



Scoil Naisiúnta Rónáin Naofa Cluain Lua

St. Ronan's N.S., Cloonloo, Boyle, Co. Sligo

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Dear Parents / Guardians,

24th May 2024

We hope you and your families are well. It's hard to believe we have just over 4 weeks of school left. There are a busy few weeks ahead so please see below an outline of work/activities planned in the run up to the summer holidays. Please also find attached the Calendar for 2024/2025.

Monthly Assemblies

All children in the school have received their Bronze Award and are now working towards their Silver or Gold awards. Children showcased and spoke about their work during our March and April assemblies. Congratulations to those students who received Students of the Month, Sports Stars of the Month and Silver Awards. We had our first Gold awards at our recent April assembly.

Students of the Month

March - Anastasiia Dudnyk- Senior Room and Diana Burianchyk - Junior Room

April - Alfonso Neary - Senior Room and Anhelina Revutska - Junior Room

Sports Stars of the Month

March - Laoise Moore - Senior Room and Taeya Browne - Junior Room

April - Rohan Marshall - Senior Room and Sofia Zanniello - Junior Room

Drama Workshops

Children will take part in two x 1 hour drama workshops, the first of which is today Friday, May 24th and the next one on Wednesday, 5th June around themes of intercultural objects and archaeological exploration and conservation. These workshops will also support the development of a new piece of theatre, Museum of Believing. Many thanks to Heather Rose (a parent in our school) and her team for offering to deliver these workshops to the children in Cloonloo N.S. It is rare to find a show designed for the small spaces and such a wide age range as we have at our school, and it can be difficult to take our students to a theatre due to busing costs, and limited target ages of most shows so this is a wonderful opportunity for pupils in our school.

Food Dudes Week - 27th to 31st May

Children will take part in the Food Dudes Healthy Eating Programme next week. This programme aims to encourage children to eat more fruit and vegetables. Next week we will receive 5 days of fruit and vegetables. Children will be encouraged to eat or at least sample different fruit and vegetables each day. A series of videos will be shown in each class room and activities will be completed during the week. A letter with further information about the programme has been sent home with children.

Buddy Reading

As part of our Buddy Reading Programme for 6 weeks, children from the junior and senior room read to each other on Fridays.

Hatching Eggs

There is great excitement in school as we eagerly await our eggs to hatch. We have 8 eggs in an incubator and fingers crossed they will start to hatch next Tuesday/Wednesday. Thanks to Ms. Whiteside who teaches in Carn N.S. for bringing us the eggs and incubator.

Green Schools

Ms. Jordan and 6th class pupils from the Green School Committee went to Claremorris on Tuesday, 14th May to accept the school's 7th Green school flag. Congratulations to all the children, the Green Schools Committee and in particular to Ms. Jordan for all their hard work and commitment to Green Schools. We are one of few schools who can say they have 7 Green School Flags so well done to all involved.

Active Schools

The children entered a competition through Dare to Believe Olympic Programme and wrote their reasons why an Irish Olympian should visit our school. They won the competition and Rachel Timothy a Roscommon Para cyclist who will represent Ireland in the Paralympics in Paris this Summer will visit the school on Tuesday, 11th June. Many thanks to Ms. Savage and the Active Schools Committee for organising this visit.

Thanks to Ms. Savage for organising a very successful Active Schools Week. Children took part in Rugby, Tennis, Swimming, GAA and Bike Skills along with daily pupil v teacher challenges. Children also entered a photo competition as part of Bike Week.

Student Council

The student council remains active and are gathering ideas from their fellow pupils as to how we can help improve our school. We have a lot of great ideas including ways to build on our buddy reading which takes place between a junior room pupil and a senior room pupil on Fridays. Some ideas include Pizza Pals, Baking Buddies, Super Smoothies, Student as Teacher, Genius Hour, knitting and origami. We will endeavour to start a few of these before the Summer holidays but some may have to wait until the new school year.

