



O'BRENNAN NS NEWSLETTER

Jan/ Feb/March 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Our return to school on March 1st has been a busy one with the celebration of 'Seachtain na Gaeilge', 'World Book Day' and of course 'St. Patrick's Day'. It is great to hear the laughter of pupils in the corridors once again after a strange start to Term 2.

The pupils are delighted to be back in school and experiencing normal school life. I want to commend them for their brilliant work during Remote Learning. Since their return to school, they have been fantastic; they have adapted once again to staying in their pods, staying in their bubble and being mindful of hand washing and all other COVID rules in order to stay as safe as is possible.

I must extend my sincere thanks to our staff, who have done everything they can to create the most normal school atmosphere that is possible for the pupils. I would also like to thank them for their hard work and dedication while remote learning also. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated team!

A special word of thanks to all parents that supported our school and helped out in any way to add to their children's' learning experience during Remote Learning.

Finally, I'd like to wish all pupils, staff and their families a very Happy Easter! Stay Safe and enjoy the break!

Looking forward to seeing you all again on April 12th 2021!

Le gach dea-ghuí
Michelle O' Brien

Dates/ Upcoming School events

- School closes at the usual time on Friday the 26th of March for Easter holidays.
- School re-opens on Monday 12th of April, 2021 at 9.00am

News from our Classrooms

Junior Infants

Junior Infants have had a very EGG-CITING four weeks back in school.

We took part in the shamrock challenge. This was great fun. After much practice we now know our right from our left.

Seachtain na Gaeilge we made our own Tayto Sandwiches. These were a real treat.

Junior Infants have now finished all their 42 Jolly Phonics Sounds and have begun revising. We have now started writing own sentences using all the phonics we have learned. We know 20 of our tricky words. Although they are called Tricky Words, they can't Tricky us here in Junior Infants. In maths we can now write and count the numbers 1 to 5. In Aistear we took part in a puppet show and listened to Mr Wolfes version of the Story of Little Red Riding Hood. We think he is a Liar and Very Sneaky. Stranger Danger was also a topic we learned about here.

Our notice board has our fabulous Art Work, Spring Lambs, Daffodils, Shamrocks and Easter Chicks.

We have had a lot of Birthdays here in Junior Infants in February Ciara and Cian which we celebrated on SeeSaw. In March we had Kevin.

Junior Infants are really looking forward to the Easter Bunny we even learned a song about the Easter Bunny "Hop Little Bunny Hop Hop Hop".

Have an EGG-CITING Easter
From Ms Carroll and all in Junior Infants.

Senior Infants

Senior Infants had a different return to school in January with distance learning. Well done to all the children and parents for the fantastic effort on Seesaw during this period; the engagement was excellent. The children have been busy since their return to school. In P.E. we are working on our gymnastics skills and practising different rolls.

We celebrated World book day and the children brought in their favourite book to share with their classmates. We also got to go outside to read 'Pig in the Pond' as a class.

The children really enjoyed Seachtain na Gaeilge and made a big effort to speak in Irish - An-mhaith buachaillí agus cailíní! The children really enjoyed getting dressed up for the Paráid sa chlós and taking part in the 'Shamrock challenge' dance. Well done to the colouring competition winners!

Last week we opened Green's Garden Centre in the classroom as part of Aistear and the children have been busy planting and looking after various bulbs. They really do have green fingers.

It has been a pleasure to see how the children have adapted to every situation that has been thrown at them - Ní neart go cur le chéile.

Enjoy the Easter break.
Mr. O' Neill

First Class / Second Class

A big shoutout to all the girls, boys and their parents for the tremendous work and fantastic engagement levels during the Lockdown! Well done!

The return to school in March saw lots of friends reunited with many events to celebrate!

We began with Engineer's Week by exploring fossil fuels and renewable energy. We participated in the Pinwheel challenge. It was lots of fun!

Next up, was World Book Day on March 4th. To mark it, we created our own mini-books and enjoyed an interactive show on the World Book Day Youtube channel 'Words and Pictures; Bringing books to life' with authors and illustrators Joseph Coelho, Fiona Lumbers, Lydia Monks and Tom Fletcher.

Then, we had a fantastic Seachtain na Gaeilge. The pupils did a great job performing the Shamrock Challenge. Riverdance hasn't a patch on us! Pupils used the 'Frásaí an lae' to earn a ticéad glas in the hopes they would earn a pas obair bhaile! Pupils also enjoyed a Tóraíocht Taisce outside and the cluiche Cén t-am é a mhac tíre? Other highlights included a Paráid sa chlós, Lá glas and a Comórtas dathúcháin. We also explored the legend The Brown Bull of Cooley and in music Irish instruments.

