year Ciara Deasy Millar, 3rd Year & Wellbeing Niamh Lenihan 3rd Year & Environment Priya Evans, 2nd Year & Social Awareness Anna Mooney & Zach Hodgkiss, 1st Year Matthew Walsh Hussey, Bronagh Kennedy, Ethan Farrell, Cassie Cottuli, Art & Culture Emily Chow & Hannah Donoghue, Healthy Living & Sports James Donlon & Sarah Mil-
lea, Science & Technology (STEM) Lavinia Waldron, Mentoring Coordinators Eabhe Vizzard & Keeley O'Donovan. Have a great year.



We wish all our exam students every success and a safe and relaxing Summer break to the entire school community.

We look forward to welcoming our new First Years to Scoil Mhuire in late August.

Dates to Remember

June 8th

Exams begin -
July 1st CAO closes

Remembrance Mass

We gathered for our Remembrance Mass on May 16th. It is a treasured event in our school year for all our bereaved families. Thank you to Mr. Kavanagh for organising the mass and to Fr. Paul for inviting us to Clane church where the musicians and choir excelled themselves.



Parents Association

Thank you to the Parents Association for their continued support during the year.



Young Social Innovators

Congratulations to our Young Social Innovators TY group who received their YSI certificates and recognition pins last week. This group has undertaken activities to help enhance climate impact awareness in the school community. Their project involved up-cycling materials to make recycling bins for classrooms and collecting these regularly. They produced a guide with tips for having a 'Greener Christmas' and planted trees on the school grounds during National Tree Week. Well done to all!



Godolphin Bursary

Anna Duffy 6th year was presented with an Apple Macbook Air and a cheque for €1,500 to help her on her college journey by Ciara Devitt, representative of the Godolphin Group who sponsor a bursary for 6th yr students each year. Ciara was very impressed with the standard of entries this year and wished Anna every success in her future studies. Thank you to Godolphin for their sponsorship of the bursary.

Croi Laighean Credit Union Bursary Winner

Congratulations to Áine Maguire, 6th yr who won a €6,000 bursary towards college expenses. Aine was one of three finalists along with Gemma Austin and Katelyn Malone from Scoil Mhuire chosen by Croi Laighean. Gemma and Katelyn also received €250 each.



6th Year Ecology Trip

Sixth year students visited Lullymore Heritage park on an ecology trip as part of their Biology course.



Anti Bullying Workshop

First and second year students attended anti-bullying workshops this month. There was focus on awareness of the dangers of bullying and appropriate responses to online bullying as well as promoting respect and good practice. Some students participated in focus groups as a follow up with the DCU Anti Bullying centre and contributed to research for an anti-bullying app for teenagers.



Drug Awareness Workshop

Some 2nd and 3rd year students attended a workshop on Drug Awareness presented by The Halo Project, Naas which focussed on the dangers of vaping.

CAO - Reminder to parents to please assist your 6th year students with course choice lists in order of preference before Change of Mind closes on July 1st

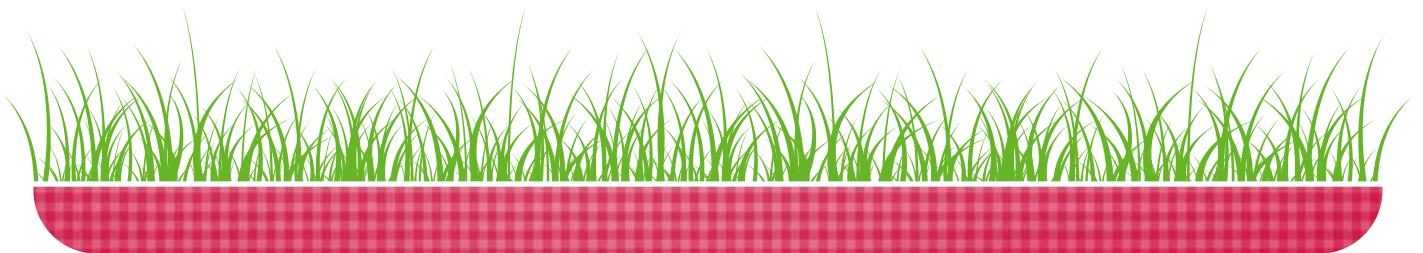


Student Council

During the Easter holidays, members of Scoil Mhuire's Student Council were invited to the ISSU (Irish Second-level Students' Union) annual conference in Dublin. During the two day workshops, our students received comprehensive leadership training and an opportunity to network with other student council members from around the country.

On May 4th, the student council members were treated to a working lunch in O'Brien's in recognition of their trojan work during the year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the student council members for their dedication to their duties. Ms. Deschenes





SPORTS

ADAM FANNING

Congratulations to our own Adam Fanning who was awarded the Eirgrid Leinster U20 Football Player of the



Year.

