

Crosskeys National School

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NUACHTLITIR

Dated 27th May 2022



Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

You are very welcome to our April/May Newsletter. April and May have been two busy and exiting months in Crosskeys National School with lots of enjoyable activities and memorable moments along the way. We are all set for a busy and enjoyable final few weeks of Term 3. There's lots of exciting things for the children to look forward to!!! ☺ ☺ ☺

Some dates to note:

Primary Language Curriculum In-Service Half Day Closure: Thursday 2nd June at 12.30pm

School Visit for 2022-2023 Junior Infant pupils: Wednesday 8th & 9th June at 2.15pm each day. Parents have been contacted with their date for visit.

Sports Day: TBC - weather dependant

Summer Holidays: The school will close at 12pm on Thursday 23rd June for the Summer holidays.



Important reminder: general school inquiries should be directed to the school office or school email account only.

Our secretary, Jo works from 10am-2pm each day. As teachers are teaching, phone calls and emails may not be answered outside of these times, however, we of course always do our best. Thanks for understanding.

Absences: Please continue to send information regarding absences to notescrosskeysns@gmail.com. The school is legally required to report school attendance to Tusla throughout the year. Absences without a note are recorded as unexplained.

School Calendar: The 2022-2023 School Calendar is now available on www.crosskeysns.ie

Enrolment 2022/2023: To get an Admission Application Form please email enrolment@crosskeysns.ie or call the school office on 0494336704 between 10am and 2pm any day to arrange. Please spread the word ☺



Some of April and May's Highlights:



Pictured above are 3rd/4th class pupils enjoying a percussion workshop with Peter Crann. On the right, the Legendry Ronaldo Fanzini entertains the children of Crosskeys N.S., (both are Creative Schools initiatives).



Junior and Senior Infant News:

We've had a busy April and May. You'll see some of what we got up to below:



Our creativity always shining through!

←Annette Corkery story telling with us!

Annette visited us as part of the Heritage in Schools Programme ran by the National Heritage Council. Like all classes, we had a session with her on Irish Myths!

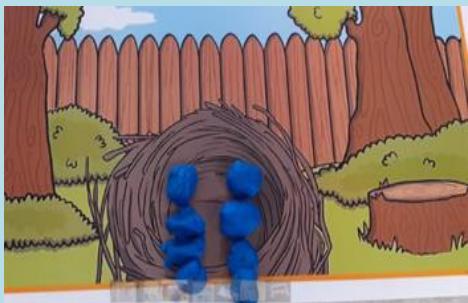


←Science: - learning about our bodies →

It was so interesting to learn about our bodies and all that's inside them!!



We've spent lots of time playing on our new soft play area recently. We are so lucky to have it right outside our classroom door. The Trim Trail has been really helping us improve our balance!



←Aistear spring playdough mat
Our poor little ugly duckling →
out in the thunder and lightning!!



We all kept in time and watched the conductor Peter Crann!

Thank you, Mrs Keogan

First and Second Class News:

Before Easter, 2nd class made their 1st Communion. The mass was lovely and everyone did a great job. Congratulations to you all. We made some Easter bunny rabbits and baskets in the classroom too.



May has been a very busy month. We've all been working very hard. The basketball league started for the senior classes. We've watched all the games and they've been great.

We started doing the Mile-a-Day in May which we really enjoy. We all made stories in groups and then we illustrated them. We typed them up using Microsoft Sway and added our illustrations too. We worked really well in our groups and had lots of fun. We started choir with Mrs. Keogan and are learning 'Memories' by Maroon 5. We love singing it. We got a new yard out the front of the school and we absolutely love it. The soft surface is lovely and bouncy and heats up in the sun so it's nice to sit on. We got a new balance beam too and we love using it.

There are benches in the other yard that we use on sunny days and we are looking forward to using our new polytunnel too. We have planted some poppy seeds in tubs. Hopefully they'll grow for us now! We planted flowers in the new planters outside the school.

Ronaldo Fanzini the clown came to the school. He was very funny, and he juggled with fire. He did a very dangerous act where he jumped over Mr. Gurhy on a pogo stick.



Peter Crann came to the school. We learned lots about rhythm and saw lots of different types of drums and musical instruments.



Thank you, Mrs Armstrong

Green Fingers in Crosskeys N.S.: Even though we only have our polytunnel and planter boxes a few short weeks, the children have been benefitting from their use. Thanks to all teachers for organising.



Student teacher: Ms Reilly, a past pupil of our school, was on teaching practice placement in 3rd/4th Class for 3 weeks in May. The boys and girls really enjoyed learning from her. We thank Mrs O'Reilly for welcoming her into her class and Ms Reilly for her efforts.



Amber Flag:

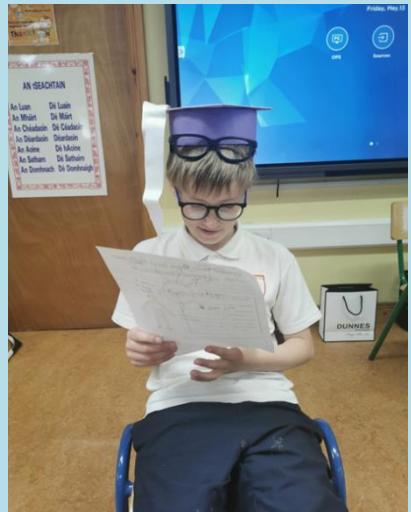
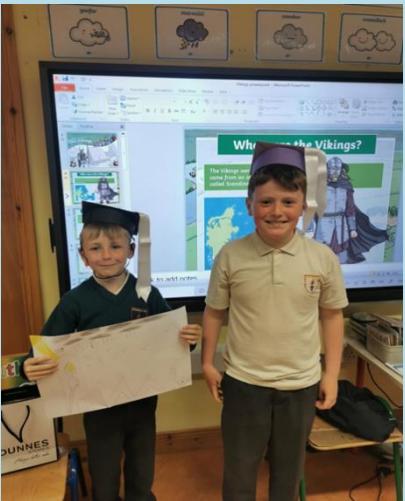
The school has submitted its application for the Amber Flag this week. This submission detailed the huge amount of work that teachers and pupils put into the initiative over the course of the 2021-2022 school year. This of course was topped off with our very successful Community Walk on Friday 8th April. The final figure raised was €687. €343.50 has been donated to Pieta and to Denn Youth Club. Once proof of receipt of these donations is shared with the school, we will share this with all families. Sincere thanks to all that supported and donated to this wonderful initiative.



