



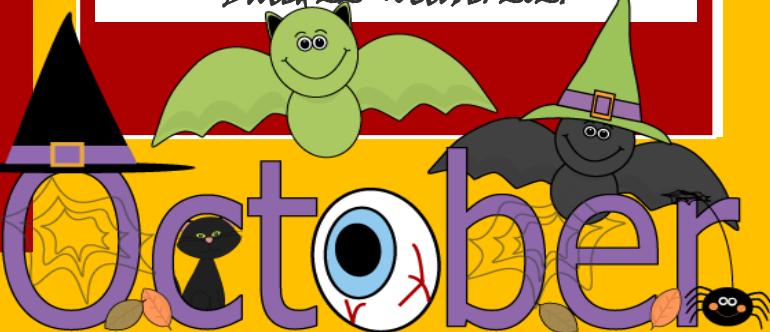
Crosskeys National School

Carrickatober,
Crosskeys,
Co. Cavan
0494336704

crosskeysns@gmail.com

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Dated 22nd October 2021



Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

You are very welcome to our October Newsletter. October has been a busy and enjoyable month in Crosskeys National School. The month finished up with a really spooky Fancy Dress Party on Friday 22nd. Have a look at some of the pictures later in the Newsletter!!

Some Quick Reminders: 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.

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:

We've been very busy this month. Apart from the normal learning, reading, writing, number work we've had a lot of extras going on, what with Credit Union Art Competition, Maths Week and preparing for Halloween. Our Five Little Pumpkins poem was recited very well and recorded on Seesaw at home. Thank you to all parents who continue to upload reading, nursery rhymes, letter sounds and Irish on Seesaw for me to watch. I find it very helpful which in turn helps your children and I also put little demonstration videos on Seesaw to help so please continue to engage with Seesaw and for those who haven't fully yet, please try harder after Mid Term Break.



Thank you, Mrs Keogan

First and Second Class News:

In first and second class we had a very busy October. We used the devices in our classroom. We had a lot to learn. We had to log on and put in our passwords. It was hard work but we're getting better.



We went on a nature walk and brought in chestnuts, acorns, sycamore helicopters and leaves for our nature table. Then we did a fun experiment with paper helicopters.



We painted some beautiful autumn forest pictures which we displayed in the hall. We learned about backgrounds and perspective. Dan the GAA coach came back. We did reading groups, and started our little Irish readers. It was Maths week this week. We took part in a whole school quiz, brilliantly organised by Mrs. Keogan. We had to go outside and count all the things outside the school for it. We were all on different teams. We can't wait to see who won. We got out the bluebots and number mats. We did a maths mystery. We also went on Topmarks to play maths games. We walked up to the Church for the start of year mass. We were lucky the weather was so good. We are also doing a Halloween art competition and a poetry competition in class. On Friday we will dress up and have lots of fun. We're looking forward to the Halloween break!



Thank you, Mrs Armstrong

3rd and 4th Class News: October has been a busy month for 3rd and 4th class. We have started our STEPS Young Engineer projects and we are working very hard on our ideas. We have had some lovely art lessons, creating Autumnal scenes and using the 'bag of scraps' to make Halloween costume collages.

In PE we have taken part in some basketball, indoor Yoga and Dance, but we were so happy to see Dan return on Oct 15th.

We are really enjoying Maths week as we have a lot of fun maths games to play and we took part in a whole school Maths quiz. We are looking forward to dressing up on Friday for Halloween, and also to hearing who won the art and poetry competitions throughout the school.



Thank you, Mrs O'Reilly

The Amber Flag: the Stay Safe Programme will be taught in Junior Infants-4th Class after the Halloween break. 5th and 6th Class will begin the Lust for Life Programme as part of our Amber Flag initiative in the school. Children in all classes will mark International Day against Violence and Bullying at School including Cyberbullying on 4th of November 2021. The school will take part in Anti-Bullying week, November 15, 2021 - November 19, 2021.



Student Council:

Student Council elections will take place in November.



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.

Student Teacher: Ms Campbell has been teaching 5th and 6th class throughout October. She has done some very exciting lessons with the children. She will continue her teaching practice with us in November.

