



Newsletter

Issue: - 27th March 2026



Principal's Address

This term has certainly been a busy one! You will see in this newsletter that we have had many visitors between January and March, enriching the school experience for all. We also received the good news of CLÁR funding being awarded to our school. Work is going on behind the scenes to progress this project of improving the yard and play facilities at Tahilla CNS.

We are also still working on finding a provider for the school meals. I recently wrote to the Department of Social Protection to explain our situation. They had contacted the school by phone to ask why we hadn't applied for funding this year. Tahilla CNS Parents Association also put together an excellent letter which was sent to Kerry ETB. I included this letter and a supporting letter from Edward O'Neill the procurement officer in Kerry ETB. I did receive a response from the Department of Social Protection and they have given us guidance and clarity around possible options and the responsibilities involved in relation to food preparation, including insurance and other factors that need to be taken into consideration.

After Easter we can look forward to swimming lessons, in Kenmare Bay Hotel in April and May, and at Templenoe Pier in June. The Sponsored Run was such a success last year that it will be happening again also. If there is enough interest we may consider another Rambling House.

We bid farewell to Norah and Jade Coffey in February and wish them all the very best in their new home on the far side of the bay!! We also welcome Maya McCarthy our new junior infant who joined us on Thursday 19th of March.

I wish to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to everyone for your support in all you do for Tahilla CNS. *Príomhoide - Máire de Cógáin*

School News

Sword Demonstration by Falk

The whole school were treated to a sword demonstration by Falk. This is a form of non-contact martial arts that Falk participates in back in Germany. We were very lucky to have Falk with us since we came back from the Christmas break. The children have loved having him in our school and he will be missed greatly by all of us. We wish him all the best in his future career as a teacher.



A visit from Lauragh NS

The pupils from Lauragh National School made the long journey across the bay to visit our school on Friday, the 6th of February. The senior room pupils mixed together to play a few games of chess while the junior room pupils enjoyed the opportunity to play together. Everyone also got to make use of our outdoor area and enjoy lunch together.



Pancake Tuesday

There was great excitement in the school as we celebrated Pancake Tuesday. A huge thank you to Falk the Fabulous, who kindly organised and prepared a delicious feast of freshly made pancakes for the pupils. The children thoroughly enjoyed choosing their favourite toppings, with everything from classic lemon and sugar to chocolate spread, which proved very popular!



Community Garda Visit

We had the pleasure of welcoming Garda Margaret to our school during February to speak with the children about road safety and the importance of wearing a helmet when cycling. She also explained the importance of being safe online with our senior room. The children got the opportunity to try on some of Garda Margaret's equipment and even sit in her Garda car while sounding the siren, which was the highlight of the visit for many of the pupils.





World Book Day and Book Fair

This year the pupils took part in World Book Day, dressing up as their favourite book character. We had a lot of interesting costumes and most importantly it got the children discussing their favourite books with each other. We also had the pleasure of welcoming back the book fair to Tahilla CNS. Again, it was a great success with lots of books purchased both by the children and by the school for the children to enjoy while at school. A big thank you to Fiona Moran for taking the time to organise the fair and helping everyone complete their orders.



The Tuesday Mile Walk

The children in Tahilla CNS have been enjoying walking one mile every Tuesday since coming back from the mid-term break. The children have been out in all weathers to get their walk done but on Tuesday the 3rd of March the sun finally shone on our walk and we had a great time soaking up some vitamin D as we walked to and from our school.



We also took a trip to the pier on the 19th of March to soak in the sunshine on the warmest day of the year we have had so far. We played a game of ‘Duck, Duck, Goose’ and admired the views across the bay.



Rainbow Treasure Hunt

The children from both rooms teamed up in different groups to participate in a rainbow themed treasure hunt. The children had to work together in their teams to find a series of colourful clues hidden around the school. At the end of the hunt the children found a 'pot of gold' (coins kindly supplied by Falk), waiting for them under the rainbow.



Lá Glas agus Ceol

To celebrate Seachtaine Na Gaeilge this year we held a Lá Glas, where all the children wore something green to school and we held a music session in the Halla where the children gathered to play some tunes together.



Table Tennis

Conn from Sports Ireland joined us on Friday the 13th of March for a table tennis lesson. Conn set up the tables in our classrooms and demonstrated the different skills needed for table tennis to the children. This was a great example of what can be done with minimal equipment and the children all really enjoyed this lesson. We can't wait to welcome Conn back after the Easter break for our second table tennis lesson.





Jersey Day

On Friday, 20th March 2026, our school was invited to wear their favourite jersey, club, county, school or team, in support of Féile O’Sullivan. Just before her 13th birthday, Féile’s life changed forever after a serious farm accident. Now she faces months of rehabilitation, surgeries, and a long recovery journey. This was a great opportunity for pupils and staff to stand together, show community spirit, and help raise vital funds for Féile’s continued rehabilitation and future care.



St. Patrick's Day

On St. Patrick's Day this year the pupils of Tahilla CNS and their families took part in the celebrations in Sneem. They began the day by busking, entertaining the crowd with their music and singing. They then joined the parade line up to march along with all the other groups and clubs. We had a fantastic day despite the rain. Thank you to everyone who helped out before, during and after. It truly was a group effort!!



Easter Bunny

We had a very exciting visitor on Friday 20th March here in Tahilla CNS. The Easter Bunny came to visit with a little surprise for all the pupils. Thank you to Ceann Mara Camogie Club for organising the visit. They also have an eggsciting Easter Egg Hunt for Easter weekend that is open to all children.



