



# Scoil Muire Bannrion



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## School News

It has been another extremely busy term in Scoil Muire Bannrion. We would like to extend our thanks to our wonderful Parents Association for organising their Easter Raffle. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents for their ongoing support to our school. We wish you all a safe and enjoyable Easter break and look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April!

*Nicola McMahon*

### Department of Education and Skills Inspection

From February 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> two inspectors from the Department of Education and Skills visited our school to carry out an inspection in the area of English. The findings from this inspection have been reported back to the Board of Management of our school and will now be available on the Department of Education website. We would like to thank the inspectors who carried out the inspection and welcome the feedback we have been given.

### Edenderry 1916 and the Revolutionary Era by Dr Ciarán Reilly

On March 10<sup>th</sup> Dr Ciarán Reilly came to our school to present copies of his recent book to our school. This was kindly sponsored by Rational. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Rational and Ciarán Reilly for providing us with the books. They will prove a valuable resource to our school when teaching about history in our locality.



## Easter Raffle

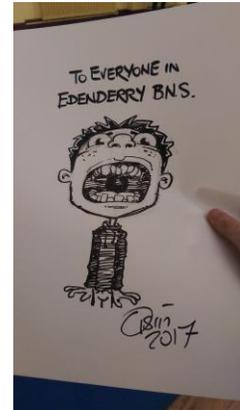
Our Parents Association are running their Annual Easter Raffle again this year with two fabulous hampers as prizes. To be in with a chance of winning please make sure that cards are returned by Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April. The draw for the hampers will take place on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April.



## Literacy Developments

### World Book Day

This year our pupils took part in World Book Day where we celebrated authors, illustrators, books and reading. As part of the celebrations our pupils had the opportunity to dress up as their favourite book characters. We had lots of interesting characters visit our school on the day. Here is a sample of them below:



### Writing

All classes have been working on two new writing genres during this term. In January the focus was on recount writing, with many of our pupils creating wonderful pieces. In February and March the focus switched to explanatory writing. Some examples of the boys work is displayed on our writing noticeboard in school and is attached to this newsletter also.

### Handwriting Competition

In January we held our annual handwriting competition and the standard of penmanship was of a very high standard in all classes. It was extremely difficult to choose winners from each class but those lucky ones who were chosen received certificates. Well done to everyone who showed what lovely neat writing they have and make sure to keep using that handwriting all of the time!

### Book Fair

In the first week of February the school held a book fair in our Assembly Hall. The level of interest shown in this was quite remarkable and was wonderful to see. Children were reading lots of new books and this has continued on since the Book Fair. We would encourage all children and parents to become members of the local library if they are not already members.



### Author Oisín McGann Visits School

As part of our activities based around World Book Day we arranged an author visit to our school. Oisín McGann, famous Irish author, spoke to our students about the writing process and about his books. He showed the children how to create images as he also illustrates his own books. This was a very enjoyable experience and the boys couldn't wait to get writing and illustrating their own stories after listening to Oisín.

## Seachtain na Gaeilge

Ón 1-17 Márta bhí muid ag ceiliúradh Seachtain na Gaeilge inár scoil. Rinne muid an-iarracht níos mó Gaeilge a labhairt i ngach rang i rith na coicíse. Roghnaigh na múinteoirí cainteoir na seachtaine i ngach aon rang. Thóg gach rang páirt i tráth na gceist as Gaeilge agus d'fhoghlaim siad amhráin freisin.

*We celebrated Irish Language week in our school from 1-17<sup>th</sup> March this year. All of the children made a special effort to speak more Irish in every class throughout the day. A*

speaker of the week was chosen in every class. Classes also took part in Irish quizzes and learned Irish songs.

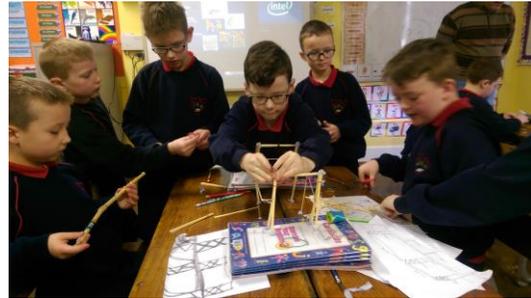
### Credit Union Quiz

The Edenderry Credit Union held its annual school quiz on Saturday 28th January. Two teams competed in the U-13 category and two teams in the U-11 category. The boys were very successful in both categories with one of our U-11 teams (consisting of Cian Tyrrell, Kaelum McCreanor, Declan Osagie and Daniel Tenuto) finishing in 2nd place while one of our U-13 teams finished in joint 3rd place. Well done to all the boys who took part.



