



Crosskeys National

School

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NUACHTLITIR

Dated 30th April 2021



Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

You are very welcome to our April Newsletter. April has been an enjoyable and busy month in our school.

Covid-19: We remind parents to err on the side of caution if your child isn't feeling well. Thank you for your support in this regard to date. **If your child has a temperature, cough, flu like symptoms etc., please keep them at home until a medical professional gives them the okay to return to school.**

Infant Collection Time: We request that parents do not congregate around the school at pick up/drop off times. Please collect your child promptly, return to your car and pull away. This will create space for other parents to pull in. We thank you for your co-operation in this regard.

Absences: Please continue to send information regarding absences to notescrosskeysns@gmail.com

The school is legally required to report school attendance to Tusla throughout the year.

Absences without a note are considered unexplained.



The school will be closed on Monday the 3rd of May for the Bank Holiday.



First Holy Communion and Confirmation: The Government announcement last night brought some hope to us all of a return to some normal activities for May. **Unfortunately, along with this announcement the Government advice is that Communion and Confirmation cannot go ahead as planned this May.** This is a big event in your children's lives but also for the school as a whole. We will continue to work on preparations for Communion and Confirmation in school. **We hope that Government advice will change at the end of May and that we may be able to set a date for June.** Currently it is difficult to set a date in June, as it all depends on public health guidance. So there may be short notice given if we are to celebrate these Sacraments before the end of the school year. From the school's point of view, we will do everything we can to facilitate the celebration of these Sacraments as soon as possible, taking public health advice into consideration. **We will update parents at the earliest opportunity.**



Junior and Senior Infant News:

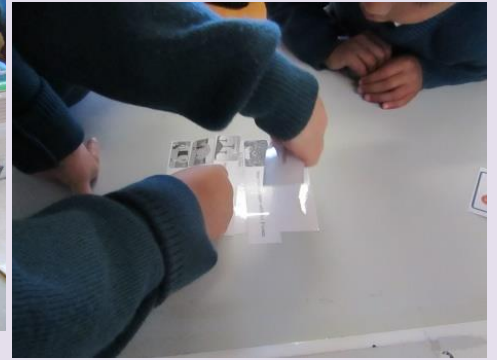
After the Easter holidays we had to 'catch up' on making birthday cards for three different pupils in our class which were sent home in a sealed envelope to be quarantined for seventy two hours!!!! We also launched an attack on traditional fairy tales, viewing and

discussing The Three Pigs, Goldilocks and the Three Bears and The Ugly Duckling. We sang a round in two parts called 'I am Special' where one half of the class had to keep the song going all by themselves while teacher brought in the other half. We had fun doing the Hócaí Pócaí in our class pods. (It's difficult to know our right from our left in English.



Try doing it in Irish!!).

Each pod has some sets of story sequencing cards which from time to time we lay out on the tables and assemble in the right order. Which comes first, the milk in the carton or milking the cows? We started to develop our basketball skills, dribbling, passing, shooting....Moving into a space is proving quite a challenge but we are getting there.



Thank you, Mrs Keogan

First and Second Class News:

We've had a busy month since returning from the Easter holidays in first and second class. We've continued with our Farm Safety project. The children have worked really hard at this and we've really enjoyed it too. We listened to Webinars from Alma Jordan and Agriaware about farm and field safety, animal safety and tractor and machinery safety. We also made some farm safety posters. We hope to send off our projects to Agriaware soon.



We also took part in the Innocent Big Grow. We got spinach, beetroot, peas, salad leaves and radish seeds to grow. We all got a bit messy with the compost but we had great fun sowing the seeds. Teacher warned everyone that she has been known to kill plants from both over and under watering. However, we're now a few weeks on and we're delighted to say that our seeds are all starting to grow!



Beetroot



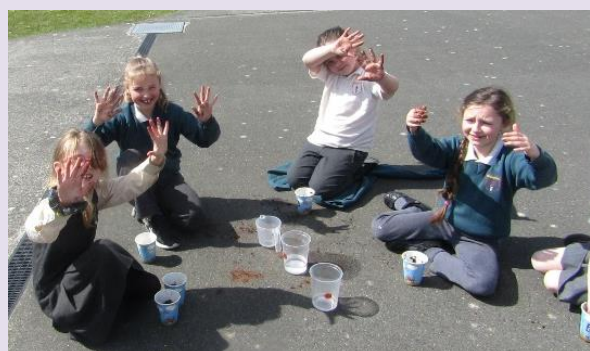
Spinach Pea



Pea



Salad Leaves



We also learned the Macarena and the months of the year as Gaeilge. We had good fun doing it up at the pitch!

Farm Safe School

Children and their teachers continue to take part in the Farm Safe Schools pilot programme in Crosskeys National School. There are 3 modules in the programme, Farmer, Farm & Fields, Animals and Machinery and Vehicles which children will be learning about in the coming weeks. We look forward to finding out more about farm safety.

