

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

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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2018

FAILTE AR AIS

A big welcome back to all of our students and staff for another school year.

We welcome seven new pupils to Mayo Abbey N.S.: Emily, Grace, Lauren, Matthew, Noah, Philip and Tristan have all joined us in Junior Infants. I hope that their time here in Mayo Abbey N.S. is happy and productive and that each one of them reaches their full potential.

There are now 80 children on roll in our school. This entitles us to 3 class teachers. An enrolment of 84 children is required for a 4th class teacher. We have 7 children in Sixth class to leave in June 2019. This means if we enrol 11 children for September 2019 we will have enough to appoint a 4th teacher. This will make a big difference in the school as it means that each teacher would then have two classes instead of three. We now have to consider accommodation for a 4th classroom...

WALKING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

It is great to see so many children walking and striding to and from school. Children have been reminded at school to observe the rules of the road at all times, especially when crossing the road. It is important to regularly remind your children at home about the rules of the road. For their own safety children are also asked not to climb/walk on walls or through shrub beds on their way home. Public footpaths should be used at all times. Once children leave school grounds the school is no longer responsible for their safety.

GREEN FLAG

The Green School Committee along with Mrs. Glynn and Ms. Shaw are resuming work on our 5th Green Flag for biodiversity. We hope to apply for this flag later in the school year. More information to follow at a later date.

ACTIVE FLAG

This year we will be taking part in the Active School Flag initiative. The aim of this initiative is to get more schools, more active, more often. It provides the school with a template to get more active in a fun and inclusive way. Research proves that active children focus and concentrate better, enjoy school more and present fewer behavioural difficulties, so an energised school day has educational as well as health benefits. Mr. Clarke is our Active School Flag Coordinator and he is taking charge of getting us active!

To start, we have registered for the "Tour of Europe" challenge. This involves running/walking to a chosen destination in Europe. At the moment we are on our way to Dublin. We will be doing laps of the pitch and each two laps that a child completes equates to 1km of the journey. Once we reach Dublin we will be visiting famous landmarks such as Big Ben, the Eiffel Tower, Leaning Tower of Pisa etc. we will have well-travelled children by the end of our Tour!

WORK ONGOING IN SCHOOL

Thanks to all the members of TÚS who painted the school during the summer holidays

CLOTHING COLLECTION.

As you know we have held clothing collections for the past number of years to help cut the cost of school tours. We will be holding another collection next **March** to help with tours again so please bear this in mind if you are having a clear out (this includes clothing, bedding, shoes, towels, curtains, soft toys etc.)!

CURRICULAR AND EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Cross Country: Well done to all the children who took part in the South Mayo Cross Country championship which was held at the race course in Ballinrobe on Sept. 13th.
- Children in the senior room took part in the mini 7's football blitz recently in Began. While they didn't progress to the next round they acquitted themselves quite well in all their games.
- Readathon: We are again taking part in the READATHON initiative (All classes). This is a **voluntary** activity and all monies raised through sponsorship go to MS IRELAND. We would encourage all children to take part and read regardless of whether they collect sponsorship or not.
- Futsal: A team of 3rd and 4th class boys and girls will take part in a Futsal competition in Breaffy in the coming weeks
- Some of the children in the senior classes will take part in a football blitz in Balla Secondary School later in the month.
- Athletics: Children from Mayo Abbey N.S. are attending Claremorris Athletic Track for a training session with qualified coaches during this school term. This initiative is organised by Mayo Sports Partnership.
- Children are taking part in the Credit Union Poster competition.

There will be other activities that the children will be involved in throughout the school year and you will be notified about them as they arise.

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.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEETING

There was a Board of Management meeting on Tuesday 2nd October. This newsletter contains all the information in the agreed report from that meeting and will be posted up on the Parents Noticeboard in the school porch.

Reminders:

- Thanks to all who have paid the **School Book Rental bill**. There are however some monies still outstanding. Receipts have been issued to all those who have paid. If you have not received a receipt, please contact the school.
- Photographer will be in school on Friday October 19th.
- School rules. A copy is attached to this newsletter. Please go through the rules with your child/children at home to make sure they are fully understood. These rules are in place to ensure the health and safety of all our children and to maintain a happy and clean environment in our school.
- If for any reason parents need to speak to a teacher during the school day please contact the secretary to arrange an appointment.
- Letter attached with information about treating head lice. While we have no reports of head lice in the school since we returned in September please be vigilant and check your child's hair **at least** once a week.

A copy of this newsletter can be found on the school website: www.mayoabbeyns.com