

**Crosskeys National  
School**  
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Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

You are very welcome to our February Newsletter. February has been a busy and enjoyable month in Crosskeys National School with many interesting moments; the highlight undoubtedly has been 'Well-being Week.'

**Parent/Teacher Meetings:** 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> class meetings will be rescheduled in due course. Thank you for your understanding.

**St. Patrick's Day:** the school will close on **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> March** for St. Patrick's Day. The school will remain closed on **Monday 21<sup>st</sup>** for pupils as teachers will be completing in-service training on the new *Primary Language Curriculum*.

**Enrolment 2022/2023:** Crosskeys National School continues to welcome enrolments for Junior Infants and all other classes for the 2022-2023 school year. To get an Admission Application Form please email [enrolment@crosskeysns.ie](mailto:enrolment@crosskeysns.ie) or call the school office on 0494336704 between 10am and 2pm any day to arrange. Please spread the word ☺



but fit together' to make our classroom a better place.



**Junior and Senior Infant News**

The children drew something of importance in their lives on their piece of the jig saw. The message 'we are all unique



Mary Farrelly, our Creative Associate tapping in to our creative side in dance and drama as we begin our Creative Schools journey.

Some lucky parents and grandparents received lovely bunches of heartfelt flowers on Valentine's Day from Junior and Senior Infants.



Hard to believe some of us Junior Infants are only a few short months in Crosskeys N.S., yet can produce such a high standard of work!



We listened so attentively and learned a lot from Paul (Dogs Trust) and got nice stickers from him for our show of interest.



A sample of the beautiful artwork reflecting what's important to us during this well-being month.

Thank you, Mrs Keogan.

#### First and Second Class News

We were very lucky to have Paul from Dog's Trust come to visit us and tell us all about how to look after our dogs and also how to react around dogs that we don't know. We did Cosmic kids yoga for 'Well-being Week.' It was great fun. Dylan and Alisha won the art competition run by the Student Council. We also had Mary Farrelly from the Arts Council in the school and she did drama and dance with us.

We're looking forward to our next class with her. We made cool sheep from empty toilet roll holders.

It was Twos' Day Tuesday, 22/02/2022. This is a palindrome and an ambigram. This means it reads the same right to left, left to right AND upside down. We completed a week of Food Dudes. We enjoyed tasting peppers, cucumbers, carrots, apples, blueberries, bananas and oranges. We received a tree from Crosserlough Water Scheme to be planted pesticide free. We're all looking forward to midterm break now too!



### Drama and Dance with our Creative Associate - Mary Farrelly



### Food Dudes



### Dog's Trust



Thank you, Mrs Armstrong

### Deep Clean

Our cleaner, Eileen, gave the school a deep clean over the mid-term break. Thanks to Eileen for her hard work.

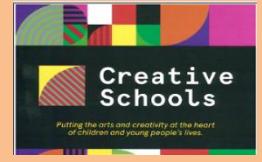


### Primary Languages Sampler Module:

Children in 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> class will begin French classes from Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March for a 6 week period. Former French teacher in St. Patrick's College, Marie Henry, will provide the tuition. This is a great opportunity for our pupils!

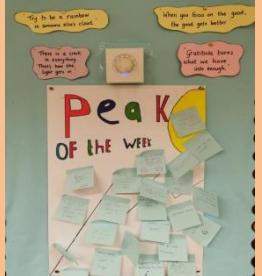


Creative Schools: our Creative Schools project started in February, our Creative Associate, Mary Farrelly visited the school in February for a dance and drama workshop with the children. Thanks to Mrs Keogan for organising.



### Well-being Week:

Well-being Week was celebrated in Crosskeys National School as part of our Amber Flag initiative from February 14<sup>th</sup>-February 18<sup>th</sup> for the first time. This was a really enjoyable week that's sure to become an annual event. Thank you to teachers for organising.



