



Nuachtlitrí Gaelscoil Mhíchíl Uí Choileáin

Nollaig 2021

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A Thuistí,

Ag druidim le briseadh na Nollag, ba mhaith liom an deis seo a thapú, mo bhuíochas a chur in iúl daoibh as ucht bhuir gcuid tacaíochta ar fad i rith an chéad téarma scoile.

As we approach the Christmas break, I would like to thank you all for your wonderful support to Gaelscoil Mhíchíl Uí Choileáin during the first term of the school year. We have been quite busy here since we returned after Halloween and I hope you enjoy reading about the various activities which have taken place in the school.

I would like to thank Cairde na Scoile for all their support to the school and their work on our Book Fair and their Ribbons of Remembrance initiative. I know they are already planning for the new year and I hope everyone will support them with their plans.

Buíochas leis an mBord Bainistíochta (Board of Management) for their relentless work and support, especially during these trying times.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the staff of our school for their tireless work over the past few months. Like all parts of society, we have faced many challenges here in the recent past but our strong team spirit and camaraderie has helped us overcome these challenges.

To the parents/guardians, míle buíochas, for the trust you have placed in us and the support you have given us during the first term, it is very much appreciated.

Finally, and most importantly, our raison d'être, páistí na scoile. We here at the Gaelscoil are so so proud of all the páistí who attend our school. Their infectious smiles, buckets of energy, helping hands, mannerly ways and friendship are a credit to themselves and you, their families. We have always been blessed with a sense of belonging here at Gaelscoil Mhíchíl Uí Choileáin and long may that continue.

Tá súil agam a pháistí go mbainfidh sibh taitneamh as an mbriseadh.

I hope you all get to have a break over the Christmas period and to spend some quality time with your family and friends, be that in person or over the many platforms now available on the internet.

Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year to you all.

Beannachtaí na Nollag oraibh uile agus s athbhliain fé shéan is fé mhaire

Ó Mhúinteoir Pádraig

Soilse na Nollag



Is am speisialta í an Nollaig i gcónaí inár scoil. Lasann na páistí is óige agus is sine sa scoil soilse na Nollag agus cuireann sé gliondar ar ár gcroíthe.

Christmas is always a special time here at Gaelscoil Mhíchíl Uí Choileáin. Once our Christmas lights are turned on here on December 1st by the youngest and oldest pupils in our school, an air of excitement and happiness permeates the building.

Míle buíochas to Michael, our caretaker, for his patience, perseverance, and creativity in decorating both inside and outside the school. Thank you also to Tom Sheehy & Co. who donated a beautiful Christmas tree and lights to brighten up our staffroom, it is very much appreciated and enjoyed by all.

Carúil na Nollag

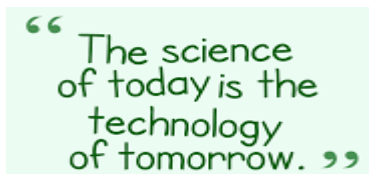


Bhí na hard ranganna gnóthach i mbun ceoil agus carúil na Nollag i mbliana chun sonas na Nollag a roinnt leis an bpobal. Chuaigh Rang a 6 suas chuig "Teach Cairde" ar an Déardaoin chun aoibhneas a scaipeadh orthu.

Our Senior classes were busy carolling and playing music this month to spread some

Christmas cheer amongst our community. Rang a 6 visited the gardens of “Teach Cairde” where they entertained the residents and staff. These are always such special and joyful events for all involved between singers and listeners and we returned to school those days with warm hearts.

Mí na hEolaíochta



Bhí mí den scoth againn i mbliana dár dtogra nua “Mí na hEolaíochta”. Bhí na páistí gnóthach I mbun foghlama go gníomhach is go heolaíoch. Mar is gnáthach linn sa scoil, bhí aonaigh eolaíochta againn maraon le haíonna agus taispeántais ón dtaobh amuigh.

Mí na Samhna (November) was Mí na hEolaíochta in Gaelscoil Mhichíl Uí Choileáin. Normally confined to a week in November we decided to expand our science week to a science month during November. All classes were extremely busy during the month, as they focused on various aspects of the science curriculum. We had 2 science fayres, with Rang 5 & 6 firstly exhibiting their science experiments for some of the other classes, followed a week later by Rang 4. This was a wonderful opportunity for the páistí of these classes to research and present various science experiments to their peers.