Second Class are delving into their novel 'One Wish' and we are almost finished! We practiced some mindfulness with feathers and made Compli-mats for a feel-good factor.

We completed an Easter themed S.T.E.M challenge too! Making catapults to launch the eggs - it was great fun! We measured the distance they travelled.

I wonder what term 3 will have in store for us, Cáisc shona daoibh go léir! 😊
Mrs. Corridan

Second Class/ Third Class

Dia daoibh go léir ó Rang a Dó agus a Trí

The past three months have been very busy and fun-filled. Between our remote learning and return to school here is a glimpse into school life in 2nd and 3rd Class since Christmas. During remote learning we carried out Science investigations on the water cycle, wrote poetry in English, did lots of lovely Art, sang songs in Irish and English and read lots. 2nd class did so well

learning all about 'Time' in Maths while 3rd class puts lots of hard work into multiplication and division. We learned about the Vikings and wrote our names in Viking Runes.

We found it fascinating to learn about the very first computers. We also had lots of fun doing our weekly fitness challenges like the 'Bop-it challenge, the 'Towel Fold' challenge, the 'Sock Shot Sit-up' challenge and even the 'Catch-a-Heart' challenge for Valentine's Day.

We really enjoyed our Zoom Well-being meetings, especially doing Show and Tell and having our very own Breakfast and Pyjamas' morning just before our midterm break. Since we had been doing so much learning online, upon our return to school we learned how computers send and receive information using binary digits. We learned how to write our names and ages in binary code.

We are trying our best to speak as much Gaeilge as possible and we are glad to say we are now even using a little Gaeilge during our lunchtime! We had great fun doing drama as Gaeilge during Seachtain na Gaeilge also. We made lovely dancing leprechauns for St Patrick's Day and we are very egg-cited to bring home our Funky Insta Bunnies for Easter.

We hope everyone has a happy and healthy break.

Ms Brosnan and her wonderful boys and girls in 2nd and 3rd class.

Fourth Class

4th class are all very happy to be back in school. We have had fun playing games together in maths and Irish all week. For Seachtain na Gaeilge we did lovely projects, baking and art work at home and took part in the Seachtain na Gaeilge dance challenge.

Back at school we had 'Trath na gCeist' table quiz which we all enjoyed.

Spring is in the air and we have been focusing on all things about Spring in Geography, English and Irish. The children created some lovely blossom tree prints using paint and cotton buds.

This week we are learning all about the Easter story, making Easter cards in Irish and clay easter eggs.

We look forward to being back at school for more fun and learning after Easter.

Ms Broderick

Fifth Class

Hi all,

Firstly, I want to compliment everyone for their work on See Saw. The work that was uploaded and the engagement during our remote learning has made the transition back into the classroom much easier.

The Zoom classes were so much fun from fitness, baking to quiz time. But now we can actually interact properly and on that note, we are absolutely delighted to be back in the classroom. Its only 2 weeks but the children and I are enjoying the catch-up

Last week for art we constructed a 3D shamrock and this week for Easter we are constructing a Sock Easter Bunny. The children were delighted to see Tom Joy our GAA coach return as it feels like school again.

Have a wonderful safe Easter

From all in 5th Class



Fifth/ Sixth Class

Greetings from the fifth and sixth class room. Everyone is delighted to return to school and we have had a wonderful couple of weeks since our return.

Firstly, I want to thank you all for the effort that was made during the online learning. I'm sure most of you will only ever want to see a seesaw in a playground again and not on a laptop!!

We have had a busy two weeks with the students completing projects on African countries that they learned about in February and also making Easter themed clay designs.

Wishing you all a wonderful Easter break.
Mr Sheehy

Green Schools

Our Green Schools Committee have been very busy of late. Fifth class carried out a Spring Clean in their localities as part of their remote learning while First and Second class carried out a Spring Clean on school grounds. They were very thorough and did a great job. Thanks to Mr Coffey and Ann Marie for their help on the day.

Our Green Schools committee urges everyone to keep their area litter free over Easter Holidays - Why not do a Spring Clean in your area with your family?

Ms. Slattery

Active Schools

Active Schools Week 2021 will take place on April 26th – 30th 2021.

We have a very exciting week planned and can't wait to share it with you all after the Easter Break. Our Active Schools Committee meet last week to planned the activities and also to complete our application form for renewal of our Active Flag.
Active Schools Committee

After- Schools Club

Our After Schools Club has been a hive of activity since we returned to school.

This month they made St Patrick's day art, Easter nests and had an Easter egg hunt around the school. It was lots of fun!

For further information on After-School Club please contact the office.

For pictures and images of some of the wonderful activities happening in O'Brennan NS please check out our school **Facebook** page!