Our Shoes Project

Thanks to everyone who donated sports shoes as part of the Our Shoes Project. These sports shoes will be delivered to children living in African townships.

Darkness into Light Project

We were asked to paint jars for the Darkness into Light walk. Many thanks for sending in the jars. The children did a great job of painting the jars for the event.

Minutes Silence

Children and staff observed a minute's silence last Friday, 17th May at 12 noon in memory of the 1.5 million who perished or emigrated from Ireland during the Great Famine and those who continue to suffer from famine throughout the world today.

Swimming - The last week of swimming is next Monday, 27th May. Cost is €10 per child per week. We would appreciate it if any monies still to be paid can be paid next Monday. The lessons and bus are being subsidised through DEIS funding.

FAI Emerging Talent Programme

Congratulations to Fintan McKeon (6th Class) who is part of the FAI Emerging Talent Programme. Fintan travels to Castlebar to the Regional Centre of Excellence for training weekly. It is a huge achievement for Fintan to be selected to be part of this programme and we want to congratulate him on behalf of the whole school community.

GAA

Dylan Walsh from Eastern Harps GAA is working with the children on Thursdays developing their GAA (Gaelic football) skills.

Cumann na mBunscol boys Shield Semi Finals

The boys team will play in the Shield Semi Finals on Thursday, 30th May, at 10am in Banada GAA pitch. A bus has been provisionally booked to bring all the Senior Room children to support the boys. Cost for the bus will be €5 per child. Money is due in today, Friday, 24th May. If there is not enough interest from children in the senior room to attend we will cancel the bus and ask parents to bring some of the boys to the game. Ms. Surlis can bring 3 children so we would just need a lift for 3 others. I will confirm with parents of the boys playing in the match if we need a lift for 3 children. Many thanks.

Confession, Communion and Confirmation

Many thanks to Bishop Dempsey, Fr. Joe, Ms. Jordan and everyone who helped prepare the children and the church for the beautiful Confirmation and Communion ceremonies which were held in Gurteen Church. The church looked wonderful with its fresh coat of paint and I think we'll all agree the children and families had wonderful celebrations.

Music Generation 2024-2025 Survey

A survey has been emailed to all parents who will have children in the school next year regarding participation in the Music Generation Programme. We would appreciate if you could complete the survey by end of school today as we will need to apply to participate in the programme if parents opt to participate in the programme.

Parents Committee

The Parents Committee are holding their next meeting on Wednesday, 5th June at 7pm in the Dapper Duck, Gurteen. All are welcome.

Visit to Carrowkeel Passage Tombs

All children will visit Carrowkeel Passage Tombs on Friday, 7th June. Auriel Robinson will be our guide on the day. This forms part of the Heritage in Schools Programme. The school will pay the fee for Auriel's services on the day and for the bus through the DEIS funding we receive.

End of Year Reports

End of year reports will be posted to you on Monday, 17th June. If you have any queries about your child's report please contact your child's class teacher who will be happy to discuss it with you.

GAA Sports Day will be held on Tuesday, 18th June. School will pay for this from DEIS funding.

New Junior Infants

New Junior Infant pupils who are starting school this September will visit their new classroom on Wednesday, 19th June from 9.20 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. We look forward to welcoming our new pupils to Cloonloo N.S.

School Tour

Our school tour will take place on Friday, 21st June. We will go to the Just 4 Fun School Tour in the Connacht GAA Centre of Excellence, Ballyhaunis, Co. Mayo. There are a range of inflatables, games and activities. **Cost is €40 per pupil.** We will leave school at 9.00 a.m. and return at 5.00 p.m. Children will need to bring a lunch and drink with them. They should wear comfortable clothing. It is indoor so there is no need for a change of clothes. Children can bring sweets. We will also stop at a shop on the way home to buy sweets. We ask children not to bring too much money, €5 is plenty. Please send in the **money for the tour by Friday, 14th June.** Money can be sent in instalments if you wish.

