



# Crosskeys National School

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# NUACHTLITIR

Dated 30th September 2022

## 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 15 wonderful Junior Infants. They have settled into Mrs Keogan's class so well.

### Some Quick Reminders:

**Parents' Association AGM:** Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 8pm in the school.

We ask that parents/guardians please continue to send absence notes to: [notescrosskeysns@gmail.com](mailto:notescrosskeysns@gmail.com)

If possible, please try to notify the school on the first day of an absence with a reason.

**Parent/Teacher Meetings:** will take place on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November. Important details will be shared closer to the time.

**School Uniforms:** A reminder that the full school uniform (including school jumper, shirt and tie) is required to be worn by all children. Full PE uniform on Fridays.

**GAA Coaching:** coaching will recommence with Cavan GAA Coach, Dan Wharton from Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October.

**St. Patrick's College First Year open evening:** Thursday 20th October at 7pm.



### Junior and Senior Infant News:

Congratulations to all our new Junior Infants who have settled in so well this year. Senior Infants are setting them a great example. We have all been busy with Aistear activities as you see in the photos of sand, puppets, cutting and pasting, blocks etc. We enjoy our regular movement breaks outside on our new soft surface where we pretend to be swallows lining up to

fly to Africa, combine harvesters cutting the wheat, hedgehogs eating all the worms and insects in autumn and of course Whisky Frisky Squirrel scampering up and down looking for nuts.

We're doing very well finding our way around and through the school and are making new friends and reconnecting with old ones after the summer holidays.





Thank you, Mrs Keogan

### **1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Class News:**

Hi everyone. In first and second class we're delighted to be back to school. We arrived back to school to some wonderful plants that had grown in the polytunnel over the summer. Huge thanks to everyone who kept it alive over the summer months. We all had the opportunity to taste tomatoes, runner beans and cucumber. We also saw a white and green courgette. There are loads of pumpkins too, as well as bell peppers and chillies. We smelled tomato leaves. We sang some pirate songs like 'We don't like mermaids' and we started choir with Mrs. Keogan. We also started reading groups with Mr Gurhy and Ms McGrath. They are so much fun. We had the Denn U13 team and also the Castlerahan/Denn ladies in to show us the cups they had won. Denn is certainly enjoying a winning spree at the minute!! We are doing Gaeilge reading groups too. We all saw the Queen's coffin when she passed away. To top off the month we also got to play with the beebots which was so much fun.





Thank you, Mrs Armstrong

**Creative Schools:** We will once again be taking part in the Creative Schools programme this year. All staff met with Mary Farrelly, our Creative Associate in mid September to plan for the year ahead. There are some exciting things lined up. Thanks to Mrs Keogan for organising.

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

In September the school made an application to work with an artist as part of the BLAST programme. The school's plan is to enhance our outdoor classroom area with the help of an artist. We have picked a theme of well-being for the project. If successful the school will receive €1,000 to fund this project. Thanks to all staff for their efforts with the application. Fingers crossed for a successful outcome!



## Windfarm Community Funding:

The Board of Management applied for funding from a number of Windfarm Community Grants in recent times. The Panel of the Bindoo, Garthnaneane and Mullanault Wind Farms has awarded Crosskeys National School €2,000. The application focused on energy efficient lighting. This is in addition to €3,000 from Mountain Lodge Windfarm. Again, focusing on more sustainable energy use in the school. The Board of Management looks forward to putting these funds to good use.



## Mass to begin the school Year:

Thanks to Fr. Kilduff who said mass for all pupils and staff in the school hall in the month of September. It was a nice start to the school year.



## 3rd and 4th Class News:

September has been a fun and enjoyable month for the children in 3rd and 4th class. We began the year by agreeing on our 'Class Code' and in groups we composed raps using the words from our Class Code. Teacher sent them to us on Seesaw for our parents to listen to them. We have been very lucky to have Miss Kinsella in our room since 19th Sept as she completes her teaching practice and we are all learning so much from her. We have learned about the Amazon Rainforest, Brazil, the Aztecs and much more. We have completed some lovely art so far this month as well as taking part in some fun Music, PE and Religion activities. We were so amazed to see how much had grown in the polytunnel over the summer and we were lucky to get tasting some of the fruits of our labour. We also elected our new Student Council this month. Huge congratulations to Charlie, Íosa, Daniel and Ellie-Rose who were chosen as our class reps, but a huge well done also to everyone who prepared a speech and put themselves forward for election - not an easy task!!! That's all for now.





