



# Crosskeys National School

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# NUACHTLITIR

Dated 25th October 2024



Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

You are very welcome to our Halloween Newsletter. It has been a busy and enjoyable start to the new school year in Crosskeys National School. October finished up with a really spooky Fancy Dress on Friday 25<sup>th</sup>. Have a look at some of the pictures later in the Newsletter and on our Instagram!!

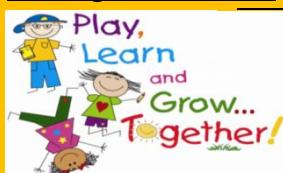
## Important Dates:

Parent/Teacher Meetings: will take place on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November

Communion: To be decided

Confirmation: Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May @ 6pm - St. Mathew's Church, Drumavaddy

Punctuality: Overall punctuality is excellent in Crosskeys N.S. Please ensure that your child is on time for school each morning. We know anyone can be late occasionally but regular late arrivals are disruptive for all concerned and learning time is lost.



## Junior and Senior Infant News:



Junior and Senior Infants have had a very busy 8 weeks at school. Junior Infants have settled into school life very well. We've been working on hand strength and pencil grip. We've all been doing Literacy Stations with Mr. Gurhy and Ms. Vaughan and we've had lots of fun with phonics and reading. We started to use the devices too. Reading Eggs and Mathseeds have been great fun to use. Thanks to Mr. Donohoe and his class for helping us out with logging in and out of the devices. We completed our Credit Union Quiz posters and also started to learn about relay races and how to run in one. We've also been lucky to have a few teams from Denn GAA to come in to visit us with the cups they have won, both in football and camogie. We would like to thank them for taking the time to visit us and also for the treats they brought us! We've also done some maths station work which has been lots of fun. We spent some time making story maps for stories like 'Room on the Broom'. We also did some dances in the hall and enjoyed having Rinka in to work with us. We can't wait for Halloween dress up day and the holidays!





Thank you, Mrs Armstrong

#### **First and Second Class News:**

We have had such a fun start to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class. It took 1<sup>st</sup> class a few weeks to get use to the longer school day, but now we are well settled into our new routine and we happily stay until 3pm. Some of the highlights of our first term have been lots of hands-on Maths activities, including a Maths trail outside looking for shapes in our environment, Maths stations during Maths Week and using the devices to play Maths games online (Thanks to Mr. Donohoe and 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class for helping us with this) We have enjoyed learning lots of new songs and sometimes we play percussion instruments with our songs to help us keep the beat. We have been learning lots of new Irish words and phrases and we even use some of our Irish verbs when doing P.E. We completed some lovely hedgehog art and we learned about animals who hibernate for the winter. We worked hard on our pumpkin art and we love looking at them hung up on the windows. We are really looking forward to our Active Halloween and we are learning a Ghostbuster Dance that we will perform with Junior and Senior Infants when we are dressed up for Halloween on Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>. We can't wait for our week off so we can go trick or treating with our friends. Happy Halloween Everyone.





Thank you, Mrs O'Reilly

### 3rd and 4th Class News:

The pupils in Third and 4<sup>th</sup> class took part in the Cavan Credit Union Art Competition and we also did lots of lovely Art work. We had visits from 3 Denn Teams - U16 boys football, U-14 Girls camogie and Senior Ladies Camogie - All County Champions. These teams are a great inspiration to us. They also gave us treats. We had an election for the Student Council. Mr Terry Leddy visited our classroom. We are learning French with Marie. We had an exercise class with Finnán from Rinka. We are enjoying using the ICT devices for Mathseeds, Reading Eggs and Writing Legends activities. The girls Camogie team are in the Cumann na mBunscol final. We are looking forward to dressing up for Halloween.



Thank you, Mrs McCabe

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

Crosskeys National School are on Twitter and Instagram. Search 'Crosskeys National School' on Twitter or search our username, '@Ckeysns.' On Instagram, search Crosskeys National School or by our username, crosskeysnat\_school. Thanks to Mrs O'Reilly for her work on the social media accounts.