Christy Ring Success

Huge congrats to Mr. Dermody and past students Paddy McKenna, Sean Christiansen and Mark Delaney and the Kildare Senior hurlers after their Christy Ring Cup success.

Under 16 Hurling

The under 16 hurling team had an exceptional year, reaching the school's first Leinster Final in 10 years. They won all three of their group games before facing a very good Castlepollard team in the Leinster Semi Final played in Clane GAA. After a close encounter, the lads scored the final three points in the closing minutes to win by 1-18 to 1-15. The Leinster Final was played in Carlow Town against an amalgamation of two Kilkenny schools. There was great support at the match and after a great game the lads were very unfortunate to lose out by a goal in the end. It was a great year for everyone on the panel and we are all looking forward to trying to go one step further at senior level.

Junior Girls Soccer

The Junior girls soccer team got to a regional final this year but unfortunately lost out to a strong team from St. Mary's in Naas. It was a tight match finishing 4-3 with a last minute winner. Overall the girls have had a good year, playing their last game in style in their new jerseys. Hopefully the girls will keep the momentum going into next year!



Well done to 1st year Rebecca Yates & the U14 Kildare players—winners of the All Ireland Gold final against Tipperary.

First Year Boys Football Success

South Leinster 1st yr final—Scoil Mhuire 6:14, St. Peter's College Wexford 1:5. Well done to all the boys who had a great year & we look forward to continuing



Leinster Junior Cup Camogie Win

Congratulations to our Junior Camogie team who won the Leinster Junior Cup. The girls had a massive success last week when they defeated Cross and Passion Kilcullen in the semi final to progress to a final against Boyne CC where they were again victorious. Thanks also to Ms Mulvihill and Ms Mulready



U15 Boys Soccer

Well done to the boys Under 15 soccer team who reached the quarter final of the Leinster Shield. They enjoyed victories over Portlaoise and Kilbeggan before losing out to Kilcoole by 4 goals to 2.



Ladies Gaelic Football

It was a great year for Gaelic football in our school. Our ladies cruised through the Leinster qualifying league to make it to the Leinster quarter final. They faced St. Wolstan's in the quarter final and fought to the bitter end. The game was tight throughout the whole match but St. Wolstans came out victorious and won by 4 points. We are very proud of our ladies and the management, Ms O Dowd, Ms Robinson and Mr. Redmond and Roisin McCormack for leading the team as captain.



Athletics Success in Leinster and South Leinster championships

Huge congratulations to Sarah Millea, 100m U19 Leinster Champion, Alex Heeney U15 Leinster High Jump Silver winner, Conor Walsh U17 Leinster Javelin Champion, Sine Lee U15 South Leinster 800m Silver winner, Dylan Heffernan 4th in U17 Leinster 400m hurdles & Laura Edwards U17 Sth Leinster High Jump Bronze winner. Well done to all our athletes who participated.

Academic Success for our Past Students

Congratulations to past student Erica Smith (class of 2020) who was announced as Trinity Scholar for Drama and Theatre Studies. Becoming a Trinity Scholar is a major achievement for which second year students must perform exceptionally well in exams held in January, showing deep knowledge of their subjects.

Congratulations also to Dearbhla O'Regan and Ciara Bartley (class of 2021) who received Trinity College Entrance Exhibition awards. The awards go to the students accepted into the first year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme who achieve the highest points among Trinity entrants from their secondary school, above 500 CAO points https://www.tcd.ie/news_events/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Drama-scholars1.jpg

EMS Bursary

Mr. Ian McLoughlin representing EMS Copiers presented a bursary of €500 & a laptop to 6th yr students Miriam McDermott and Cathal McKennedy at the awards ceremony last week.. Thank you to EMS copiers for their generous bursary which will be presented each year going forward.



STEM - Digital Youth Futures Workshops

5th year and TY students attended two workshops in recent weeks given by representatives from Intel and AMD technology companies to encourage them to research STEM career options.

The Literacy Library

Our school website now hosts a new literacy database that aims to help students promote their general knowledge and language skills. It was set up by Ms. Mulligan, along with the fantastic support of Gerry McGowan and features weekly updates of interesting articles, documentaries, opinion pieces, sections of novels, infographics etc. We hope that students and the wider community might find it a useful resource. It can be accessed via the school website under the Blogs tab.



9th Anniversary Mass of Donal Walsh in Knock Shrine

On Thursday the 12th of May, a group of TY, 5th & 6th year students travelled from Scoil Mhuire to Knock Shrine for the Donal Walsh anniversary mass.

It was an action packed day including excellent guest speakers such as Paul Galvin, Lisa Fallon, Annette Kelly & Fr John Harris. There was a choice of workshops for students to attend and a chance to fill holy water bottles to bring back to Clane. Mass was then celebrated in Donal's Memory and parents Fionbarr and Elma Walsh spoke bravely about their son and his important message of #livelife.