On November 17th, Dr. Paul Deane, a parent in our school, answered the call and visited the Gaelscoil for a questions and answers session on climate change. Paul, from the Centre for Marine & Renewable Energy and the Environmental Research Institute at UCC provided some very insightful information to the páistí on climate change but was equally impressed by their interaction and knowledge on the subject.

Our Mí na hEolaíochta finished on December 2nd when students from Sacred Heart Secondary School presented a science exhibition in halla na scoile. There were 5

interactive stands where our páistí got to experience different facets of the secondary school science curriculum.

It was also great to see some of our past pupils, Mia, Tea & Aoife, back as presenters on the day. Míle buíochas to Helen Shanahan & Claire Holland, both parents in our school who are teaching in Sacred Heart Secondary School for organising this event in conjunction with the Gaelscoil and to their principal Ann Marie Brosnan for facilitating the event.

Míle buíochas chomh maith do M. Fionnuala, our Science Co-ordinator and to M. Íde for her co-ordination work with Sacred Heart Secondary School.

Suíomh Idirlín na Scoile



Tá sé ag teacht..... beidh suíomh idirlín nua na scoile á sheoladh go luath.... táimid ar bís faoi agus ag súil go mbeidh sé tairbheach daoibh chun ‘bheith ar an eolas faoi imeachtaí na scoile.

We are putting the final touches to our new school website and hope to launch it when we return to school after the Christmas holidays. We hope that you will all take the time to look at it and use it to keep up to date with all the happenings in the school.

Penny Dinners



Míle buíochas to all the families who donated to the Cork Penny Dinners & Clonakilty Meals on Wheels collection which was organised by our local Red Cross Ambulance Service. A huge amount of goods were collected which will help to bring some Christmas cheer to both Clonakilty and Cork. *Maith sibh.*

Club Léitheoireachta



Ghlac páistí Rang a hAon páirt i gClub Léitheoireachta le M Máirín le déanaí.

Children from Rang 1 were invited to join a Club Léitheoireachta (Book Club) on Wednesday evenings after school under the guidance of M. Máirín. There was great participation and enthusiasm from the children where they listened to many stories in English and as Gaeilge.

The emphasis was on promoting reading for pleasure and the children derived great enjoyment from it. It was very rewarding to see them relax and share stories together. *Maith sibh Rang a hAon.*

Craobh an Chontae



Bhí an-sceitimíní inár scoil i rith na coicíse roimh craobh an chontae. Bhí an scoile maisithe le healáin na craoibhe agus bratacha crochta mór thimpeall na scoile. Thairfead banna ceoil sinsir na scoile giota ceoil agus amhránaíochta chun sinne ar fad a spreagadh. Níor eirigh leis an bhfoireann ar an lá ach táimid thar a bheith mórtasach astu ach go háirithe as ár n-iar scoláirí Eoghan agus Odhran.

There was great excitement and colour in school in the two weeks preceding Clonakilty's participation in the County Senior Football Final. Michael, as always, had the school looking resplendent with plenty of

green and red to be seen. Unfortunately, luck was not on our side on the day but we were all immensely proud of the team, especially our past pupils Eoghan Deasy and Odhran Bancroft who were both tremendous on the day. *Beidh lá eile againn.*

Comórtas Sacair



Thosaigh páistí Ranganna 4, 5 agus 6 comórtas sacair ag tús Mí na Samhna. Táid ag baint sár-taitneamh as an gcomórtas 's déanann siad a dtréan iarracht i ngach cluiche. Tá comh-imirt iontach le feiscint idir fóirne cailíní 's buachaillí agus tugann gach éinne tacaíocht maith dá chéile.

Páistí from Ranganna 4, 5 & 6 have been taking part in a soccer competition since early November. It has turned out to be very popular amongst the participants and we're delighted to see that all are enjoying the competition. There's a boy's league which consists of 7 teams and a girl's league consisting of 6 teams, with each game being very competitive while played in good spirit. All games have been refereed and timed by Múinteoirí Shane, Jerry, Stiofáin and Seán. Unfortunately, Video Assisted Refereeing technology was not available and some decisions had to be taken on the chin 😊.

The competition culminated in the Grand Finals which took place on the all-weather pitch at Ahamilla on Friday, December 17th.

Maith sibh gach duine a ghlac páirt agus na múinteoirí a d'eagraigh é.

Have we your current postal address?

