



SCOIL MHUIRE GAN SMÁL

Green Lane, Carlow

Principal: Bernie Murphy

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5/4/2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The following is a flavour of school life at the moment. (I'll try to keep it to one page!)

Important Dates for your Diary:

Please note that school closes 12 noon Fri. April 7th, 2017. Pupils do not have to wear their uniform.

School re-opens on Monday, April 24th 2017

School closed on May 1st 2017

School closed June 5th & 6th 2017

School closes for summer holidays at 12 noon on June 30th 2017.

Congratulations and best wishes to Ms. Lacey on her marriage next Sat!

V.I.P. Visitor: The President of the INTO (Irish National Teachers Organisation) recently paid an unannounced visit to our school. She loved the positive school "vibe" she experienced!

Parents' Council Easter Raffle: Our Parents' Council will hold their annual Easter Raffle on Fri. morning at 10am. Again, great work has gone into the **Easter Egg Hampers** and to ensuring an even spread of prizes among the junior and senior classes. **Tickets are €1 a strip or €2 for 3 strips.**

Easter Prayer Service: An Easter prayer service will be held on Fri. morning before the raffle.

Parents' Council Table Quiz: We look forward to welcoming many families to the **fun** table quiz this Fri. night at 7.30pm in Éire Óg clubhouse. All proceeds will go to a new sports kit for our teams. Join us for a great night of fun with lovely prizes! It's €20 for a table of four. **Don't worry if you don't have a full table as you will be able to join up with others on the night, if you wish!**

Intercultural Week: We have been celebrating **Intercultural Week** this week. Thanks to all our parents who visited classes to share news about their countries. **On Fri., pupils are invited to wear international dress (or a touch of green) in celebration of Intercultural Week, if they so wish.**

Bizworld: Staff from the Bank of Ireland conducted four days of workshops with our 6th Classes on *Entrepreneurship*. The Chairperson of the Carlow Chamber of Commerce and the Manager of Bank of Ireland, Carlow conducted a **"Dragons Den"**. *Both were highly complimentary of your daughters!*

Drama: Both 6th Classes also enjoyed drama workshops with Carlow Youth Theatre.

Visual: Jnr. and Sen. Infants and 2nd Classes enjoyed a recent visit to the play installation in *VISUAL*.

Gairdín Beo: Ms. Calvey's 3rd Class planted bluebells in the community garden last week.

Engineer's Visit: Thanks to Mrs. Lambe who organised for an engineer, Mr. Tim Kavanagh, to work with both 5th Classes on the topics of **force and levers**.

IT: Also during *Engineers' Week*, all pupils in 3rd-6th attended science demonstrations in Carlow IT.

JEP: As part of the *Junior Entrepreneur Programme*, "Woof Warmers" and "Krafty Kidz" from 5th Classes held a Showcase Day displaying their products: **Woof Warmers (dog body-warmers), Colouring Books, Hairbands and Greeting Cards.**

Daffodil Day: A total of €1018.25 was raised! Sincere thanks to Ms. Rogers for organising the event.

Maths. Eyes: For the fourth year running, we again have a pupil featuring among the national winners. Congrats. to Hanora O'Driscoll from Ms. Lacey's Senior Infants!

Tráth na gCeist: For the *third* year running, we won the Irish Quiz, organised as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge **AND also won 2nd place!** A total of 30 teams from 11 schools participated. The winning team was: Abby Kennedy, Aoife Whelan, Eve Molloy and Zara Cummins. The runners-up were: Abbie Byrne, Eleanore Feeny, Haniel Faith and Isabelle Fortune. Grateful thanks to Ms. Hendricken, Ms. Rogers and Mr. McEvoy who coached the teams and accompanied them on the night.

Art: Congrats. to Kasia Pawlus (Mrs. Walshe's) who won the 5th Class category and to Haniel Faith (Miss Balfe's) who was 3rd in the 6th Class category of the *Seachtain na Gaeilge Art Competition*. Congrats. to Lily Mulcahy Ralph in Miss Balfe's 6th Class who was a winner in the *Fair Trade Art Competition*.

History Competition: Congrats. to Emma Carbery (Ms. Hendricken's 5th Class) who was Highly Commended in the Co. Carlow Historical Society's *Young Historian Competition*.

Sport:

- **Soccer:** Congrats. to Abby Byrne, Aoife Byrne, Reyes Castro, Hannah Dunphy, Abbie Kennedy, Bajame Merkaj, Megan Townsend and Orla Woods who have qualified for the South-east Leinster finals of the SPAR 5-a-Side!
- **GAA Skills:** Coaching finished this week for 3rd & 4th with Don Walker; 5th & 6th with Nancy Moore and Brian Dunne; and all infant classes with Leo McGough.
- **Swimming:** Lessons have begun for 2nd - 4th Classes.

Green News: All classes attended *Energy-Saving Workshops* recently and we await results of the adjudication for our **7th Green Flag!** Grateful thanks to Ms. Hourihane for all her work!

Cycle Against Suicide: Are you interested in being a **VOLUNTEER HOST** on May 5th (1 night only; Dinner/Shower/Bed)? If so, please contact homestaycarlow@gmail.com or phone 085 2461163.

Carlow Fleadh Schools Competition: Best of luck to the girls participating in Borris on April 8th!

Finally, a note from Fr. John Cummins: Parents are encouraged to bring their children to the *Parish Penitential Service* in the Cathedral at **7.30pm next Weds.** evening, 12th April and to join in next week's *Holy Week Ceremonies on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday*. (Also, the *Chrism Mass* will be held on *Mon. evening*.)

I'd like to wish you all a Happy Easter and hope that all our families enjoy the Easter Holidays.

Bernie Murphy

Principal