



Active Flag Success!

There was great excitement last month when we learnt that our school had been awarded the Active Flag award for all of our endeavours to encourage and increase physical activity among our students over the last year. When our school signed up to the Active Flag programme, our aim was to encourage the whole school community to enjoy physical activity. This was certainly achieved, under the leadership of Mr. Shelly and his active flag team. Over the last year, the whole school community has been extremely busy as we have engaged in a wide variety of different programmes, ideas and initiatives which have inspired the children to become more active - Active Breaks, Active Lines, the 'Running around Europe' 1 km challenge, the 'Climb the Heights' skipping challenge and our Active School Walkway to name but a few! Well done to all involved and in particular to Mr. Shelly and his team. So boys and girls, when you're at home over the summer holidays remember our school's active motto: *"Fitness is cool, amazing and fun, Sitting on the sofa is where the damage is done!"*



Discover Science and Maths Award 2019

Our school entered the Discover Science and Maths Award again this year to showcase our efforts in promoting STEM learning.

Every class in the school contributed an example of their Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics lessons. They included hatching chickens in Junior Infants, building pasta towers in fourth class as well as creating programmable lego cars in 6th class. These examples were catalogued on our Science blog: <https://sacredhearthuntsto.wixsite.com/stemlearning2019>

The blog was then submitted to the SFI judges who appraised our work and awarded the school a plaque of STEM excellence. Entries are now received from all over the country so we can take great pride in our award, satisfied in the knowledge that we are leaders in STEM learning here in Huntstown!



Ms. Lavelle's 6th class with periscopes they made as part of the 'Energize' (STEM) Junior Achievement Programme.

Author Visit

We were delighted to welcome accomplished author Anna Mc Partlin to our school on 7th June.

Anna Mc Partlin was born in Dublin and knew from the age of eight that she wanted to become a writer. While visiting our school, Anna told us how as a child she would go into town with her mam every Friday to buy a new book. She loved reading and would devour one book after another. Her favourite author was Enid Blyton.

Anna has written many books, my favourite one being 'The Fearless Five'. It was really great to listen to Anna share her passion with us.

By Katie Judd, Ms. Bourke's 5th Class



New Life — There was lots of egg-citement in Ms. Daly's junior infant class this month as the boys and girls watched baby chicks emerge from their eggs.

What a fantastic learning experience for all!

A Message from our Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As the final term draws to a close, let us reflect on the highs and lows of 2018-2019 in Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa. Last December, we bid a fond farewell to our beloved 'Bean an Tí', Marie Lynch, on the occasion of her retirement. Marie worked in our school from its opening in 1983 until December 2018 and we wish her a long, healthy and happy retirement. We are also sadly bidding adieu to Mr. Bryan Costello as he takes up a teaching position in his native Kerry. Mr. Costello has been a fantastic teacher during his seven years with us and he also gave generously of his free time in training school soccer and Gaelic football teams. We appreciate his contribution immensely and we wish him every success in the future (excepting any occasions where the Dubs play Kerry in the All-Ireland Championship of course!).

On a happier note, this year saw great innovation and achievement across our school. There was significant development in the area of Information and Communications Technology in our school with the introduction of 32 iPads and 16 Chrome books for use by pupils across all classes. Thanks to a dedicated team of students and staff, our school continues to break new ground with our use of technology to support the delivery of the curriculum. As the lead school in a Digital Schools Excellence cluster group, our school was invited to showcase at an ICT event in Athlone Institute of Technology and was featured in an RTE News2day programme.

We were also delighted to receive a Discover Maths & Science Award from Science Foundation Ireland in recent weeks for excellence in the teaching of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM). Congratulations again to the teachers and students involved.

The importance of exercise and activity is always highlighted in our school and so we were thrilled to achieve Active School Status this year, recognising our work promoting health and fitness during the school day. Activities included skipping, running, active breaks, active playground lines, wake up—shake up, Active Schools Week and sports days to name but a few and the initiative was successfully led by a very dedicated team of students and teachers.

Our school again offered a variety of extra curricular sporting opportunities to students thanks to the dedication of a group of talented teachers who give their freetime to train teams in hurling, Gaelic football, soccer and athletics. Thank you all for your invaluable contributions.

We here in Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa have a proud history in developing the arts and this year has seen some exceptional talent on display amongst our students. Our fifth classes took to the stage in the National Basketball Arena in Tallaght in March to perform a challenging repertoire with the National Children's Choir (NCC). A further concert took place in The National Concert Hall on May 27th, where 16 of our choir members performed. The NCC performances were truly magical and thoroughly enjoyed by all in attendance. We also hosted two Intercultural Concerts in our school this year, showcasing the varying and incredible talents of our pupils at an event that brought together many of the cultures represented in our school.

Continuing with our involvement in the FÍS Filmmaking in Schools project, a number of classes produced short films during the year and we have submitted two entries into the FÍS Awards that will take place later this year.

We were proud to welcome some important visitors to our school during the year including Dublin footballer Brian Howard with the Sam Maguire Cup. We were also visited by Irish authors Maguerite Tonery and Anna McPartlin, who read from their novels and answered children's questions about story writing. A group of Swedish principals came to see our pupils' use of technology in classes and were very impressed by the enhanced learning they saw. Acclaimed musician and composer Jim Papoulis visited us and delivered a workshop to our fifth class choir. He also met with a group of children with a special interest in music and composing and held a question and answer session. M&M Productions have become annual

visitors to our school and this year's production of "Oliver Twist" was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

It was wonderful to see the excitement on the children's faces as they headed off on their school tours this year and I would like to thank the teachers and SNA's for organising and facilitating these wonderful memorable days for the children.

