

April Newsletter 2016

We would like to update you on what's been happening in Gowran N.S.

N.B.

The new Primary Language Curriculum for Irish and English is being gradually phased into schools from Sept 2016. To this end, the Department of Education and Science has authorised a full day closure this term to facilitate staff training and planning for its introduction. Consequently, there will be no school for pupils on Friday, May 20th.

SCHOOL WALK



Our annual school walk takes place on Friday, April 29th. Once again we are fortunate enough to have refreshments provided by members of the Parents' Association. We greatly appreciate your generous support at this time every year.

ACTIVE WEEK



Active School Week will take place from April 25th to 29th. During that week, emphasis will be on being more active than academic and participation by everyone.

GOWRAN JEP

Following on the amazing success of last year's project selling "GOWRANOPOLY" and "Gowran's Rainbow Colouring Book", the pupils of this year's Sixth Class, along with their teachers, are currently working hard on their Junior Entrepreneur Programme. They have two products for sale, personalised mugs for €5 and "Gowran's Gourmet Recipe Book" for €5. They are holding a Showcase Day on Friday, April 22nd, when everyone can come and see their work. They will have a cake sale, raffle etc. during this event. Everybody is welcome!

PROCLAMATION DAY



To mark the centenary of 1916, we celebrated Proclamation Day along with every school in Ireland. Firstly, the pupils from Fifth Class who were splendidly dressed in character, read excerpts from the 1916 Proclamation. This was followed by some of the Sixth Class pupils reading aloud their inspiring Proclamation for a new generation. The Irish flag which was presented recently to our school by members of the Defence Forces was then raised with the help of some Fourth Class pupils and we all sang Amhrán na bhFiann. It was a very proud moment for everyone in attendance.

Afterwards, all the children participated in a fun, outdoor Céilí Mór which was enjoyed by the dancers and audience alike. (see the website for photos)

Proclamation Day was a wonderful celebration of an important event in our history and will undoubtedly stand out as a school day to be remembered by the pupils in the years to come.



WELL DONE!

Congratulations to Fifth Class and their teacher who have been working hard on their Fís film entry about the Easter Rising 1916. What started out as a play to commemorate the centenary developed into a wonderful film project, during which the children learned many skills including recording, directing, editing, costumes and set design. The rest of the school thoroughly enjoyed the performance and the pupils will take it to a wider audience in The Kilkenny Education Centre in May.



Well done to Amy Ryan, a fifth class pupil, who represented our school in the Kilkenny regional final of the Eason's Spelling Bee competition, held in Callan last week.

Well done also to the avid readers from all classes who won book tokens in our Book Bingo activity during Book Week.



UNIFORM

From next week (Active Week) and the remainder of the summer term, the children may wear their **school tracksuit** and **polo shirt** throughout the week. Should the weather become very warm, **dark coloured shorts (NOT GAA shorts) with the polo shirt** are acceptable. We must insist, as stated in the School Uniform Policy, that the school tracksuit as described above is adhered to – **sports jerseys of any kind**, as well as T-shirts with logos/ messages are not allowed. Similarly, **plain navy tracksuit bottoms** without logos must be worn

We appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

Come Dine with Scoil Mhuire An amazing sum of €5,900 was raised by the PA for the school. A further set of iPads has been purchased, along with maths and literacy games for every class, a set of Jagger large building blocks for the infant Aistear programme and a set of hurdles for athletics. We are extremely grateful to all who contributed in any way towards enhancing the learning experience of our children.

SCHOOL CALENDAR



N.B. Please see the sheet attached for the important dates for the remainder of the year and school tour information.