Thank you, Mrs O'Reilly

#### Application for Additional SNA Allocation:

The school made an application for additional SNA allocation to the National Council for Special Education in early September. A lot of time went into this application. Hopefully common sense prevails. Thank you to Mrs Keogan, Mrs Armstrong and Patricia for their efforts with the application.

**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 Mrs McGrath to Crosskeys National School. Mrs McGrath will be in Crosskeys N.S. every Tuesday providing learning support to children.

**Board of Management:** The Board's next meeting will take place on Monday 24th October at 7.45pm

#### 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.

#### Primary Languages Sampler Module:

Crosskeys N.S. has once again applied to take part in the Primary Languages Sampler Module. Thankfully our application has been successful. Children from 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> class will be taking part in French lessons during October and November with Marie O'Shea, former French teacher in St. Patrick's College, Cavan.



An Chomhairle Náisiúnta um Oideachas Speisialta  
National Council for Special Education



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

September was a busy month for Sixth and Fifth Class. There was a School Mass with Fr Donal in the hall. Sixth and Fifth Class pupils painted autumn pictures and created Dean Russo Pop- Art style dogs. Chloe, Dylan, Eoin and Ellen were elected to the Student Council. The boys and girls have been helping to water the vegetables in the polytunnel and the flowers around the school. Some pupils enjoyed eating the beans, tomatoes and chilli peppers. We were using the I-Pads and taking part in Kahoot Geography quizzes based on Ireland. The U13 Denn boys football team won the Division 3 final. The Team and their managers brought in the cup and treats to school. The Castlerahan/Denn Ladies team won the Intermediate Final and they brought in their cup. It was great seeing so many past pupils.



## Parents Association

### A message from the Parents' Association

We would like to give a very special mention to the Junior Infant pupils who started in Crosskeys N.S. at the beginning of September, we hope you are enjoying your time in Junior Infants and making lots of new friends. Also, to the rest of the pupils, welcome back and keep up the great work! The Parents' Association will be holding their AGM on Monday 3rd October at 8pm in the school, all parents welcome. We are looking forward to an exciting term ahead as the Parents' Association and will keep you up to date on any upcoming events or fundraisers. As always, thank you for your generosity and support.

Best wishes,

Sharon Ivers

Chairperson Crosskeys N.S. Parents' Association

### Some beautiful 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class art work:



**Special Visitors:** The victorious Castlerahan/Denn team visited all classrooms in Crosskeys National School on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September. Here are some team members pictured with 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> class.



**Student Council:** Well-done to our new Student Council members, pictured above. After a week of campaigning and elections earlier in the month, the Council has been formally elected! Council members are pictured wearing their official badges of office! Their first task has been organising a raffle of pumpkins which grew in the school polytunnel. Thank you to Mrs O'Reilly and Mrs McCabe for organising.

#### **School choir:**

The school choir is up and running this year. The choir meets every Thursday in the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> classroom. Thanks to Mrs Keogan for organising.



**Summer Works:** a huge thank you to John McConnell our caretaker and Eileen McGinnell our cleaner for their hard work over the summer. John has the school and its grounds looking fantastic. Eileen also gave the school building an excellent deep clean in august.

**Message from Denn Toddler Play Group:** Things are progressing well in terms of getting Afterschool up and running. Cavan County Council approved our planning application last week. We are working away behind the scenes on getting everything set up. We are going through a registration process with Tusla at the moment and when this is finalised we'll be able to open our doors. All parents who registered an interest have been contacted already however if anyone has any queries don't hesitate to contact the Playschool on [denntoddlersclg@hotmail.com](mailto:denntoddlersclg@hotmail.com)



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

*From all the Staff in Crosskeys National School.*

*30<sup>th</sup> September 2022*