

1. Welcome Note

Students, Parents and Guardians,

As we approach the mid term break here in St. Mary's National School we can reflect on a very successful start to the year. Each class has settled in very well and, despite some continuing Covid 19 restrictions, children are very happy both on the yard and in the classroom.

We would like to welcome our new Junior Infants and their parents to the school. We have 21 new starters in total and they are already well at home in their new surroundings and have settled into the routine fantastically well.

We would like to congratulate our current 3rd class on celebrating their First Holy Communion last month and also last years 6th class who came back to us for an afternoon to celebrate the sacrament of confirmation with their parents and families. We hope you all had a wonderful day; it was well overdue!

Thank you to all who have signed up to the Aladdin Connect App for parents. This platform has many benefits and can make contact with the school incredibly easy for parents and guardians. It is also part of our Go Green/ paperless initiative here in the school. Please contact Jackie in the office if you are having any difficulty

Stay Safe and Happy Halloween!

Staff and Management of St. Mary's N.S.

2. School Activities



Listed are some of the different activities that have been ongoing in St. Mary's National School:

First Communion and Confirmation were completed on the 18th September and the 1st October. There was a huge amount of preparation for teachers in a short period of time and massive thanks must go to Mr. Richard Murphy, Ms. McAuliffe, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Kennedy, Josephine, Teresa and Leanne for all their hard work. The Communion and Confirmation days went off very well and the children once again did the school proud.

GOAL Jersey Day: Jersey Day was held in aid of the Goal Charity on the 8th October with the children wearing their favourite jersey to school. We had a vast array of beautiful jerseys including Carlow, Mayo, Kerry, Munster, Limerick and of course Croom 😊

3. Class Notes



Ms. Flynn's Class (Junior Infants) Our 21 new Junior Infants have all settled into school extremely well. We have been learning all about Autumn and enjoying getting to know each other. They boys and girls

have particularly enjoyed playing in our Sensory Garden and have loved making lots of new friends.

Ms. Cagney's Class: Seniors and First class have been very busy on the run up to Halloween. Senior infants decided to make a Frankenstein mask and first class opted to make a witch. We are very impressed with how they turned out. We all had great fun designing our masks together! Happy Halloween from all of seniors and first class!!



(Photo) There has been great art work for Halloween completed in Senior Infants and First Class

Ms. O'Loughlin's Class: The 1st and 2nd class students have had a very busy half term. We have been learning how to play the tin whistle. We can now play 'Mary Had a Little Lamb' and 'Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star'. We are looking forward to learning a few more tunes after the midterm break! We hope everyone has an enjoyable Halloween mid-term. Óíche Shamhna Shona Daoibh!



(Photo) Our new Junior Infants enjoying themselves in the pea garden 😊

Ms. Henihan's Class (Mr. Lynch) We had a very busy first term in Mr. Lynch and Ms. Barry's 4th and 5th class. We have been learning all about Ancient Irish myths and legends, life in Ancient Greece and the Forces of Nature. Students made lovely posters with a great message; Treat Everyone the Way You Want to Be Treated. As well as this we even created our own sport, Hula-Hockey. At the moment our classroom is looking particularly spooky with all of our decorations and Halloween Haunted Houses. Huge congratulations to Aoibhinn O'Donovan and Pádraic Noonan, our winners of the Bike Day art competition for the Croom Civic Centre.

Seomra Joanne- (Ms. Kiely) We have had a busy few weeks in Seomra Joanne since we returned to school. The boys really enjoyed making jam/nutella sandwiches in school and cutting them into different shapes. There was super excitement in our room when we carved some pumpkins and picked some funny faces to carve onto the pumpkins. The boys had great fun doing their Halloween chromatography art which they can't wait to take home. Siobhán showcased an experiment to the class on how volcanoes erupt using household materials. Luckily, we went to the sensory garden for this experiment!

Seomra Shannon- (Ms. Nash) We've had a fantastic start to the year in the Seomra Shannon. We have welcomed 2 new pupils and everyone has settled back very well. Great effort has been given to all lessons in the Seomra Shannon and in the mainstream classes. We have been learning about the qualities of good friendships and we created a display for all pupils to see on the corridor. The students are all set for Halloween. We have created spooky decorations and have had a great time deciding on how to design our pumpkins.



Photo- Pupils display work from Mr. Lynch's class

Mr. Malone's Class: 5th and 6th class have had a very busy and active first term engaging in the operation transformation 10 at 10 each day and carrying out fantastic project and Autumn art work. They have also completed a huge amount of research on the topic of 9/11 as we marked its 20th anniversary. We look forward to lots of talk and discussion as the children present on various project work.

Mr. Murphy's Class: Third and Fourth Class had a busy start to the school year. 3rd class pupils received their First Holy communion on September 18th in our local church and all seemed to have a great day. We have been busy reading the novel 'Titanic Tragedy' and we've learned all about the building of this famous ship. We have planted some daffodils (see photo below) in the town park and await the wonderful new growth next Spring.



(Photo) Pádraic Noonan received his prize from Patricia Ryan of Croom Development Association for his Bike Week picture. Other winners on the day were Ellen O'Kelly, Lee Jay Mulcahy, Daniel Cahill Hayes and Aoibhinn O'Donovan

Upcoming events:



- Halloween Dress-up Friday 22nd October, children finish at 12 pm.
- Halloween Concert/Outdoor Halloween Assembly Oct 21st/22nd (weather dependent)
- Basketball Ireland coaching block 6 weeks- 3rd to 6th class in November
- School Hall Athletics – November – December
- Science Week – 7th to 14th November

Please see website and Aladdin Connect for updates-Thank You