Farewell to the Class of 2022 from Mr. Dermody

The graduation theme for the class of 2022 has never been so apt, you are indeed stars! You are about to finish your time in Scoil Mhuire but you certainly have shone bright over your 5 or 6 years here and leave a lasting light in our school.

It seems such a short time ago that you entered here as innocent young 1st years who needed so much minding!! However, you settled in well and managed to make lasting friendships, memories and adventures. Our first 3 years were certainly filled with many adventures such as first year social nights and who can forget our trip to London. I still can't believe we managed to navigate the underground in London and didn't lose too many of ye for that long!! It was such an enjoyable trip as we got to know each other outside of the classroom and school halls. You managed to get through the Junior Cycle without too much stress and begin your senior cycle adventure. We parted ways for a year during TY but were all reunited once again in 5th year with some fantastic new additions to our group that had come from 3rd year. This made our group even stronger and we had more stars to shine even brighter! Our journey was interrupted by school closures and online teaching but we still managed to stay connected in those difficult times. I think you will agree with me that 6th year has been the highlight of our journey and certainly it has been great to welcome back sports teams on the field and performers on the stage. It has been such an enjoyable year and although full of study, exams and stress it has equally been filled with friendship, happiness and bonding as a year group. I wish you all the best as you move on to a new venture and hope you can shine your stardom to new places. I have no doubt that you will be a huge addition to wherever you go and whoever you meet in the future as you will certainly be a huge loss to our school community. Thank you for everything over the last few years, you will always be stars in my eyes.



2nd Year Avon Ri Outdoor Activities Trip

Over 165 second Year students and their Tutors enjoyed a day of activities in the Avon Ri Adventure Centre in Blessington. The activities included archery, zip lining, team building games, climbing wall and orienteering. They also got to enjoy freshly made pizzas from the Pizza Bus. A great day was had by all.



Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club has been very busy this year and remained open on a take-away basis during Covid. The JPII students were on hand to help and gave up their free time to volunteer in Breakfast Club every morning which also helped them earn their community volunteering hours required for the JPII programme. The Breakfast Club was chosen to receive a €500 donation under Aldi Ireland's Community Grants Programme 2022 which was nominated by the staff at the Aldi NAAS National Buying Office. A big Thank you to Muireann Healy and Amy Cronin (6th Year) who applied for the donation on behalf of Breakfast Club. The Parent's Association also made a donation to the funding of Breakfast Club for which we are very grateful.





Amber Flag—Mental Health Week

The pandemic of the last two years highlighted mental health issues which are so prominent among young people today. This March, the Amber Flag Committee and prefects organized Mental Health week. There were sports activities, mindfulness colouring sessions, a bake sale and a 'wear orange' day. We raised €560, which we gave to Pieta House. Thank you all for your contribution to MENTAL HEALTH WEEK—the support was amazing & we also renewed our Amber Flag which means we are continuing to promote positive mental health in our school.



Action Concerts

Well done to our Arts & Culture prefects and participants in two recent Action Concerts. The wonderful talents of our students were displayed in both events and €1815 raised for charities.

Carlingford Transition Year Trips & Events



On the 22nd of March, our TY group went to Carlingford Adventure Center for 3 days. They did multiple activities such as Canoeing, Zip -lining, Kayaking, Laser Tag, built camp fires, made smores and even some pier jumping. It was a great bonding experience and they had the very best of craic and laughs galore. Thank you to all the staff who accompanied the students and made it such a great memory. TY students also got to The Riverbank, Maynooth University, Drumming & Podcast workshops, Red Hills adventures, a Magic Show, Barista and Hospitality workshops, Ice skating, a First Aid course, Video production workshop...to mention just a few, and some students managed 10 work placements despite Covid restrictions. Well done to you all.

Graduation 2022

We were glad to have family members back at our Graduation Ceremony this year. It was a very memorable evening with excellent music provided by 6th year students and all our speakers recalled many special days over the past six years while wishing our graduates well.



AWARDS CEREMONIES 2022

Junior and Senior Award ceremonies were held May 23rd –26th. Olympian Kenneth Egan was our guest speaker for the Senior ceremony. Kenneth gave a very inspiring talk and his main message for the students was to persevere with what they love and to be aware that life has ups and downs and we learn as much from the experience of losing as we do from winning.

We also welcomed and awarded places in our Scoil Mhuire Hall of Fame to past students David O'Connor, Software Engineer and Brian Lloyd, Journalist

Winners included:

Principal's Award winner: Cathal McKennedy 6th yr

Deputy Principal's Award winner: Áine Maguire 6th yr

Peter McCreery Award for Best 6th yr student winner: Miriam McDermott 6th yr

Bryan Sammon Senior Merit Award Winner: Amy Cronin 6th yr.

Cathy Walsh Award for Best Junior Students Winner: Colm Gordon 3rd yr.

Bryan Sammon Junior Merit Award Winner: James McCormack 3rd yr.

Below is a medley of photos of award winners from each year.



happy holiday