

# Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa



## Summer Newsletter

June 2020

Issue no. 109



## Poetry Slam and Book Week



Before the school closure, the boys and girls in all of our four sixth classes came together to create, record and share poetry. We love to read poems together and it is heartening to find boys and girls in all of our classrooms reciting poems in

---

English and Irish with action, animation and joy. With this enthusiasm in mind, Ms O'Connor facilitated a 'Poetry Slam' in early February. Boys and girls from each of the classes swapped rooms and sat in a circle. They were encouraged to write and recite their own poems. They really loved being creative and once imaginations were given freedom to explore, all manner of ideas came bubbling to the surface. We are so fortunate to be given the opportunity to express ourselves. The boys and girls really enjoyed the experience. Across the school there were wonderful opportunities to enjoy activities as part of 'Book Week'. There was story reading for Junior Classes as well as quizzes and games in the Senior Classes.

## Sporting success

Although there was an abrupt halt to many of the sporting events that normally shape our calendar, there were some experiences that reminded us all of the joy of teamwork and playing together. Our Athletics team, led by Ms Mulcahy, Ms O'Dea and Ms E. O'Connor enjoyed a fun day at Santry recently. The weather was quite cold and bitter but it didn't dim the efforts of our boys and girls who took part. Training happens at lunch time each week and clearly it pays dividends since there were several top placings among the team. Well done to all involved.

[Read more on our website](#)



---

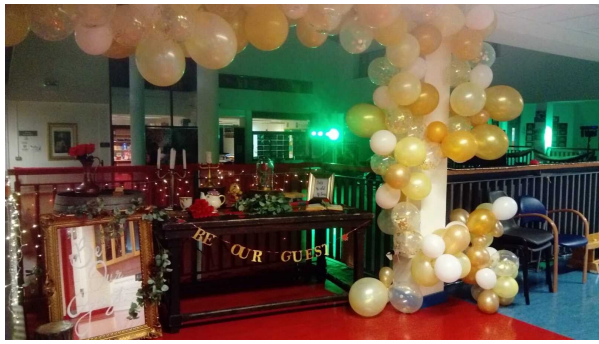
Our Gaelic Football teams hosted a number of matches and took to the road too. We are lucky to have brilliant trainers among our teaching staff. We hope to resume training in September.

---

## Beauty and the Beast



It's hard to believe a few short months ago, our P.E. hall was a fully operational theatre. The transformation was truly remarkable. A professional stage with lighting, tiered seating, incredible backdrops and props and a stunning welcome zone in the Atrium; Huntstown came alive to the magic of 'Beauty and the Beast'. Over five nights, our talented cast took to the stage to entertain our community. All of the shows were sold out, highlighting both the support shown by our wonderful families and the extraordinary talents of the boys and girls. Having performed with such power and majesty each night, the cast members were all in school the following morning, ready for work. It was a most memorable experience. It could not have been brought to fruition without the dedication and hard work of Ms Dixon, Ms Donohoe and Ms Lee. Since September they worked hard with the cast to ensure that they were ready for the stage. The high quality performances we witnessed each night and the joyous response from the audience, proved that there is boundless talent in Huntstown and unfailing support from the people in the community.



Be our Guest



All lit up and ready for the audience



Chip, Mrs Potts and their friends



Final curtain call



"Non, mon cherie"



Belle and Papa



The Cast with its creative team of Ms Donohoe, Ms Dixon and Ms Lee





## Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa 2020/2021 School Calendar

August 2020						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2020						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2020						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2020						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2020						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



First day of school year



School holidays

- The school will open for the 2020/2021 academic year on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020.
- If changes are required to the Easter break as part of contingency arrangements to make up for time lost due to unforeseen school closures the school may remain open up to and including Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.
- Language Curriculum in-service training for teachers will take place during the 2020/2021 academic year. The dates for school closures to facilitate this in-service training will be communicated to parents/guardians when they have been finalised.
- School year will finish on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.



**Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa**  
**School Calendar 2020/2021**

**The school will open for the 2020/2021 academic year on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020.**

**October 2020 Mid-Term Break**

School will be closed from Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020 inclusive.

School will reopen on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020.

**Christmas 2020**

School will be closed from Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 to Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021 inclusive.

School will reopen on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

**February 2021 Mid-Term Break**

School will be closed from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021 inclusive.

School will reopen on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021.

**St. Patrick's Day 2021**

School will be closed on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

**Easter 2021**

School will be closed from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021 inclusive.

School will reopen on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

If changes are required to the Easter break as part of contingency arrangements to make up for time lost due to unforeseen school closures the school may remain open up to and including Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

**May Bank Holiday 2021**

School will be closed on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021.

**June Bank Holiday 2021**

School will be closed from Friday 4<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021 inclusive.

School will reopen on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

School year will finish on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

There will be a one full-day closure and additional half-day closures to facilitate Language Curriculum in-service training for teachers during the 2020/2021 academic year. The dates for these in-service training days will be communicated to parents/guardians when they have been finalised.

---

## Book Fair 2020



Once again Ms Mullany and a group of willing parents, organised a highly successful Book Fair. All children in the school were afforded the opportunity to visit the Book Fair in the Atrium where they could purchase beautiful books to add to their library. Thank you to all involved. Funds raised from the sale of books at the Fair,

are vital for the school and we are indebted to everyone for getting involved again this year.

## Music Week 2020

Despite the sudden closure of our school, many of the wonderful activities and events that we love to celebrate were organised through our virtual platforms. Music is such an important part of our school life so it was a great joy to be able to celebrate Music Week 2020 with our families at home. Lots of the boys and girls shared videos and photographs illustrating their excitement at taking part. There is so much talent in Huntstown and it is heartening to see so many Mums, Dads, Grandparents and extended family members taking part. We posted lots of the content to our twitter and school website pages. Thank you to everyone who participated and a special word of thanks to the teachers who coordinated the event - Ms Bacon, Ms Desmond, Ms Donohoe and Ms Murray.

---

## A message from our Principal Mr Lyons

As our school year draws to a close, one cannot but reflect on what has been a most unusual and unprecedented period in the history of our school and indeed our country. It would have been difficult to imagine last Summer when thinking about the academic year 2019 / 2020 that we would find ourselves in circumstances where the classrooms suddenly fall silent and the playgrounds, fields and outdoors are devoid of the laughter and enjoyment that usually fills these spaces. Obviously it has been such a trying and challenging time for families and I want to acknowledge and thank each and every one of you for the extraordinary courage, fortitude and strength you have shown. To have our way of life changed so utterly and with such haste has resulted in huge adjustments for us all. The introduction of distance learning has been a new venture for students, teachers, support staff and families and yet the response has been extraordinary. Even though we are so far apart, the warmth and generosity of spirit exhibited in the virtual environment has reaffirmed my sincere belief that Huntstown is a community rooted in kindness, thoughtfulness and endless decency. Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa is a wonderful school, which is rightly acknowledged by all who visit as being a special place. These past few months have certainly exemplified the character and spirit of the people who call it their own each day.

There have been so many wonderful memories created this year in spite of the Covid 19 pandemic and it is important that we pay tribute to the many successes of our students. In February Beauty and the Beast was brought home to Huntstown for the first time ever. Although planned meticulously, it was difficult to imagine until the stage was installed and the lighting and sound technicians had worked their magic, that our P.E. hall could be transformed in such a magical fashion. We had a theatre; a real theatre. It made for an unforgettable week, with stand out performances from an exceptional cast. Very few schools could possibly manage to bring five sold out shows to the stage. Even fewer could manage to produce a show of the calibre witnessed each night. Thank you to everyone who supported Beauty and the Beast. It would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication shown by the Parents' Committee, the staff and the children.

