



# Crosskeys National School

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## NUACHTLITIR

Dated 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023



Welcome to our January/February Newsletter ☺  
It's been a busy two months since the Christmas break, with lots happening in our school!

### **\*\*REMINDERS\*\*:**

- **Confirmation:** March 11<sup>th</sup>
- **Communion Enrolment Mass:** March 12<sup>th</sup>
- School closed for pupils on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March** - Primary Language Curriculum training day
- **First Confessions:** Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 11.30
- **Communion:** 6<sup>th</sup> May



### Junior and Senior Infant News:

We all settled back very quickly after Christmas. Senior Infants are Becoming very independent writers and Junior Infants know their letter sounds and are enjoying reading . We had fun activities including making Valentine Cards, making pancakes with first and second classes. Thank you Mrs Armstrong for organising all the ingredients. We're learning how to Stay Safe from other people by SAYING NO, GETTING AWAY AND TELLING SOMEONE WE TRUST. We remember important people and import ant events in our lives through chat and art during Wellbeing

month.

### Our winter cutting and pasting



Aistear with the puppets



## Hip Hop Dancing with Aysha



Meditating during Wellbeing month



Do we know our numbers or what!!!!

*Thank you, Mrs Keogan*

**First and Second Class News:** We learned about 3-D and 2-D shapes. We started Maths stations in our classroom. The children love working with maths games, problem sheets and hands on materials. We had a great day learning hip-hop dancing with Aysha. We did Peak of the Week for Wellness Month. The Student Council ran an art competition for 'The best Moments of Our Lives' this month too. We also followed the Mindfulness calendar that they created. We made some Valentine's art Love Birds. We learned a little about running: landing on the balls of our feet, bending our knees and bringing them up high and keeping our arms tight to our bodies and pumping them when running. We also used the devices to start typing.





We made pancakes for Pancake Tuesday and Fr. Kilduff brought ashes in for Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of Lent. We got to play on the big yard when the senior classes went to swimming which was brilliant fun. We're starting to learn our prayers for First Confessions, which will take place on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 11.30 in St. Matthew's Church Crosskeys. There will also be a Communion enrolment mass on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March 11am, St Matthews Church, Crosskeys. We continue to sing in choir. Our new song is Better When I'm Dancing.



*Thank you, Mrs Armstrong*



**3rd and 4th Class News:** We have been really busy in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class since we came back to school after the Christmas break. In January we began our literacy stations which we are really enjoying. Mrs O'Reilly, Mr Gurhy, Ms Leddy and Yvonne help us at different stations which involve reading, comprehension cards, grammar and writing. In History, we learned about the Vikings by completing projects in our table groups. Project work allows us to lead our own learning and helps us to work as part of a team. We enjoyed researching and typing up our findings. In February we began following our Well-Being Calendar and we have enjoyed various different mindful activities throughout the month. The Student Council organised an art competition for the whole school and we had to draw a picture based on the theme 'Best Moments'. Other highlights have been getting back to choir with Mrs Keogan, making St Brigid's Day crosses, receiving ashes on Ash Wednesday, starting swimming and doing hip hop dance with Aysha.



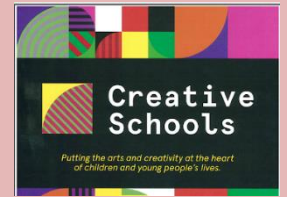
*Thank you, Mrs O'Reilly*

### Student Council:

The Student Council have been busy in January and February. They played an important role in our February month of wellness and also during Well-being Week. Thanks to Mrs McCabe & Mrs O'Reilly for organising.



**Creative Schools:** The children have been enjoying Hip Hop Dancing as part of the Creative Schools in recent weeks. In total all classes will take part in a 6 week block of Hip Hop. Thanks to Mrs Keogan for organising.



**Board of Management:** The Board of Management met on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. At this meeting the Board approved the submission of the school's annual accounts to the Department of Education. The Board approved the school's new Healthy Eating Policy and the 2023-2024 school calendar. Other matters discussed included improvements to the school hall and a Health and Safety Assessment. The Board will meet again in April.



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

Follow us 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 school's social media.



### BLAST (Bringing Live Arts to Students & Teachers):

Anna Wiercioch of the Art Flying Academy who has been paired with the school for our BLAST Project visited the school in January. Anna will be working with all classes in the coming weeks as part of BLAST. School staff have decided to focus on a theme of well-being. It is hoped that Anna will work on some murals outside our school with the help of pupils.



### Pancake Tuesday:

Mrs Keogan's and Mrs Armstrong's classes had a real treat last Tuesday morning:







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

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils entered "The Changing Oceans" Art competition organised by Benny Joyce, Marine Biologist. Sarah and Ellen won 2 gift vouchers for their lovely pictures. Sixth Class completed their Confirmation Artwork and are getting ready for Confirmation which is on **Saturday March 11<sup>th</sup>**. Fifth and 6<sup>th</sup> Class enjoyed learning about Saint Brigid and making crosses out of rushes. 3 teams entered the Cumann na mBunscol Quiz. Well done to Team B: Oisín, Thomas, Ethan and Sam who came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Senior Quiz. The Student Council organised a Well-being Calendar for February and a lot of events including "Peak of the Week" and "Best Moments" Art Competition. In Art we made fabric outfits for cardboard figures. Some pupils made Junk Couture outfits from fabric. We made special cards for Valentine's Day for our parents. On Fridays Aysha is teaching us hip hop dances which is great fun. 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class are going swimming on Monday's.





*Thank you, Mrs McCabe*

**New member of Staff:** The school welcomed Yvonne Lynch as a new member of staff in January. Yvonne is a Special Needs Assistant who will be working with a variety of classes. She's settled in really well and we're delighted to have her!

## Parents Association

### **A message from the Parents' Association**

Everyone on Crosskeys National School's Parents' Association would like to wish all the children making their Confirmation on Saturday week all of the very best, we hope you have a wonderful day. We will be providing tea/coffee and light refreshments in Drumavaddy Community Centre after Confirmation mass. We would ask parents if they could kindly donate any buns, biscuits, sandwiches etc. we would greatly appreciate it, the Community Centre will be open from 10am on the morning of Confirmation for anyone who would like to drop off any items. We are currently planning for some up and coming fundraisers and will keep you posted on these events. Thank you to everyone for your continued support.

Kind regards,

*Sharon Ivers*

Chairperson - Crosskeys N.S. Parents' Association



**Above:** 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class pictured in fine form after one of their running sessions on the track ☺

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

*From all the Staff in Crosskeys National School - 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023*