3rd and 4th Class News:

We have had a really busy and fun filled 2 months in 3rd and 4th class. Some of our highlights include: Our first Senior School Tour to the Crystal Maze just outside Kingscourt where we worked together in teams to earn crystals and at the end of the day we were presented with a beautiful trophy. Science projects about littering, pollution, renewable energy and recycling - including an art project using recycled materials. Peter Crann Drumming workshop and Fanzini the Clown - both part of our Creative Schools Programme. Lots of fun on our new soft play surface and on our new outdoor furniture. Ms Reilly being here for 3 weeks teaching us lots of fun and interesting things - especially how to make 3D swans out of card. Planting our own individual pots of poppy seeds in the polytunnel - we just have to wait for them to grow and we can take them home in June. That's all for now.





Thank you, Mrs O'Reilly

Girls' and Boys' Footballers: Well-done to girls and boys from 4th-6th class who represented the school with distinction recently.



Board of Management update: our last meeting was on Thursday 28th April at 7.30pm. As with all meetings, the BoM was given an update on the school's financial position in April. The Board ratified Georgina Quigley as Treasurer in place of Sheila Smith (RIP). A number of policies were ratified including the Data Protection Policy, Class and Classroom Allocation Policy, Equality and Anti-Harassment Policy and the Disciplinary and Grievances Procedure Policy. The BoM also ratified the 2022-2023 School Calendar. The Board's next meeting will take place on Thursday 16th June at 7.30pm.

Crosskeys N.S. on social media:

Thanks to Mrs O'Reilly, we are very active on Instagram. Have a look for some regular updates on the various interesting activities the children get up to. Search 'Crosskeys National School' on Twitter or search our username, '@Ckeysns.' On Instagram, search Crosskeys National School or by our username, crosskeysnat_school.



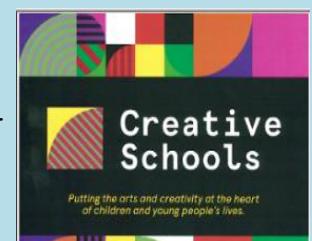
Primary Languages Sampler Module:

French lessons concluded just before the Easter break on April 8th. It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience for the girls and boys of 3rd-6th class. The school has made an application for funding to take part in the Languages Connect Module in the 2022-2023 school year. Fingers crossed for a successful outcome.

Languages Connect Sampler Module



Creative Schools: There's been a lot happening in April and May. Peter Crann, percussionist, the Legendry Ronaldo Fanzini and Annette Corkery, storyteller, all visited the school in recent times. A lot of planning has went into some future activities particularly for 6th class but also for all other classes. We'll have more visitors in June!!! Thanks to Mrs Keogan for organising.



School Website:

We now have a website up and running for the school. Check out www.crosskeysns.ie For now it's a really good starting point and one which will be added to in the months and years ahead! Like most websites, it's best viewed on a desktop or laptop. However, it's very smart phone/tablet friendly also.



5th and 6th Class News

Fifth and Sixth Class had their last French lesson with Marie. We played Bingo in French using the numbers 1-50, we won Easter eggs as prizes. Marie gave us a treat of a "petit dejeuner" - orange juice and a selection of croissants, pain au chocolate and brioche. Annette from the Heritage Council told us very interesting stories from the past. Annette told us that long ago it took 21 years to become a storyteller. Fifth and Sixth Class made Easter Cards. We are preparing for our Confirmation on May 14th. We went on the Amber Flag Walk on April 8th.

Peter Crann came to the school for a Percussion workshop. It was very enjoyable for all pupils. Fanzini the Clown came and gave a very entertaining outdoor performance. We took part in Cumann na mBunscol Boys and Girls Football. Ronan, Éadaoin and Ellen took part in the skills competition. The Senior Basketball Teams have played their first rounds. 6th Class made their Confirmation on Saturday May 14th with Bishop Martin Hayes. It was a very special day for us. We went on our School Tour to Crystal Maze. Sixth Class won the Crystal Trophy. It was a great tour. We planted Busy Lizzie flowers.



Thank you, Mrs McCabe

Parents Association

A message from the Parents' Association

A big congratulations to all the sixth class pupils who made their confirmation on 14th May, you all done yourselves, your family and the school proud. We would like to sincerely thank everyone who supported our recent fundraisers, which were our Quiz Night and Cash 4 Clobber. Everyone has been very generous and all monies raised will be going towards ICT equipment for the school. Our last fundraiser of the school term is our Family 5k, which is taking place on Saturday 11th June in conjunction with Denn Running Club. Registration is at 10.30am and the walk begins at 11am, come along and join in on the fun! It is great to see all the classes getting to go on their school tours and we hope all the children are enjoying every minute of them. A massive well-done to Mr Gurhy and the teaching staff on all the excellent work being done in the school in recent times, in particular the new polytunnel, flower boxes, the new soft surface and balance beams.

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.

27th May 2022