### 3rd and 4th Class News

February was a busy but enjoyable month in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class. A highlight for us was following our Well-Being Calendar and taking part in many different acts of kindness during the month. We celebrated a 'Well-being Week' where we took part in an art competition and Peak of the Week. Congratulations to Dylan and Kyle who were our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class winners in the art competition. We also took part in Food Dudes this month and some children found that they actually enjoyed some fruit/veg that they previously thought they hated! We really enjoyed a drama/dance class with Mary Farrelly, our Creative Schools Associate. In history we learned about World War 1 and we did our own research on the devices. In English we learned about the Vikings and we enjoyed some nice art activities also. We are really looking forward to our Mid-Term Break.



*Thank you, Mrs O'Reilly*

**Board of Management:** The BoM met on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Some of the topics discussed included: the Board's approval of resurfacing works on the school yard (part of the CLÁR funding the school has been allocated), the purchase of 4 new interactive whiteboards for all classrooms as well as approving the school's annual accounts before their mandatory submission to the Schools' Financial Support Services Unit (FSSU). Thank you to Board members yet again for being so generous with their time. We also remembered our late Treasurer, Mrs Shelia Smith who passed away recently. Our thoughts are with her family at this difficult time.

The next BoM meeting will take place on **Tuesday April 26<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm** in the school.

### **New Interactive Display Boards:**

The Board of Management approved the decision to purchase 4 new interactive display boards at its February meeting. Thank you to Mrs Armstrong for organising. A new board was installed in each classroom during the mid-term closure. Teachers and pupils all look forward to benefiting from their use. A donation from the Parents' Association last June went towards this significant investment.



### **Crosskeys N.S. on social media:**

Crosskeys National School has recently started using Twitter and Instagram.

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.



### **Food Dudes:**

All classes took part in the Food Dudes programme from 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> February. Overall it was a very enjoyable experience for children, with many tasting some types of fruit and vegetable for the first time. Thanks to Mrs O'Reilly for organising.



### **5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class News**

Fifth and Sixth Class had a busy February. On 1<sup>st</sup> February we brought in rushes and made crosses for St Brigid's Day. Paul from Dogs Trust came to tell us about responsible dog ownership. We had a Well Being calendar for February and we did lots of activities for Well-being Week. Gonzalo and Peter won the Art competition organised by the Student Council. Karen, Karen and Con from Bounce Back talked about Well Being and Happiness. Lisa and Maria, 2 Gardaí spoke to us about Safer Internet Day. We did Creative Drama in the Hall with Mary. Michael from Crosserlough Water Scheme gave us a native Irish Tree to plant. We got our Mid-Term Break.



Thank you, Mrs McCabe

### Visit from Crosserlough Group Water Scheme:

We had a visit from members of Crosserlough Group Water Scheme and the National Federation of Group Water Schemes on 23<sup>rd</sup> February. Our visitors spoke to children from 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> class about pollution and pesticides and how they can pollute our ground water. Each child received a sapling to be brought home for planting, a certificate and an information pack.



### The Student Council Report

For 'Well-being Week' we organised an Art competition. The theme of the Art competition was My Happiness Is... The winners were Gonzalo 6<sup>th</sup>, Peter 5<sup>th</sup>, Kyle 4<sup>th</sup>, Dylan Cullinan 3<sup>rd</sup>, Alisha 2<sup>nd</sup>, Dylan Comiskey 1<sup>st</sup>, Dáire in Senior Infants and Emily in Junior Infants. The Student Council also organised Peak Of The Week, for this the Student Council drew out a mountain for each classroom, and at the end of the week everyone in the school wrote on a sticky note something they enjoyed during the week. They stuck it on the mountain. We continue to meet every Thursday to discuss the new debates on new opportunities for the school.

*Prepared by members of the Student Council*

## Parents Association

### A message from the Parents' Association

We hope everyone had an enjoyable midterm break and got up to some fun activities. Thank you to everyone who attended our Parents' Association meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> February, it was great to finally meet in person. The Parents' Association are currently planning for communion on 2<sup>nd</sup> April and will be on hand after the ceremony with refreshments in the Resource Centre for all families.

A reminder to anyone who hasn't contacted Sharon to book your time slot for photography to please do so and to also bring in money for the photographer by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March.

Thank you to the school and parents for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Sharon Ivers - Chairperson Crosskeys N.S. Parents' Association

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

*From all the Staff in Crosskeys National School.*

*28<sup>th</sup> February 2022*