---

Alongside the school musical, there were lots of exciting activities during the second and third terms. World Book week and the annual Book Fair renewed our passion for reading and sharing stories. Bhí imeachtaí de gach saghas againn i rith Seachtain na Gaeilge. Bhí céilí, tráth na gceist, tóraíocht taisce, dánta agus rannta, taispeántas feadóg agus ceol le fáil duinn agus bhaineamar go léir sult agus tairbhe as. Athletics, Gaelic Football and Swimming continued and at all events attended, our students represented their school with characteristic spirit and impeccable behaviour. We also had great success at a number of the table quizzes attended this year.

We had so many wonderful experiences while we were at home too. Music Week 2020 was a terrific success with boys and girls sharing videos and photographs of their involvement. It was great to see everyone singing and dancing together at home. Active Schools Week was another initiative that raised the spirits of one and all. We were delighted to witness children from across the school using their time at home to squat, stretch, run, skip and hop. Staying fit and healthy is extremely important and we value our time to play outdoors. We closed out the final term with a brilliant Art competition. The number and quality of the entries was astounding.

Lots of the things that we usually take for granted were unfortunately disrupted this year. I look forward to lots of celebrations and special occasions when we return to school. Our Confirmation students, our Holy Communion students, our graduating sixth class students can all look forward to finally enjoying these special and momentous events. Indeed we have not been able to welcome our incoming Junior Infants to the school yet either but rest assured they will receive a joyous welcome to the school when we return.

I want to thank you all sincerely for your continued understanding and support. We will emerge from these exceptional times. Our school will continue to be an exceptional place of learning and fun. We will remain a community united under shared values of respect, kindness and decency. Our spirits will be renewed and we will grow together, strengthened in the compassion and cooperation of one another.

Le gach uile beannacht,

Kieran Lyons.



---

## Keep up to date

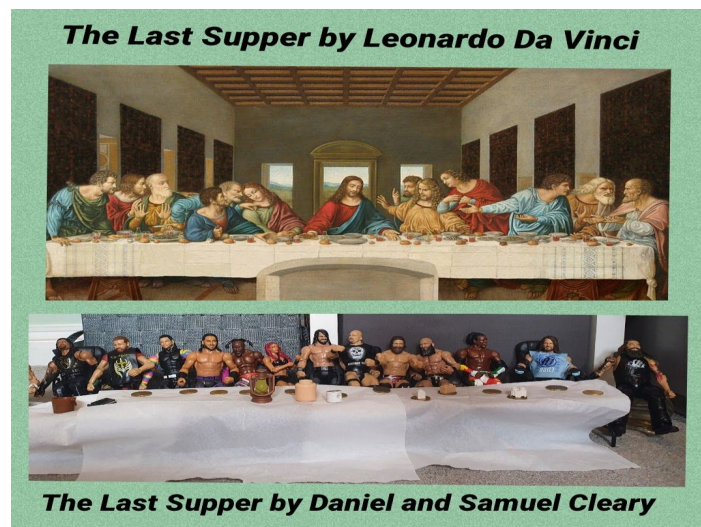
We will continue to update families using our school website and twitter feed. Emails and texts are communicated to families on an ongoing basis. Booklists for the upcoming academic year are posted on the school website.

[www.sacredhearthuntstown.weebly.com](http://www.sacredhearthuntstown.weebly.com)

Twitter: @sacredheartns

---

## Art Competition



There have been several wonderful initiatives undertaken during our extended school closure. Our Art committee which was led by Ms O. Barry, Ms Lee and Ms E. O'Connor devised a series of events to engage the boys and girls in the creative arts. The competition was run over three weeks in June and involved the students recreating famous artworks using a variety of methods. These included physical interpretations of pieces such as 'The Mona Lisa' and 'Girl with a pearl earring'. There were opportunities for boys and girls to use household materials to make sculptures and recreate buildings. We were overwhelmed by the response to the

---

competition and it gladdened everyone's heart to witness how creative, dynamic and innovative our students and their families could be. Well done to all involved.



Eleanor Devine, Second Class (Ms Dooley)



Elena Figala, Fifth class (Mr Harraghy)



Oliwier Kosciukiewicz, Junior Infants (Ms Dixon)



Jadine Morano, Fourth class (Ms Gillen)