



Crosskeys National School

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NUACHTLITIR

Dated 29th September 2021

SEPTEMBER

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

You are very welcome to our September Newsletter. It has been great to welcome the children back to their new classes and especially to welcome our 9 wonderful Junior Infants. They have settled into Mrs Keogan's class so well. September started with some lovely weather, which meant lots of time on the pitch! Upgrading of our school yard began over the summer closure. It is exciting to have more work and development of the yard to look forward to in the future! Thank you to all families who have continued to be diligent about Covid-19. Again, the advice to parents is not to send your child/ren to school if they show Covid-type symptoms i.e. sore throat, cough, fever (see hse.ie for their symptom list) or otherwise unwell. Please seek medical advice as necessary.

Some Quick Reminders:

Reminder: We ask that parents/guardians please continue to send absence notes to: notescrosskeysns@gmail.com. If possible, please try to notify the school on the first day of an absence.

School Uniforms: A reminder that the full school uniform (including school jumper and tie) is required to be worn by all children.



Junior and Senior Infant News:

Our nine new Junior Infants settled in very well and very quickly to our classroom and school routine. Our new Senior Infants have adapted to their senior role in our classroom with ease. We're having lots of fun and learning a bit on the way. Here are some examples of our creative use of some of the equipment we are fortunate to have in our school.



Now you see us.....



Now you don't!!!!



Some of our sticklebrick creations.....



Sleeping away



Playdough Man.

Thank you, Mrs Keogan



First and Second Class News:

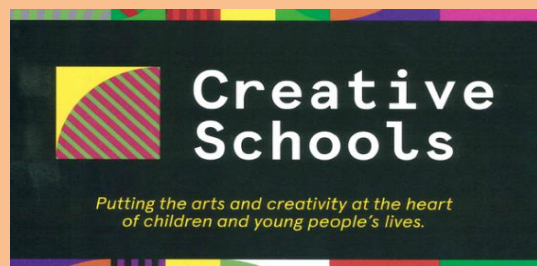
We were all delighted to come back to school at the end of August. The weather was great for the last few days of the holidays, and we enjoyed every minute of it. We were lucky enough to come back to some big changes in the school yard. We saw the big trees being taken down from the senior yard. This was really cool to watch! We also got a new fence along the whole yard. It is so much brighter and easier to get our footballs now! We have also done some great artwork in the classroom. We did amazing self-portraits and also coloured our names in. We worked together to create a rainbow picture showing how together we can achieve more. We also designed some clothes for the colder weather that is coming in now. We're looking forward to autumn and all the beautiful leaves and changes that happen at this time of year. We also welcomed Katie into our class ☺





Thank you, Mrs Armstrong

Creative Schools: We are delighted to announce that we will be taking part in the Creative Schools initiative over the next two years. The school has been awarded €4000 in funding for the scheme. We will work with a Creative Associate or Artist over a 2 year period. We will keep you updated 😊



Farm Safe School

Crosskeys National School is now an accredited "Superstar Farm Safe School." Well-done to all of the boys and girls for their hard work. Thank you to all of the class teachers for organising the initiative.



CLÁR Funding:

The Board of Management is pleased to announce that our application for CLÁR funding to improve our school yard further has been successful. We look forward to planning these further improvements.



P.E. Uniform: Our new P.E. uniform is now available from QuickPick Uniforms in Ballyjamesduff. **The only children required to purchase the new P.E. uniform are our new Junior Infants.** Should any other parents wish to purchase the new uniform for P.E. days they may do so. **All other children may still wear the 'old' P.E. uniform on P.E. days.**



3rd and 4th Class News:

Here in 3rd and 4th class we have had a very busy return to school. We are very lucky to welcome Summer and Paula into our classroom and we hope they will both be very happy here.

It has been so nice settling back into school with our teacher and our friends. Thankfully we have had nice weather and we got outside for some drama and P.E games. We love getting out of the classroom.