A Farewell from Falk!

At the start of the year a Falk from Oldenburg, Germany joined our team of Tahilla CNS for a three months Erasmus+ internship. He settled in the senior room to assist the children and Múinteoir Callum in their everyday activities by laminating and labelling important stuff, digitalising the school library catalogue, and making German noises. By joining the children on walks, helping with homework, watching all children being arrested by a friendly Garda, and getting soaked on St. Patrick's Day, Falk accompanied us in busy, joyful, and rainy times. Now that his time in Ireland is coming to an end, our Falk is looking back at his time with a feeling of gratitude. He considers himself very lucky having been able to spend his time in this lively and beautiful school, with charming children and very funny and hospitable staff, all of whom he will miss very dearly.

The above paragraph was put together by the Falk himself in the third person, using his unique German sense of humour. We will miss Falk and his bright smile.

Senior Room News

Credit Union Quiz

Four pupils from our senior room, Julia O' Brien, Matthew Murphy Babor, Ruby Moran and Kyle Schots, took part in the Credit Union Quiz which was held in Killarney on Sunday the 8th of February. They had a great time and did our school very proud on the day.



As I Am

James from As I Am, Ireland's Autism Charity, visited in February to speak with the pupils in the senior room. The talk helped pupils gain a greater understanding of what it is like to experience the world as an autistic person. This visit was sponsored by "The Late Late Toy Show Appeal". The pupils were very engaged, asking thoughtful questions, and learnt a lot from the visit. Each child received an information booklet to keep. We have put the link to the AsIAM website below, for your convenience, if you wish to explore this topic further. By way of information, April is Autism Awareness Month. We were delighted that our school was chosen to receive this training and hope that it will help our students' awareness and empathy.



[As I Am | Ireland's Autism Charity](http://www.asiam.ie)

Senior Room Parachutes

The senior room tested out some home-made parachutes during a science experiment this month. They got to choose from a variety of materials and test out different designs in their groups to see what would work best for a parachute. The children then tested how long the parachute stayed afloat in the air by dropping them from a height.



Seachtain Na Gaeilge



For Seachtain na Gaeilge, the pupils created posters encouraging the use of simple Irish phrases in the classroom and school in a fun and meaningful way. They decorated these posters and we hung them up as a reminder to ourselves of the importance of practicing our Irish throughout the day.



Class Projects

This term, the pupils were given the opportunity to take on additional, independent projects on subjects of interest to be created and presented to the rest of the class. These topics ranged from reptilians and amphibians to countries around the world. It has been brilliant to see the pupils' creativity on display in the classroom.



Spring Time Art

At the beginning of the term, the pupils decorated the room with drawings and crafts of flowers and birds to signify the return of Spring and the blooming of new life. They were also shown how to make 3-D flowers by our Erasmus+ intern, Stella, which have been a delightful addition to the classroom.



Junior Room News

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to Yngvi, who turned 7 on the 7th of January, Dylan who turned 6 on the 23rd of January, Erik who turned 5 over the mid-term break on the 19th of February and David who turned 7 on the 11th of March.



Maths

During this term the children have covered a variety of different topics in Maths using playful methods of learning and exploration to familiarise ourselves with each new topic. These included, money and pattern. The children loved exploring the different patterns they could make with everyday objects they found around the classroom such as; magnets, cutlery, dice and books.



The children also explored money by creating images with coins, ordering them by size, sorting them by value and setting up their own shop to sell different items to each other.



Chinese New Year

The children also enjoyed learning about the Chinese New Year and the traditions associated with this celebration. They discovered what the Year of the Horse represents, as well as exploring which animal symbolises their own birth year and the special qualities linked to each one. To finish off our learning, the pupils got creative by designing and making their own horses through cutting and pasting activities.



Goodness me, Goodness you

During our Goodness me, Goodness you (GMGY) lessons this month the children in the junior room have been trying to answer the big questions ‘What is the way to get somewhere?’. They were given a variety of transport options, from magic carpets to trains to choose from, even inventing a few of their own transport methods. The children have really enjoyed debating with each other over the best way to get somewhere and if the fastest way

to get somewhere is always the best way. To finish off the learning on ‘the best way to travel somewhere’, the children created their own forms of transport, ranging from rocket ships, to bots, to robots and cars. This lesson sparked the imagination of the children and they turned junk art into some wonderful creations.



Spring Art

Take a look at some of the lovely Spring, St. Patrick’s Day and Easter themed art the children in the junior room created over the last few weeks. Stella, our Erasmus+ intern, created some lovely spring headbands with the pupils that were used in the St. Patrick’s Day parade as part of our theme ‘Spring has Sprung’. The children created rainbows with a ‘pot-of-gold’ hidden underneath and some Easter baskets to collect all their Easter eggs in.





A Special Stella

You may have noticed a special Stella around the place, our newest arrival from Germany. Stella is also coming to us through the Erasmus+ Internship Programme. Stella and Falk both worked together to ensure a smooth handover and they also used their artistic talents in the preparations of the artwork for the St. Patrick's Day parade float. Stella loves art and has already completed some arts and crafts with the students. We look forward to more art projects in the third term, as Stella will be with us until the end of May.

Slán go fóill

Staff

Máire de Cógáin
Marian Sheehan
Callum O'Donovan
Elaine McGreevy
Olivia O'Leary
Christina Hallissey
Trish Collier
Stella Leugner

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