### Engineers Week

As part of Engineers Week which ran from March 4<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Gaetano Tenuto from Intel visited our second and third classes. Gaetano explained the job of an engineer to our students before setting them a challenge to design and construct a bridge that could hold several toy cars. They had to construct their bridges using only simple materials: drinking straws, string, blu-tac and paperclips. The boys came up with some fantastic and creative designs. This activity was aimed at creating a positive awareness and enthusiasm for engineering as a profession. We would like to thank Gaetano for visiting us and for setting such an exciting challenge for us!



## Sports News

### Operation Transformation 10 @ 10

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February our entire school took part in the 10@10 to encourage people to get out and get fit and active. We all took part in circuits out on our school yard and everybody had a really enjoyable time!

### Active Schools Week

Following on from our achievement of receiving our Active Flag two years ago we will be holding an Active Schools Week from 24<sup>th</sup>- 28<sup>th</sup> April. We will be organising fun physical activities for our pupils every day. We are currently looking for suggestions for fun activities for our Active Schools Week. Anybody (parents or pupils) who have any suggestions, are asked to write it on a piece of paper and put it into our Active Schools suggestion box which is located in front of our Active Schools notice board.



### Hurling News

We have played 3 games in this season's Cumann na mBunscol North Offaly hurling competition. We have been extremely competitive in all of our games so far and it is great to see the 15 boys who are training hard after school and during their lunchtimes to refine their skills.

### FAI Offaly 5 a side Soccer

On April 5<sup>th</sup> two teams from Edenderry BNS participated in the FAI Offaly 5 a side schools soccer competition in Tullamore. It was a wonderful experience for the 16 boys involved and they performed admirably on the day. Both teams finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in their groups and one of our teams progressed to the semi final stage.

### Tag Rugby

Patsy Gorman of Edenderry and Leinster rugby club has been in coaching our classes over the past number of weeks. He has been coaching children on the basic skills of the game in a fun environment. Some of our classes had the opportunity to participate in a Tag Rugby blitz organised by Patsy. We would like to thank him for his work in coaching in our school this year.

### Offaly Enterprising Student Awards

On Tuesday April 4<sup>th</sup> Aaron had the opportunity to represent our school in Tullamore at the Offaly Most Enterprising Student Awards. It was a fantastic event organised by Offaly County Council and recognised children across the county with entrepreneurial skills. Aaron received a certificate for his achievement along with a goodie bag and book voucher. It was quite a unique occasion as Aaron's brother Conor was also nominated from St Mary's Primary School! Well done Aaron and Conor!



### Confirmation

As part of their preparation for Confirmation, the boys in sixth class took part in the Ceremony of Light on February 25<sup>th</sup>. Confirmation will take place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May.



### Communion

The children in second class have been busy preparing for their First Confession which took place on 29<sup>th</sup> March. First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May.

### Safer Internet Use

On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February we celebrated Safer Internet Day in our school. Classes learned about the importance of respectful communication online as well as how to keep safe. We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that they should be aware of how their children are using the internet on their phones, tablets, gaming consoles and personal computers.

### Art Samples

Mr Foran's 4<sup>th</sup> class made a wide variety of houses through the construction strand in Art over the past number of weeks. The houses are representative of a broad timeline into the past and with some of the children creating houses of the future. They houses are currently on



### Swimming

Over the past 5 weeks all classes have been attending lessons in Edenderry Swimming Pool. Swimming is a very important part of the PE Curriculum as well as being a valuable life skill.



display on our aptly named 'History St' in our school for anybody who would like to call in to see them.

### Green Schools

#### Spring Clean Up

We took part in our Green Schools Spring Clean Up on Fri 24<sup>th</sup> March. Teachers emphasised to classes the importance of keeping our locality clean as well as recycling as much of the material we use as possible. We picked up any litter around our school ground and we hope you agree that our school grounds are looking great again now!



#### Global Citizenship Action Plan

Our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes had a workshop on Renewable Energy as part of our Green Schools Action Plan where they learned about the importance of renewable energy to help our climate and our environment.



#### Intercultural Day

We are hoping to organise an Intercultural Day in early May. If you would like your child to take part in the day in one of the following ways we would be delighted:

- Wear traditional or native clothing
- Bring in some traditional food
- Perform a traditional song or poem

### School Website and Twitter!

Don't forget to check out our fantastic website for updates on school events, pictures and news at [www.edenderrybns.ie](http://www.edenderrybns.ie)

School policies can be accessed (including Department of Education and Skills Procedures on Child Protection) on our website.

You can also follow us on twitter for all the latest news at [www.twitter.com/EdenderryBNS](https://www.twitter.com/EdenderryBNS)



### School Notices

#### School Closures:

Easter Holidays: Closing at 12 noon 7<sup>th</sup> April, reopening Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April.

Public holidays: School will be closed from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May for the May bank holiday.

School will be closed from Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June and will reopen on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June.

All the staff of Scoil Muire Banríon are very proud of all our students for their fantastic success and achievements so far this year.