Every year we prepare many of our children for sacraments and this year was no exception. I wish to thank the second and sixth class teachers and SNAs along with the pupils, their families and our clergy for the wonderful First Holy Communion and Confirmation ceremonies held in May. Our vibrant Parents' Committee hosted fantastic receptions after each of the ceremonies which were warmly received by the families in attendance. Our thanks to the Parents' Committee for all their hard work this year including the Christmas Raffle, Book Fair, Cake Sale and their important work with the Book Rental and Uniform Recycling initiatives. I would also like to thank parent Ciara Jones for her incredibly successful Sparkle for Autism Ball which raised significant funds that enabled us to purchase educational resources for the school and subsidise various school activities.

On Wednesday June 26th, our sixth class children graduated from Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa. While their journey in our school has come to an end, they have made friendships and memories that will last a lifetime and have made their mark on the landscape of our school. We are proud of their achievements and we wish them well for the future.

As the saying goes, 'It takes a village to raise a child' and with this in mind, I wish to sincerely thank the Board of Management, Deputy Principal Mr. John Harty, Tina in the kitchen, our cleaning staff, our lollipop ladies Vera and Terri, our secretary Carmel, our caretaker Michael, the Parents' Association and in particular our teachers and SNAs for all their hard work and dedication throughout the year. I wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer and I look forward to seeing the children return to school on August 29th.

Kieran Lyons

Parents' Association 2018/2019

We would like to start by thanking each and every one of you for your continued support over the last school year! It has, as always, been a busy one in our great school!

Since Easter we have had the pleasure of providing refreshments after the two First Holy Communion services and the Confirmation service, and coordinated the photos in the days afterwards for 2nd and 6th classes. The class teachers did an excellent job in preparing the children and we want to thank them on your behalf.

We started June by welcoming the new Junior Infant parents and this week we will be providing support and refreshments for the 6th class students who are graduating from our school in 2019.

The Book Rental Scheme has been a massive success this year and the uptake is around the 90% mark at the moment. We will do one final collection for this when we return in September. A number of you helped out in the repair and re-covering of the books and ordering of new books this year and we really appreciate the support. It also means that the quality of the books you receive would only be what we would take home for our own children!

The cake sale, which the 6th class students ran with our help, was a great success and through different fundraising events since Christmas we have been able to fund further purchases of lego and football gear for the girls' football team, and also pay for the buses to the National Basketball Arena.

In July we will run two uniform pop up shops on Tuesdays 2nd and 9th between 11.30-13.30 and for a small donation you can get really good quality uniforms and tracksuits. A further pop up will be announced via our Facebook page which will likely be in August (Sacred Heart of Jesus N.S Huntstown-Parents' Association).

We would like to finish by wishing our 6th class students all the very best in your new adventures in secondary school and hope that you all have a great summer holiday!

Sinead Joyce, Chairperson Parents' Association

Awards Ceremony



The 6th class Graduation and Awards Ceremony took place on Wednesday 26th June. All of the children were commended for their special contribution to the school over the past eight years.

The following awards were also presented :

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Mathematicians of the Year – Anh Nguyen, Shane Hughes

Literary Student of the Year – Alex Ryan

Gaeilgeoir na Bliana– Tadhg Ryan

Musician of the Year – Calum Hutchings

John Lynch Award – Gillian McNeice

Scientist of the Year – Lauren Hutchinson

Artist of the Year – Alison Koci

Innovator of the Year – Emmanuel Egbeson

Gradam na Scoile – Ashlee Byrne

SPORTS AWARDS

Athlete of the Year – Dorcas Zunga

Boys' Soccer Player of the Year – Adam Brennan

Girls' Footballer of the Year – Abbie Harris

Boys' Jnr. Footballer of the Yr – Senan Stynes

Hurler of the Year – Ross Therville

Girls' Soccer Player of the Year – Grace McGrath

Boys' Snr Footballer of the Yr – Cameron Herbert

Sportsperson of the Year 2019 – Adam Brennan

Well done to all and best wishes to our 6th class students as they embark on a new journey through secondary school!

School Calendar 2019/2020



School will reopen for the new school year on **Thursday 29th August 2019.**

October Mid-Term Break: Mon 28th October to Fri 1st November 2019 inclusive.

Christmas Break: Mon 23rd December 2019 to Fri 3rd January 2020 inclusive.

February Mid-term Break: Mon 17th to Fri 21st February 2020.

St. Patrick's Holiday: Mon 16th and Tues 17th March 2020.

Easter Break: Mon 6th to Fri 17th April 2020 inclusive.

Please Note: If changes are required to be made to the Easter break as part of contingency arrangements to make up for lost time due to unforeseen school closures the school may remain open up to and including Wed 8th April 2020.

May Bank Holiday: Mon 4th May 2020.

June Bank Holiday Weekend: Fri 29th May to Tues 2nd June 2020 inclusive.

School will close for the summer holidays at 12 noon on **Tuesday 30th June 2020.**

Please Note: There will be one full-day closure and additional half-day closures to facilitate Language Curriculum in-service training for teachers during the 2019/2020 academic year. The dates for these in-service training sessions will be communicated to parents when they have been finalised.



Send us a Postcard!

Send your classmates a **postcard** over the summer holidays!

Whether on a day trip to the beach, a weekend away in Ireland or a holiday abroad, fill your classmates in on your holiday adventures! Your new teacher and classmates will enjoy reading your postcard in September!

Keep up-to-date on everything that's going on in the school

Log on to our website:

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