If not, please email it to: runai@gsmc.ie

Aonach Leabhar/Book Fair



Míle buíochas le gach éinne a thug tacaíocht dár nAonach Leabhar i Mí na Samhna. Bhí an-éileamh ar na leabhair arís i mbliana. D'éirigh linn €2,508 a bhailiú agus mar sin tá €1,505 againn le caitheamh ar leabhair nua san Athbhliain.

Bhí an-sceitimíní ar na páistí ar scoil nuair a bhí siad ag féachaint ar agus ag roghnú na leabhar. Tá súil againn go bhfuil siad ag baint sult agus tairbhe astu anois.

Caithfidimid buíochas ar leith a ghabháil le Cairde na Scoile agus leis na tuismitheoirí a tháinig isteach ag cabhrú fad is a bhí an t-aonach ar siúl.

A huge thanks to everybody who supported our Book Fair in November. This year's event was a huge success! The final sales figure was €2,508. The school receives 60% of this figure in commission from Celtic Travelling Books. This year we hope to increase the variety of class novels for some classes and to add to our class libraries.

The children were very excited and enthusiastic as they browsed through the range of books at school and we hope they are enjoying and benefiting from their purchases. The more children read, the better they become, the better they become, the more they read!

We would particularly like to thank Cairde na Scoile and the parents, Louise, Patricia, Áine, Therese and Kath who very generously volunteered their time for the management and running of the Book Fair. Míle buíochas to M. Eibhlís who co-ordinated the event.

Ar scáth a chéile a mhairimid!

Ar ais ar scoil

We are back to school on
Thursday 6th January 2022

Camogie/Iomáint



Lean ár gclár geimhridh camógaíochta agus iománaíochta nuair a d'fhillamar taréis an bhriseadh téarma.

Our camogie/hurling winter programme continued following our return after the mid-term break. Rang 5, both camogie & hurling, Rang 4, both camogie & hurling, Rang 3 camogie and Rang 1 iomáint were the classes accommodated during lunch time. The páistí had a mixture of skills sessions and matches in halla na scoile. Overall, the páistí seemed to enjoy the sessions and the most pleasing aspect was the number of páistí who tried one session and came back for more. We hope to role this imitative out to our Naíonáin towards the end of February in anticipation of the new GAA season beginning in Spring.

Le Chéile

E-mail: LeCheileGSMC@gmail.com

Phone: **087-4093717**

(Phone kept in school building and monitored only between 8 - 9am and 1.30 – 5.30pm on school days)

Snámh



Rang 3 finished their 6 weeks aquatics programme at Clonakilty Park Leisure Centre before the Christmas. The six weeks were thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended agus míle buíochas to the staff of The Park for accommodating us and to M. Siobhan & M. Stiofan for accompanying the children to the pool. Rang 2 will begin their six week programme on January 10th 2022.

Ceol na Scoile



Bhí an-chuid ceoil sa scoil thar an téarma mar is gnáth leis na múinteoirí éagsúla a thagann isteach chun a gcuid talainne a roinnt lenár bpáistí. Bhuail an banna ceoil sinsir le chéile thar tréimhse 6 seachtain agus bhaineadar ard-taitneamh as.

As always, there's not a day goes by in Gaelscoil Mhíchíl Uí Choileáin that you don't hear a toot on a trombone, a whistle, a fiddle, a box, a guitar, a ukulele or a piano amongst other instruments. Thank you to all the múinteoirí within the school and the visiting múinteoirí who share their talents with our children. Our school senior banna ceoil met weekly over a period of 6 weeks and are ready for any upcoming gigs! It will be the turn of Banna Ceoil Sóisear (Rang a 3 & 4) after the Christmas holidays and we look forward greatly to hearing a few tunes from them.

Míle buíochas to M. Íde & M. Eimear for their work with our banna ceoil.

Dialann Cinéaltais & Nollaig Lúcháireach



Bhí Nollaig Lúcháireach i mbarr réime inár scoil I mbliana cosúil le gach bliain eile. B'álainn a fheiceáil an slí gur chaith na páistí lena chéile agus leo siúd mór thimpeall orthu go cineálta is go cneasta.

Nollaig Lúcháireach was embraced by our páistí and school community again this

year. The children diligently filled in their "Dialann Cineáltais" each day describing all their wonderful acts of kindness. We hope that families, grandparents, elderly neighbours, our animals, wildlife, the environment and the páistí themselves all reaped the benefits of this lovely initiative. Some of the class acts of kindness included sending personalised Christmas cards to residents of local care homes, litter picking in the gardens of care homes, weeding gardens, making Christmas annuals for children in the Junior classes amongst many more. We thank you the parents for supporting our kindness initiative and hope it will leave a lasting impression on everyone for the coming year.

