



# Scoil Muire Bannrion



December 2011

Issue: 2

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## Our Website Gets A Face Lift!

This Term we have updated and redesigned our website. Scoilnet awarded us with a Star Site last week. School policies can be accessed (including DES Procedures on Child Protection) on our website.

Check out our fantastic new website on [www.edenderrybns.ie](http://www.edenderrybns.ie)

You can also follow us on twitter at

[www.twitter.com/EdenderryBNS](http://www.twitter.com/EdenderryBNS)



## Multi-Cultural Project!



This month we celebrated the multicultural diversity

within our school by launching our multi-cultural project. We have 18 different nationalities in our school. We are very proud of the multi-culturalism within our school.

These projects are displayed proudly in our school for everyone to see.



## Competition Time!

Already this year the boys have competed in many competitions and have had fantastic success in many areas. They have really done us very proud! **Well done boys** and we look forward to continued success in 2012!

## Footballers reach the summit again!!

Our school football team soared once again this year claiming the Cumann na

mBunscoil Division 1 football championship title. The boys narrowly defeated Durrow-Ballinamere by one point in a very exciting final in O'Connor Park.

This is the **fifth time** in 6 years that our school has won this title.

Division 1 is the highest quality football at primary level in the county. This is therefore a truly



remarkable achievement. A huge congratulations to all players, their mentors and the joint team captains Cian Farrell and Jack Brady. While it is truly a team achievement, we would like to give a special mention to one of our team captains Cian Farrell who has played in the last 4 finals. This is a feat that might not ever be repeated again due to a change in a rule on player selection.

## Offaly Athletics Championships

2011

Two teams representing 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> class combined and 5<sup>th</sup> /6<sup>th</sup> class combined made the trip to Tullamore on December 9<sup>th</sup> to take part in the Offaly Athletics Championships 2011. The boys on the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> class team had a tough act to follow as the 2010 team not only took home the Offaly Championship but had won the National Championships in Athlone. Rather than be overawed by this success, this year's 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> class team seemed to take inspiration from it and completely dominated the day's proceedings to comprehensively win the Offaly title. Our 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> class team also was victorious which means that both teams will represent Offaly in this year's National Championships which are to be held in the new year. A fantastic achievement by all concerned and a special mention to Buntu our team coach and to Mr. Chambers and Mr. Ryan who did a fantastic job as team managers on the day!



## All-Ireland Medal Winners!

Congratulations to Liam Farrell and Lee Pearson who won stunning silver All-Ireland medals in the Community Games All-Ireland finals! Liam and Lee competed in the mixed relay race. Well done boys.



## Hurling News

At the beginning of the term 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes participated in a lunchtime hurling league. 6 teams battled it out for this year's title of Senior champions. Great sportsmanship was seen by all. The Junior League for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> classes will be finished off in Spring.



### Senior Hurling Team News:

As the GAA winter training ban for inter-county teams will not be lifted until January 1<sup>st</sup>, the school hurling team has been given a little longer to recharge their

batteries before training commences. However all players are urged to go easy on the turkey and chocolates over Christmas as there is the possibility of a severe fitness test for panel members on their return to school!!!! A tremendous effort will be needed from all players involved in the coming year if we are to regain our county championship title.

## Hallelujah Concert



This December, the 6<sup>th</sup> class boys took part in a very large concert called the Hallelujah Concert in the RDS in Dublin.

This is the second year our school has taken part. Choirs of children from all parts of the country came together to sing in one large communal choir. Hundreds of children (plus teachers!) sang many songs of different styles from Irish songs to the

'Queen' and 'Toy Story' medley. They also performed alongside, professional artists, such as The High Kings and the very talented Connie Talbot who became an instant singing sensation when she became runner up on Britain's Got Talent at the very young age of six. This was a huge achievement for the children and teachers involved. The boys thoroughly enjoyed their performance and it is an experience that will stay with them for many years to come. Many thanks to the boys for their hard work and Ms. McMahan, Mr. O' Looney and Mr. Foran for teaching the boys the extensive repertoire! We are already looking forward to taking part in next years concert.



## Specialist Teachers

This term a number of specialist teachers have shared their skills and knowledge with the boys:

- Edenderry's Keith McGuinness shared his skills and knowledge of football with all classes for a number of weeks. We would like to congratulate Keith and the Edenderry senior football team for winning the county final this year.
- Buntu is currently working with the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes sharing his athletic skills with them.