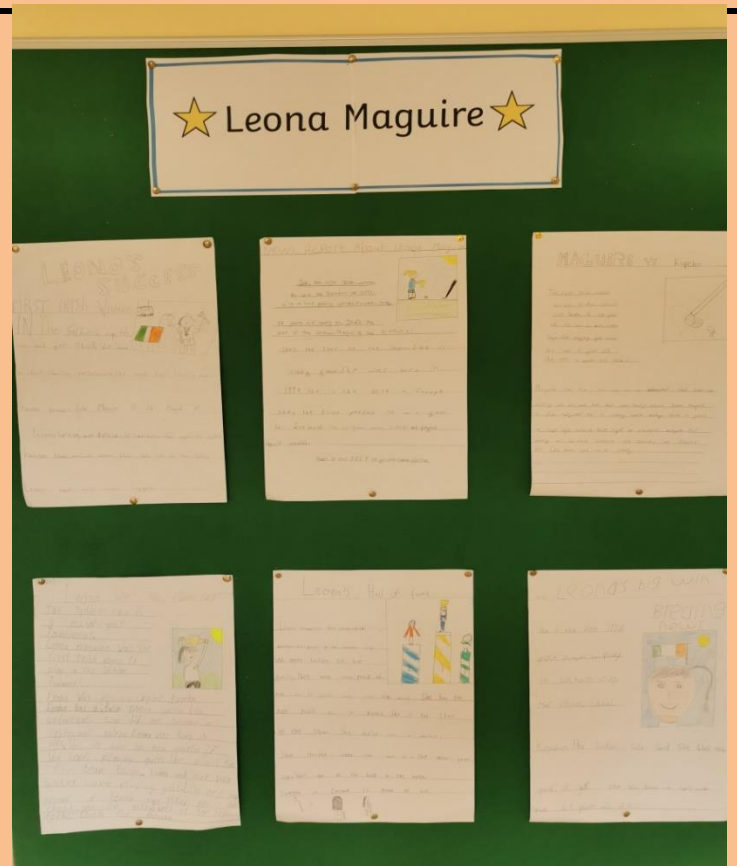
We were very excited about Leona Maguire's success

in the Solheim cup, and we worked together in our groups

to create a news report about her success. We have also completed some lovely art since we came back, as well as composing prayers as we learned about the Trinity. Overall

we have had a lovely September and we look forward to many happy months in 3rd and 4th class.





Thank you, Mrs O'Reilly



The Amber Flag:

The children of Crosskeys National School will be taking part in the Amber Flag initiative this year. The Pieta House Amber Flag initiative recognises the efforts of schools to create healthy, inclusive environments that support mental well-being. Find out more at www.pieta.ie



New Flag Poles:

Thank you to Kieran and Paula Gaffney for their kind sponsorship of new flag poles on the school grounds. We look forward to flying flags on them and displaying some of our awards in the future.

School Lunches: It's great to see healthy lunches each day in Crosskeys N.S.

Please continue to give your child a healthy lunch and a drink each day for break time and lunchtime. Please note that **NUT BASED FOODS are NOT allowed** as there are children in the school who have allergies related to nuts.



New Teacher: We welcome new teacher Mr Nethercott to Crosskeys National School. Mr Nethercott will be in Crosskeys N.S. every Tuesday providing learning support to children.

Board of Management: The Board's last meeting was on 19th July 2021. During this meeting the Board ratified Michael B. Hyland as the main contractor for the Emergency Works project on the school yard.

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.



Primary Languages Sampler Module:

Crosskeys N.S. has successfully applied to take part in the Primary Languages Sampler Module. Children from 3rd-6th class will be taking part in the Module during Term 2. They will get the chance to learn a foreign language for the term with an external language tutor coming into the school.



5th and 6th Class News

Fifth and Sixth Class welcome Gonzalo and Almudena who have joined our class. On Friday 3rd September, the three Yew trees at the bottom of the schoolyard were felled. A new green steel fence was put up. The yard was resurfaced and the basketball court was lined. Unfortunately Covid is still around and we are continuing with our safety precautions. We did a project about "Amazing Women" on the tablets. Fifth and Sixth Class drew and coloured lovely Art work "All about Us". We are enjoying being back at school. *Thank you, Mrs McCabe*



Parents Association

A message from the Parents' Association

A very big welcome back to all the children and staff that began Term 1 at Crosskeys National School on the 31st of August. I would like to give a special mention to our new Junior Infants who started their journey through the school and all the new children who have joined the various classes.

We wish all the children a happy, enjoyable and studious first term. As the current Parents' Association Committee is coming to an end soon there will notification going out shortly for nominations to fill positions. It is important that a Parents' Association Committee is elected in order to keep the Parents' Association alive & active within the school for the benefit of our children.

As all parents are members of the Parents' Association, a point of contact is needed on general school issues, development etc., so this is why a Parents' Association Committee is required. We hope that our AGM will be held in the school in the coming weeks otherwise a Zoom meeting will be organised. We thank everyone for their contribution to date and look forward to nominations to continue the great work the Parents' Association Committee does within our school for the children.

Best wishes,

Alva Farrelly- Chairperson Crosskeys N.S. Parents' Association

Donation from Denn Gun Club:

Thank you to Denn Gun Club for their generous donation of €100 to the school. It is hoped that this will be put towards the planting of flowers around the school in the coming months.

Donations:

Well-done to the children that received 1st Communion in Crosskeys National School. The boys and girls made a generous donation of €50 to the Arthrogryposis Association of Ireland. Also a special mention for our Confirmation Class of 2021. The children made a very generous donation of €222 to Bounce Back Youth Services. Many of these children also enjoyed a two day summer camp organised by Bounce Back in Crosskeys during the summer holidays.



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

From all the Staff in Crosskeys National School.

29th September 2021