Ceolchoirm na Nollag



Ba chúis díomá dúinn nach rabhamar ábalta ár gceolchoirm a dhéanamh arís an Nollaig seo agus fáilte a chur romhaibh isteach sa scoil dó.

We were all disappointed that we couldn't hold our Christmas Concerts in the halla again this year and welcome parents/grand, parents etc. into our school to watch them. Like Hollywood however, the show must go on, in some form or another and we were most appreciative of parent Matthew Leigh's offer to record each class's Christmas performance so we could share them with you. There was great excitement on the day when he appeared with the most professional looking microphone, camera and recording paraphernalia. The children sang their hearts out for the "telly" and we really hope you enjoy/enjoyed our virtual "Ceol Choirm na Nollag."

Míle buíochas arís to Matthew and also to M. Mags who co-ordinated everything on the day.

Ceardlann VEX-VR



D'éirigh go hiontach le Rang 6 sa cheardlann ríomhchlárú VEX-VR a bhí curtha i lathair ar líne ag Dojo Mór agus Munster Technological University. Tá Rang a 6 ag ullmhú agus ar bís faoi na comórtais a bheidh ar siúl níos déanaí sa bhliain.

Rang 6 participated in a very successful and enjoyable remote 'VEX VR' workshop hosted by Dojo Mór and Munster Technological University. The work shop was streamed to our classroom and the children had an opportunity to code a virtual robot and complete the challenges set out. Well done and congratulations to all who took part. Maith sibh!

Heritage in Schools/An Chomhairle Oidreacht



Tá scéim ann dár tideal Heritage in Schools/An Chomhairle Oidreacht ina gcuirtear eispéaras ealaíona ar fáil do bhunscoileanna. Do ghlacamar páirt i mbliana. Tháinig tréir ealaíontóir chugainn lena gcuid scileanna agus tuairimí a roinnt linn. An téama a bhain leis ná an nádúr agus na crainn a mhaireann inár dtimpeallacht.

We were delighted to avail of the Heritage in Schools scheme during this term. Three artists came to share their skills and knowledge with us. On Thursday 4th November. Sonia Caldwell fine artist and ceramicist, led an outdoor workshop where

children from Rang 5 & 6 foraged and created using twigs, branches and dried plants. Sonia introduced us to rushes, willow and flax, as materials for making. Rosemary Kavanagh, basket maker, visited on Wednesday, 17th November. Rang a 4 were taught about willow growing and harvesting, basket making and other ancient Irish forms of willow weaving. Pupils made a fish from willow branches. While the task was intricate, the outcome was satisfying. Barry Moloney, storyteller, treated Rang a 3 to a wonderful morning of storytelling on Monday 20th December. The theme was Christmas and the children were captivated from the beginning.

We are very grateful to the above artists for sharing their time and interest in visual and performance art. Míle buíochas also to M. Eimear Ní Neill who co-ordinated all the above visits.

Yoga



Kids Yoga!

Rinne Rang a 5 agus 6 yoga an téarma seo le Vivienne ó Yoga Beoga. Bhain siad taitneamh agus tairbhe as, ag foghlaim staidiúir yoga agus modhanna meabhrúcháin.

5th and 6th Class have just completed a 4-week course in yoga with Vivienne from Yoga Beoga. This was extremely beneficial to the children, who learned various yoga poses and methods of meditation and mindfulness. We will have more classes coming on stream after the Christmas break for their 4-week courses.

An Scoil

Ríomhphost: runai@gsmc.ie
Guthán: 023-8834882

Music and Dance



Rinne Rang a 5 is a 6 staidéar ar cheol Queen le déanaí agus chum siad damhsa nuachumtha bunaithe ar an gceol. Bhí spraoí agus spóirt acu ag glacadh páirt 'sna gníomhaíochtaí seo.

Fifth and sixth class recently completed a module of dance and song based on the music of Queen. They had great fun composing dance routines and performing their own original work.

Cairde na Scoile



Ár mbuíochas do Chairde na Scoile a d'eagraigh feachtas na gCártaí Nollag.

Míle buíochas to Cairde na Scoile for organising our annual Christmas cards which allowed each child in the school to design their own Christmas card for printing. The cards have now been distributed to the families who ordered them and are hopefully making their way around the world.