We would like to thank Keith and Buntu for sharing their knowledge and skills with us. And also for their time spent training the boys. We hope to see them again next year.

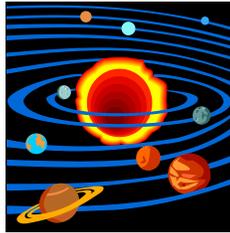
## School Fundraisers

This year the boys were involved in a number of different fundraisers. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in organising the events. Also a huge well done to all the boys involved in raising money.

- All classes participated in the 'Dress Up for Barnardos' day on 28<sup>th</sup> October.
- All classes also raised money for 'Breast Cancer Awareness.'

## Science Week

This year the Sky Dome mobile planetarium visited our school for science week. The boys experienced a 360° view of the sky without leaving the school hall. Each class got the opportunity to interact and learn about the planets, stars, galaxies and constellations. The experience was thoroughly enjoyed by all.



## Mathletics

This year over 150 children in the school have signed up to the on-line maths program Mathletics. This program covers all areas of the maths curriculum. It helps children to enjoy maths while at the same time also improves their results.



## Class Flower Planting

Every class got their shovels and spades out this Autumn in preparation for the Spring. We planted daffodils, tulips, crocuses, hyacinths and snowdrops. Every class also planted daffodils in the shape of a huge spiral. You will be able to come and visit our daffodil spiral in Spring.



## Presidential Election.

Mrs. Martin's 5<sup>th</sup> class held an election for a class president. They had a nomination process which resulted in Adam Hanlon, Cathal Farrell, Eogan Brereton, Keith Kelly and James Leddin becoming the 5 nominees. The 5 boys went head to head in a heated debate on the topic "School Uniforms are a waste of time." They then campaigned vigorously to become class president. James Leddin succeeded in getting the winning vote after the ballot papers were counted.



## Christmas Shoebox Appeal

This year we once again participated in the Christmas shoebox appeal. Our shoeboxes will go to children mainly in Eastern European countries and also some African countries. Thank you to all those who got involved. We hope that our shoeboxes will put a smile on some children's faces this Christmas.

## Homework Club Harvest

The boys in the homework club got their shovels and spades out this term when they harvested our vegetable garden in October. They picked lots of carrots and harvested a whole bag of potatoes. Here is a picture of them in action.



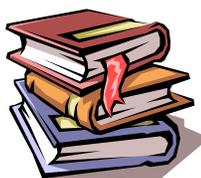
## School Choir

The School choir has been very busy this year preparing for the Christmas season. Last Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December for the 45<sup>th</sup> year in a row they travelled around the town singing carols for everyone to hear. They visited Castlevew, Ofalia house, Blundel Wood, JKL street and Tesco. They also sang at the carol service last Thursday night 15<sup>th</sup> December and will sing again at mass on Christmas Eve. Thanks to all the boys who sang so beautifully and to Mr. Fitzgerald who trained them. We look forward to hearing you again on Christmas Eve at 7pm mass!



## Library Visits

Ms. Tyrrell's 3<sup>rd</sup> class visited the author Tom McCaughren in Edenderry library. He spoke to the children about his book 'Legend of the the Golden Key.' Senior classes also visited the library. The remaining classes will visit the library after Christmas.



## Communion and Confirmation

The Communion preparation programme 'Do this in Memory' is currently underway. The Communion will take place on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May.



The Confirmation enrolment mass took place on 26<sup>th</sup> November. This is in preparation for Confirmation on 28<sup>th</sup> April.

## Welcome!

We would like to welcome all the second class boys in Miss Flaherty's and Miss Dolan's class to our school. The boys joined us in September from St. Mary's Primary school. We hope that they have a very Happy and successful 5 years with us!



## School Notices!

Scoil Muire Banríon will reopen on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January.

### Retirements:

We are very sad to announce that our Deputy Principal, Mr. Maurice Scanlon and also Mr. Pat Chambers will be retiring in February. They will be greatly missed in the school by all!

### Whole School Evaluation (WSE):

As you are aware the school had a Whole School Evaluation this December. As part of this evaluation we received wonderful positive responses from both parents and children to the questionnaires. We also received a very positive report from the Department of Education inspectors.

### Parent Teacher Meetings:

Parent Teacher Meetings will be held after Christmas. Dates are to be confirmed.

All the staff of Scoil Muire Banríon are very proud of all our students for their fantastic successes and achievements this term. **We would like to wish all our students a safe and Happy Christmas and we hope for continued success in 2012.**