Board of Management: The Board's last meeting was on 21st October 2021. During this meeting the Board discussed the recent announcement of CLÁR Funding for the school and there was an update regarding work completed in the school yard to date. The Board ratified the School's annual Admissions Notice. **Enrolment for September 2022 will begin on January 6th 2022.**

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.



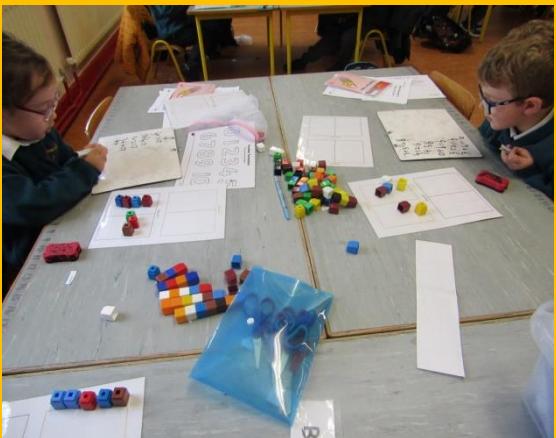
Mass to mark a New School Year:

On Wednesday 20th October classes attended mass in St. Matthew's Church, Crosskeys, to mark a new school year. Thank you to Fr. Donal Kilduff for saying the mass.



Maths week in Crosskeys National School: We have been celebrating Maths Week in Crosskeys N.S. this week.

Classes have been doing a range of fun activities with the highlight being a whole-school maths quiz organised by Mrs Keogan. Thanks to all the teachers for organising various activities throughout the week.



Maths Week 2021

Problem Solving

Countdown

A collage of 12 smaller photographs arranged in a grid, showing various math activities. The top row shows children working on problem-solving tasks. The middle row shows children working on a 'Countdown' game. The bottom row shows children working on a 'Problem Solving' task. The background of the collage is red.

5th and 6th Class News

5th and 6th Class welcomed Ms Campbell back on Teaching Practice. Dan our GAA Coach is also back on Fridays. We used chalk to draw Paul Henry, West of Ireland landscape pictures. We designed and coloured Dean Russo Skull pictures and wrote an acrostic poem for the Class Halloween Art and Poetry Competitions. For Maths Week we took part in a Whole School Maths Quiz which was very enjoyable, Maths activities and Symmetry Art. On Wednesday the whole school walked up to St Matthews Church for a school Mass said by Fr Donal. On Friday we will be dressing up for Halloween and we are looking forward to the Halloween break.



Parents Association

A message from the Parents' Association

Congratulations to all the children who have reached the halfway stage in Term 1 at Crosskeys N.S.

They have settled in extremely well and no doubt they are looking forward to the mid-term break along with their parents! We held our AGM on Wed 20th and were very appreciative of the support we got.

The following new committee was elected:

Chairperson - Sharon Ivers, **Vice Chairperson** - Natalie Buckley, **Secretary** - Olivia Owens

Asst. Secretary - Sandra Hyland, **Treasurer** - Lorna Keogan, **Asst. Treasurer** - Emma Mc Connell

Congratulations to the new committee and we wish them well in their roles

I want to thank the outgoing committee of Caroline, Bernie, Elaine & Miriam who worked alongside me for the last two years. At least we are all still talking which is a good sign!!

Thank you to the school and parents who supported us in our term and helped us achieve what we did. I hope everyone has a lovely mid-term break and enjoy the time off with your children. Happy Halloween and best wishes, Alva- outgoing Chairperson Crosskeys N.S. Parents' Association

Fancy Dress in Crosskeys National School

Throughout the week leading up to the Halloween Holidays, children in all classes took part in a Halloween poetry and art competition. The winners were announced on Friday. Everyone put an amazing effort into the Fancy Dress on Friday ☺ Families raised **€398.50** for the Parents' Association through their generous donations today. The funds will be used by the PA for future school initiatives. Well-done to all!!







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

Happy Halloween!!

From all the Staff in Crosskeys National School.

22nd October 2021

