

Scoil Inse Rátha
Déan do Dhícheall
Newsletter April 2013

Dear Parents,

Easter seems like a long time ago. There has been a lot of work done in the school since the Easter Holidays. As you will see in this month's newsletter we have a great deal to be proud of. Thank you to everyone who works hard in our school and makes it such a happy place to be.

Green Flag Award:

We received confirmation this month that we have been awarded our third Green Flag. It is a brilliant achievement to get one Green Flag so it is amazing to have three. Well done to all involved, especially to our Green Schools Committee who put in a big effort to make this possible.

Active School Award:

This week is Active School Week in our school. Classes are taking part in lots of different activities to encourage more physical activity. They are even doing active homework! We had our Active School assessment this week and we are hopeful that we will receive our first Active Flag shortly. There is great credit due to our Active School Committee for all their hard work. We have been an active school for a long time so it will be nice to have the flag to prove it.

Parents Association:

Our Parents association held a bag pack in SuperValu before Easter. They raised €1721 to help with the running of the school. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously of their time to help everyone in our school community. Our Parents Association have funded the purchase of 4 new iPads and 3 new laptops this month to help with our job of teaching and learning in our school. Our PA also ran an information night on how to help your child to be safe on the internet this month. We appreciate all of their efforts to make our school a better place.

Sciath na Scol:

Our school hurling team has been playing matches this month. They continue to represent our school excellently. Schools Direct have sponsored a new set of jerseys which were worn for the first time yesterday. There is a hurling league being run at lunch time as well. Camogie training continues on Thursdays after school. Thank you to the coaches for giving up their time to give our children these opportunities.

Chess:

Our chess team travels to Carrigaline this week to take part in the inter schools county finals. They have been taking part in a chess league over the last two months so are ready for the challenge ahead. We have every confidence that they will do us proud and represent our school well. Congratulations to the winners of medals at our own chess tournament in school.

Girls FAI Soccer:

Our girls soccer team travelled to Carrigaline recently to take part in the FAI 5-a-side tournament. They played really well and qualified for the knockout stages and progressed to the semi-final where they lost narrowly 2-1. We are very proud of them!

Boys FAI Soccer:

Our boys took part in the FAI competition as well. They also qualified for the knockout stages and lost narrowly. There were a number of big schools there so we were very happy with how well they did.

Book Fair:

Thanks to everyone who supported our school Book Fair. We will receive €500 worth of books as our commission from the Book Fair. This is a great chance to add extra books to our libraries in the school while your child also had the benefit of getting some new books for home. It has been proven that the greatest thing you can do as a parent, to improve your child's chance in education, is to read to them and with them.

Family Day:

Family Day is on 19th May 2013. See www.familyday.ie for more details.

Marathon:

We have 23 people from our school taking part in The Cork City Marathon this year on June 3rd. We will have the same colour tops so we should be able to stand out. Please come along to support us. We will let you know what colour we will be wearing beforehand so you can watch out for us. Details of the route are available from www.corkcitymarathon.ie. There are a number of different relay changeovers points along with the start and finish where there would be most action.

Gaeilge Research Project with Mary I:

We are taking part in a research project with Mary Immaculate College, Limerick on ways to improve Irish use among children in school. Mary I is one of the leading teacher training and educational research colleges in the country so it is a great opportunity for us to be involved. 3rd Class will do their PE classes through Gaeilge for 5 weeks and researchers from Mary I will evaluate what difference this made.

That's all for now.

All the best,
Micheál

Upcoming Events:

6th-10th May: School Closed for mid-term break

15th May: 3rd Class school tour to Glen Resource Centre

16th May: Four people from Green Schools Committee collecting Green Flag at award ceremony.

19th May: Family Day. See www.familyday.ie for more details.

22nd May: Cork City Sports in Páirc Uí Chaoimh

25th May: 11am Holy Communion

28th May: 8pm Board of Management meeting

29th May: 1st and 2nd Class tour

7.30pm: Information Evening for parents of new Junior Infants

30th May: last day for Credit Union for this school year.

3rd June: 9am Cork City Marathon