A special thanks to Louise Kingston, Patricia Lucas and Sorchá Sheehy for their work on this project. We also purchased board games, classroom games and other materials for various classes from funds raised by Cairde na Scoile. We hope to add to these purchases in the new year.

Once more all monies raised by Cairde na Scoile are ring fenced to buy equipment/materials which the páistí can benefit from and use.

(See Cairde na Scoile newsheet attached)

Le Chéile



Mar a chonaic sibh sa ríomhphost, beidh athrú nó dhó i bhfeidhm i Le Chéile sa bhliain nua.

As you will have seen from an email sent last week there are a few changes taking place regarding Le Chéile in the new year. Le Chéile, since its inception in 2014, has proven to be a great success for Gaelscoil Mhichíl Uí Choileáin and the parents/guardians of children in our school. At this stage we would like to thank the staff of Le Chéile, Laura Ní Dhrisceoil, Abbie Ní Dhonnabháin agus Leigh Ann Uí Dhonnabháin for all that they do for the children under their care. We would also like to thank Kate Ní Shúilleabháin for all her work in Le Chéile over the previous seven years. As well as providing an after-school child minding facility for families in our school it also allows us to raise funds which can be used to further improve our school.

Cursaí Glasa - The Green Team!



Tá Coiste Glas na scoile bunaithe agus gníomhach cheanna féin. Beidh siad ag cabhrú linn ar fad díriú isteach ar chursaí taistil ar scoil an bhliain seo. Beimid ag súil lenár gcuigiú Brat Glas a fháil i 2023.

The Green Committee for this school year has been formed with representatives from Rang a 2 up to Rang a 6, who are already getting active. The coming two school years will see lots of action taking place around the

Travel theme, with a view to achieving our 5th Green Flag for the school in 2023. As well as working on this new theme, the Committee will continue to maintain goals achieved under the other flags which were awarded for Waste and Recycling, Water, Energy and Marine Life.

The Green Committee are currently undertaking Class Travel Surveys as part of an environmental review. They are feverishly gathering information...just wait till they start acting on it. Watch this space for the Committee's Action Plan in the New Year. *Tá obair iontach ar siúl ag an gCoiste agus iad ag déanamh suirbhé taistil ar ghach rang.*

Tá an t-eolas á bhailiú; beidh plean ghníomh le leanúint.

Plastic Free-Ambassadors



Ranganna a 5 and 6 are just embarking on a new environmental awareness and action programme, **Plastic Free 4 Kids**, under the stewardship of M. Serena and their class teachers. **Plastic Free 4 Kids is a curriculum-aligned programme designed for pupils in the older classes.** The aim of this programme is to create a nation of Plastic Free Ambassadors.

Once the pupils from these classes have completed the programme, each child will receive a Certificate of Participation. We look forward to the changes by degrees that our young and upcoming Plastic Free Ambassadors will suggest to us over the coming months, hopefully leading to less plastic in our environment. This programme is supported by the Community Foundation for Ireland and is also hosted on Change X.

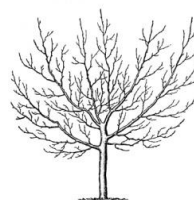
Ná bí aisteach, faigh réidh le plaisteach.

Ag bailiú brúscair



Buíochas mór le Rang a 3 (M. Stiofán) a bhailigh brúscair timpeall suíomh na scoile ar an Aoine seo chaite. Many thanks to the pupils of Rang a 3 who did a litter pick around our school grounds on Friday last. They cleaned up with great gusto and were delighted to be keeping our environment litter-free.

Cosán na gCrann



Táimid ag cur aithne ar na crainn atá againne. Tá go leor ceantair beaga timpeall ar Chloch na gCoillte bunaithe ar ainmneacha crainn. Ón gCnoch Sceach agus Dairbhre go hEochaill agus an Scartach, tá an tábhacht a bhaineann le crainn le feiscint sna logainmneacha atá mórthimpeall orainn.

The importance of trees in our environment is evident in the local placenames around Clonakilty; from Knocksceagh to Darrara and Youghals to Scartagh. The first step in our campaign to know the trees situated on our school site resulted in our tree trail. The classes of our school contributed to putting it together by choosing their trees of cherry blossom, silver birch, alder, sycamore, holly, mountain ash and apple. They put information together and the trail was laid out on a map. Come Spring, when the trees start to bud, we will revisit our Tree Trail and make it bigger and better. *Le teacht an Earraigh, tógfaimid Cosán na gCrann arís agus cuirfimid leis.*