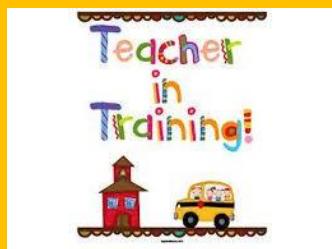


School Lunches: remember our Healthy Eating Policy!! Please note that NUT BASED FOODS are NOT allowed as there are children in the school who have allergies related to nuts.



**Board of Management Report:** The Board met on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October. The Board conducted an annual review of the Anti-Bullying Policy and its Implementation as well as reviewing the Child Safeguarding Statement. Both updated policies and the Annual Admissions Notice can be viewed at [www.crosskeysns.ie](http://www.crosskeysns.ie) Enrolments for the 2025-2026 school year will begin from January. Admission Application forms are on the school website or can be collected from the office. The Board of Management also approved a number of Parents' Association fundraisers for the year ahead. The next Board of Management meeting will take place in December.

**Some beautiful 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> class art work:**



**Student Teachers:**

A big thank you to Ms McCabe who recently completed her teaching practice with 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class. The boys and girls really enjoyed your exciting lessons during your time with us. We wish Ms McCabe the very best of luck in her teaching career.

Ms McCann is currently on teaching practice with 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class until late November.

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

Over the past 8 weeks, we've had visitors from all of the local secondary schools. It was interesting to hear about life in the various schools. We've been doing maths stations in our room for the past 6 weeks. During these times we had Mr Donohoe, Ms Vaughan, Ms McCabe and Mr Gurhy helping us with our maths. We marked maths week in October, boys and girls in our room were team leaders for the whole school maths trail, it was really enjoyable. 6 boys and girls from our room were selected for the Active Schools Committee; we're really enjoying all of the activities that have come with this so far. We were very proud of the girls in our room that represented the school in the Cumann na mBunscol camogie final. 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class helped boys and girls in all other rooms get set up on Reading Eggs and Maths Seeds in the last few weeks, this was very enjoyable.

*Thank you, Mr Donohoe*

## Student Council:

Congratulations to our new Student Council who were elected in recent weeks. The Council received their Badges of Office at an assembly in the school hall last week. We wish them the very best of luck in the year ahead. Thanks to Mrs McCabe and Mr Donohoe for organising.



## Cumann na mBunscol Camogie:

Well-done to our camogie team who qualified for the Cumann na mBunscol final on 22<sup>nd</sup> October. The girls played with distinction and should be very proud of their achievements. We were defeated by Dernakesk N.S. in an entertaining final. A huge thank you to Maria from Denn Camogie Club for all of her help and support in training the girls. Thanks to Mrs McCabe and Mrs O'Reilly for organising.



## Active Schools Flag:

Crosskeys National School will be taking part in the Active Schools initiative this year. A huge amount of work has already gone into the Active Schools in the first few weeks of the school year. The children have been much more active throughout the school day and have incorporated physical education into many elements of the school day. In mid-October an Active Schools Committee was selected, it comprises 6 representatives from 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class and 2 from 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class. The Committee will also be working alongside a representative from Denn Running Club to build links and ensure we are as active as possible this school year. Sincere thanks to Mrs O'Reilly and Ms Vaughan who is assisting her for their efforts so far, the Active Schools initiative is proving itself to be really worthwhile already.



## Reading Eggs & Maths Seeds:

Children in all classes have been taking part in a Reading Eggs and Maths Seeds trial. The feedback has been incredibly positive so far. Going forward, we hope to continue using Reading Eggs in the school. Thanks to Mrs Armstrong for organising.



# Parents Association

## A message from the Parents' Association

Thank you to all families for your generous donations to our Halloween Fancy Dress fundraiser. The Parents' Association are organizing a Movie Night in Drumavaddy Community Centre this evening. Doors open from 6pm. Check out the school's Instagram for more details. Well-done to all of the children for their hard work in recent weeks. Wishing all families an enjoyable mid-term break.

*Aisling Kiernan*

Chairperson - Crosskeys N.S. Parents' Association

## Fancy Dress in Crosskeys National School





Happy Halloween!!  
From all the Staff in  
Crosskeys National School.

25<sup>th</sup> October 2024