To learn more have a look at www.farmsafeschools.ie



GAA: children have enjoyed taking part in P.E. classes with Cavan GAA Coach, Dan throughout the year. Dan's timetable is unfortunately changing for the last term. Friday 23rd of April was Dan's last session with us for the year. We hope to see him back in our school in September. The staff in Crosskeys N.S. thank Dan for his efforts.

Student teacher:

Mr Murphy has been on teaching practice placement in 3rd and 4th class since the 19th April. The boys and girls really enjoyed learning from him. We thank Mrs O'Reilly for welcoming him into her class and Mr Murphy for his efforts. We wish him the best in his teaching career.



3rd and 4th Class News:

We were all happy to return to school on April 12th after our Easter holidays. Since we came back we have learned a lot about Farm Safety, especially focusing on animal safety and machinery safety. We have particularly enjoyed getting a shout out from Alma on our Zoom calls. In art we completed some cartoon drawings that we really enjoyed. On 19th April Mr. Murphy began teaching practice in our class and we are learning a lot from him. In Religion we learned about Pentecost and we all created a piece of art to represent the Holy Spirit. In Maths we learned about lines and angles, and we particularly enjoyed walking around the school and the pitch trying to spot various lines and angles in our environment. 26th April saw the start of Active School's Week and we had lots of fun doing various activities. The highlight has been starting some basketball practice before our Junior basketball league begins in May.



Thank you, Mrs O'Reilly

Active Schools Week 26th-30th April:

Well-done to all classes that took part in Active Schools week in Crosskeys National School. Throughout the course of the week there was a bigger emphasis on physical exercise. Teachers did some extra P.E. with their classes, some classes used the walking/running track and we also enjoyed our first lunch time of the year playing on the pitch.



Board of Management: The BoM held a meeting on the 22nd of April via Zoom. During this meeting the Board approved Philip T. Brady Architects as Design Consultants for the Emergency Works Scheme project for our school yard. The Board also approved an application for CLÁR funding for the tarmac playing area in the school yard before submitting it to Cavan County Council on the 23rd of April. We are hopeful of a positive outcome. The Board acknowledged the hard work of the Parents' Association Committee and school staff last summer. They all put considerable work into a CLÁR application. This work formed the basis of this year's application. The next BoM meeting will be in late May or June.

Crosskeys N.S. on social media:

Crosskeys National School started using Twitter and Instagram recently. **Thank you to all of those who have started following our accounts.** Please try to have a look at our Twitter feed and Instagram page. We will add to these over time. Search 'Crosskeys National School' on Twitter or search our username, '@Ckeysns.' On Instagram, search Crosskeys National School or by our username, crosskeysnat_school. The accounts will share useful teaching ideas, resources, school updates and the children's work.



5th and 6th Class News

It was a busy and enjoyable April in fifth and sixth class. We went on two virtual school tours. We really enjoyed our tour of Croke Park, our guide, Cian was very interesting. We also went on a virtual school tour to the Natural History Museum. It will be good to get to go to places like this in the coming months; we are all looking forward to it.

During the month of April we continued to learn about farm safety. In art we also made farm animal masks. It was nice to have some good weather during April. We got to go on to the football pitch for P.E. and at break time. We hope to get to do this more often in the weeks ahead as the weather improves. Club football and camogie training are back and we are all very happy with this.



Thank you, Mrs McCabe

Parents Association

A message from the Parents' Association

Best of luck and good wishes to all the boys & girls who will hopefully be making their 1st Holy Communion & Confirmation before the end of the school year. Thank you to Mrs Armstrong, Mrs Mc Cabe and Father Kilduff for preparing them.

As you know Crosskeys N.S. PA are organising a clothes collection at the end of next month and your help would be greatly appreciated. Thank you to Denn GFC who have kindly let us have their clubrooms beside the school for the collection. Drop off dates are Sat 29th May @ 10-12 and Sun 30th @ 11 - 1. Please spread the word. Wishing everyone a lovely May bank holiday weekend and keep safe.

Kind Regards,

Alva - Chairperson Crosskeys N.S. Parents' Association

School Transport Services/Tickets:

Bus Éireann's on-line application system for school transport is now open for the 2021/22 school year. The closing date for School Transport Applications is today, 30th April, 2021.

How to Apply: Apply on-line now @ www.buseireann.ie/schooltransport



Enrolment 2021-2022:

Anyone wishing to enrol their child in Crosskeys National School for Junior Infants or any other classes for the 2021-

2022 school year **please contact the school office on 0494336704 between 10am and 2pm any day to arrange.** Please spread the word.



We look forward to a fun and enjoyable May in Crosskeys National School, hopefully with lots of good weather along the way.

That's all the school news for now, take care everyone!

From all the Staff in Crosskeys National School.

30th April 2021