

Scoil Cholmcille



Skryne, Tara, Co Meath, C15 NV99

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Easter is upon us, a very special time of year with the onset of brighter days and promises of new hope and new beginnings. The front of our school is awash with daffodils. The children have been reflecting on Lent as we prepare for Easter. Fr. Thomas also visited the school on Ash Wednesday and spent time with all classes discussing its significance. Also, this term we celebrated Catholic Schools Week centred on the theme of 'Normal Lives Called to Holiness'. Congratulations to our wonderful 2nd Class pupils who received the sacrament of First Penance on March 25th. Well done to Ms. O'Rourke for her meticulous preparation. Finally, we are delighted to welcome Ms. Elizabeth Morland, our new SNA, to the staff of Scoil Cholmcille. We are incredibly fortunate to have secured her services and her contribution to the school in various capacities over the last number of years has been invaluable. Casc Shona daoibh go léir!

Confirmation Day

Our Confirmation Day is always one of the most special days on our school calendar. Bishop Deenihan visited our parish to confirm the pupils of Scoil Cholmcille and Rathfeigh NS on March 10th. Our 6th Class boys and girls were dressed in their finery as they received the gifts of the Holy Spirit. As always, our school choir were in fine voice guided expertly by Carmel Reilly – a huge thank you to Carmel. Of course, no school event would be complete without the amazing contributions of our Parents Association who provided refreshments in the hall afterwards among many other things. A special thank you to Ms. Sheridan for preparing the pupils so well for this important milestone in their lives. Congratulations to our Confirmation class, we are very proud of them and we hope they had a wonderful day celebrating with their family and friends.

March – A Month of Celebrations

The month of March has been action-packed at school. March 5th was World Book Day. Our pupils took part in lots of activities to mark the day

Dates for your diary

April 13th

School reopens following Easter break.

May 1st - 5th

Closed: Bank Holiday break

May 23rd

First Communion

Credit Union Quiz Team Reach National Finals!

Our Credit Union quizzers are once again representing Scoil Cholmcille with distinction. Our U13 team of JJ, Stephanie, Darragh and Senan are headed for the national finals in the RDS on April 19th. Having won the regional round, the team narrowly finished second in the Chapter level round with the top two teams advancing to the national finals. Best wishes to the team on April 19th.



All smiles at the Ficheall Chess tournament

such as presenting their favourite book, creating bookmarks and building connection and confidence with buddy reading between older and younger classes. On March 9th – 13th it was time to have fun with ár dteanga dúchais as we celebrated Seachtain na Gaeilge. Bean Uí Raghallaigh coordinated a host of activities to celebrate the week. Among the many activities there was léitheoireacht, An Haka as Gaeilge, Cluichí Cláir agus comórtas seanfhocal in conjunction with Skryne GFC. Thanks to Ms. Dowling who arranged a new-look Céilí for Lá Glas. We had special performances to begin the day with amhráin, dánta agus damhsa. This was followed by our whole-school performance of Balla Luimní agus Preab an Asal with our brilliant boys and girls dressed in green ó bhun go barr. On March 20th we rocked our socks for World Down Syndrome Day. Bright, colourful and odd socks were the order of the day as our pupils and their families raised €400 for The Down Syndrome Centre – Amazing generosity from our school community.

School Sport

In sport this term our badminton boys' team of Darragh, Senan, Danny, Nathan and Gabriel contested the Leinster finals in January where they finished runners up. This was enough to qualify them for the All-Ireland finals. Once again, they made the trip to the National Badminton Centre in Baldoyle in February where they bowed out in the quarter finals. What an amazing achievement to reach the last 8 in Ireland. Thanks to Teresa Mangan of Skryne Badminton Club for all her help with this team. Our U11 boys Olympic handballers are Leinster Champions after a fiercely contested final Vs St. Tola's of Westmeath. They now go on to the All-Ireland finals next month in Gormanston College. In recent weeks, we have participated in the FAI Primary 5s tournament in the MDL in Navan. Last week our boys' and girls' football teams competed in the Cumann na mBunscol Sevens competition where our boys progressed to the second round. Our Chess team also had some excellent outings this term including competing in the Ficheall competition for the first time ever. Here's to lots more sporting success in Term 3.

Passing of Former Principal Noel Hogan

It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Mr. Noel Hogan, former principal of Scoil Cholmcille. Noel was appointed to Scoil Cholmcille in 1959 and retired as principal in the 1992/93 school year. Over the last few weeks several members of our school community have shared fond memories of Noel and the immense contribution he made to the educational and sporting fabric of Skryne parish. On behalf of the Skryne school community, we extend our deepest condolences to Noel's family and friends. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

In the Community

Visiting Coaches

This term saw visiting coaches from local clubs working with the junior classes in the school. Caroline Butler and Paul Codd from Meath GAA provided Gaelic football coaching over the term for Junior Infants to 3rd Class. Teresa Mangan from Skryne Badminton Club delivered very enjoyable lessons for Junior Infants to 4th Class. A big thank you to the Parents Association for their support in funding these lessons.

Swimming

Pupils in 4th and 6th Class are currently attending swimming lessons for a 6-week block in Aura Leisure Centre, Trim. These lessons cover the Aquatics strand of the curriculum and are a great source of enjoyment for the children. Once again, mile buíochas to our fantastic Parents Association for subsidising these lessons and keeping costs affordable for families.

Stem for Skryne

Some wonderful news this term as Scoil Cholmcille was successful in our application for the annual Meta Community Action Grant. This application is worth over €11,000 to our school. Our project entitled 'Stem for Skryne' aims to embed innovative STEM resources for all into our school to target play-based and collaborative learning; problem solving; engineering; maths; critical-thinking & coding.