

Scoil Náisiúnta Mainistir Mhuigh Éo
Mayo Abbey N.S.
Claremorris, Co. Mayo

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Newsletter February 2019

CLOTHING COLLECTION

School Tours will be taking place in May/June.

To try and offset the cost of these tours we will be having a **used clothing collection** in March (this includes clothing, bedding, shoes, towels, curtains etc.) Duvets, pillows or cushions not taken.

Bags of clothing can be dropped off at the school any day on or before the **12th March**.

All money raised from the clothing collection will be allocated to the tour fund and this will reduce the cost of the tour for each child. (last year we raised €395 in total from this collection)

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION

Voluntary Contribution of €50 per family is now due. This money goes towards making up the shortfall in school as grant aid given to the school by the Department of Education is not sufficient to cover basic costs (e.g. Electricity/heating/insurance etc.). Thanks to all who have contributed so far.

AGREED REPORT

Following a Board of Management Meeting on 31st January, all of the agreed report is contained in the information in this newsletter. It is also available to read on the Parents Noticeboard in the school porch.

SCHOOL CLOSURES 2ND TERM

February 21 st /22 nd	Mid-Term Break
Monday 18 th March:	Bank Holiday
Friday 12 th April:	School closes for Easter Holidays
Monday 29 th April	School re-opens

Possible extra closures in 3rd term:

Local Elections polling date to be confirmed.

Whole school in-service day for implementation of new language curriculum: date yet to be confirmed.

ENROLMENT/STAFFING FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2019/2020

According to enrolment forms returned for September 2019, it now looks almost certain that our enrolment numbers will exceed the minimum number of children required to appoint a 4th classroom teacher.

According to Department regulations if our school has in excess of 84 children on roll on the 30th of September 2019 we can appoint a 4th teacher in September 2020. However, the Board of Management will be pushing hard to have a teacher in the school in September 2019.

SWIMMING

Swimming lessons for children (1st – 6th classes) will commence on Monday 1st April for 1st – 3rd classes and on Friday 5th April for 4th – 6th classes. Swimming lessons take place in Breaffy Leisure Centre and will continue for 6 weeks. The cost of swimming is €8 per child. This covers the bus and lessons.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Congratulations to Ciarán, Oran, James and Ryan who represented the school at the Cumann na mBunscol Sports Quiz in Ballindine on Wednesday 6th Feb. The boys finished in 2nd position and are now through to the County final later in the month. We wish them and their manager, Ms. Tuohy, the best of luck in the next round.
- Congratulations also to the boys and girls in 3rd/4th classes who took part in the Futsal Soccer competition before Christmas. The boys were the winners of their group in the A final while the girls were beaten finalists in their competition. Well done to both teams and thanks to Mr. Clarke who coached them so well.
- Well done to the two teams from our school who took part in the Credit Union Quiz on February 3rd in Claremorris. We were very well represented by Aaron, Andrew, Cathal and Maeve on the Senior Team and by Áine, Dara, Niall and Oran on the Junior Team.
- Rugby: Children are currently receiving some training sessions in rugby thanks to Connaught rugby.
- Shoebox appeal: Thank you to all who donated shoeboxes for the Team Hope Shoebox appeal which we take part in every year.
- Readathon: Thank you to all who took part in “Readathon” during the first term. A total of €1319.50 was raised by the children who took part, for MS Ireland. Congratulations to Ella Leslie who was the winner of a book review competition in this initiative.
- Handball: Well done to Cathal, Cian, Cillian, Ryan, James and Dara who recently took part in the Cumann na mBunscol handball competition.

GREEN FLAG

We are working on our 5th Green Flag for Biodiversity at present. The children completed a workshop with Martina Butler (Heritage Council). We will be developing some of the green area at the back of the school in the coming weeks to encourage biodiversity.

POLICIES

The following policies were ratified by the Board of Management at the last meeting.

Administration of Medicine Policy

Accident Policy

Attendance Policy

SPHE Policy

These policies are available to view on the school website or can be viewed in school if requested.

OPENING AND CLOSING TIMES

School starts in the morning at 9.20 and finishes, at 2pm for infants and 3pm for 1st-6th classes.

The school is open at 9.10am to receive children in the morning. The Board of Management accepts no responsibility for children before 9.10am, whether or not there are staff present in the school building.

A copy of this newsletter is available on the school website: www.mayoabbeyns.com