Fun Activity Day

We will hold an in school Fun Activity Day on Monday, 24th June. Fun activities e.g. egg and spoon race, 3 legged race, tug of war, hurdles and other fun activities will be held on the day.

End of Year Awards Ceremony, 6th Class Graduation and Retirement of Eileen our School Secretary

Our Annual end of year awards and 6th Class Graduation ceremony will be held on **Tuesday, 25th June at 11.00 a.m.** All parents are invited to this event. Tea and Coffee will be served after the awards ceremony. **Children will go home at 12.00 pm** for the start of the Summer holidays.

This event will also mark the **retirement of Eileen our Secretary.** Eileen has been the back bone of the school for 20 years. Please let past pupils and past parents know they will be more than welcome to come to thank Eileen for all her amazing hard work and dedication to all of us.

Information from the Board of Management Meeting of 30th April 2024:

- BoM members attended training on the roles and responsibilities of Boards of Management delivered by the CPSMA in April.
- Anti-Bullying Policy and RSE policies were ratified. The Anti-Bullying Annual Checklist was conducted.
- The website is currently being reconstructed and will hopefully be ready before the end of the school year.
- The BoM have contacted the Department of Education regarding a Feasibility Study for the potential of establishing an ASD Unit(s).
- Re: swimming - the school have lost money this year in relation to lack of attendance of pupils at swimming lessons. The school pre-books the swimming and bus based on all pupils attending swimming lessons and therefore has to pay for all pupils. Parents will be asked to pre-pay for swimming lessons going forward.
- The BoM would like to congratulate those pupils who made their Confirmation and Communion.

- The BoM would like to congratulate the Green Schools Committee, all the pupils and in particular Ms. Jordan for achieving the schools 7th Green School Flag.
- The school will be trialling a new awards system for Attendance - see information below.
- Eileen, our School Secretary will be retiring at the end of this academic year. The BoM would like to thank Eileen for her 20 years of hard work and dedication to Cloonloo N.S.
- The BoM would like to thank the Parents Association for their continued support.

Attendance Awards

We have introduced a new element to our Attendance Awards. The names of those children who have been in school for a full week (5 days) will be entered into a draw at the end of month assembly. Each child will potentially have 4 chances each month. There will be two prizes each month one from each room. The children have been given the chance to tell us what prizes they would like through our Student Council. Days missed by children who have diagnosed medical conditions and who need to attend for appointments or are ill as a result of their diagnosis will not be counted.

Congratulations to those pupils who received an attendance award at our March assembly. Prizes were given to pupils who had not missed any days from when we returned to school in January until we got our Easter holidays. Awards will once again be given at our June assembly for pupils who do not miss any days from when we returned from our Easter holidays until our Summer holidays. These awards form part of our DEIS Action Plan under our school improvement planning and form part of the National Attendance Strategy promoted by a joint initiative of Tusla Education Support Services (TESS) with the Department of Education.

Important Upcoming Dates

Drama Workshops - Friday, 24th May and Wednesday, 5th June

Food Dudes Week - 27th to 31st May

Swimming - last week of swimming Monday, 27th May

Cumann na mBunscol boys Shield Semi Finals - Thursday, 30th May, 10am Banada

GAA - Thursdays

Carrowkeel Passage Tombs - Friday, 7th June

Rachel Timothy visit - Tuesday, 11th June

End of Year Reports Posted - Monday, 17th June

GAA Sports Day - Tuesday, 18th June

New Junior Infants - 9.20 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. new junior infants will come into school

School Tour - Friday, 21st June

Fun Activity Day - Monday, 24th June

End of Year Awards, 6th Class Graduation and Eileen's Retirement - 11am Tuesday, 25th June

School Holidays - Tuesday, 25th June at 12.00 pm

Back to school - Friday, 30th August

If you have any queries, please contact Eileen in the office and a member of staff will get back to you as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Surlis
Principal

c.c. Staff and Board of Management members