

Fresh Today Hurling 365 Skills Competition

Well done to Robbie Dempsey who won the Hurling 365 skills competition and will represent Ballymurn Ns this coming Friday night at 6.30pm in Wexford Park in the county final. Well done also to Charlie Healy, who was selected as most improved Hurling 365 player in 4th class, who will receive a presentation on the night.

All members of our school community and GAA club are welcome and encouraged to attend to support the boys. It would be great if as many pupils as possible put on their club colours and gave Charlie and Robbie their support on the night. As a school we extend a huge thank you to all parents and club volunteers who make such a huge effort to have 365 twice a week for our pupils before school.

Grandparents' Day

Another wonderful Grandparents Day took place in our school on February 5th. We extend a huge thank you to the Parents' Association members who gave so generously of their time to provide refreshments for our many visitors. We also thank all staff members and Fr. Finn for the huge effort that was made to ensure that our visitors got to experience a lovely mass and visit to our school. This day was thoroughly enjoyed by all of our pupils and staff, and we really hope our visitors enjoyed it just as much.



Child Safeguarding Statement - Our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is available on our school website, or a copy can be acquired by the school. The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) in Ballymurn NS is Ms. Emer O'Gorman and the Deputy DLP is Ms. Chloe Ormonde. If you have any concerns regarding child protection, please contact the DLP, or in her absence, the Deputy DLP.

Lá Glas- Seachtain na Gaeilge

We will celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge in school from the 10th-13th March. There are lots of activities organised for the week, which will culminate on Thursday 13th with a Lá Glas (Green Day), where everyone is invited to wear something green to celebrate our national culture and language.

Gaelic Football Coaching

We extend our sincere thanks to Dylan O'Brien, who has been providing Gaelic football coaching to each class every Tuesday since Christmas. Dylan voluntarily has given up his day each Tuesday since Christmas to come in and coach Gaelic football in the school. Every class really enjoyed it and we look forward to hopefully having Dylan in again in the future.

Ballymurn 5k

Due to the inclement weather conditions, we were disappointed to have to postpone our Ballymurn 5k in January. The new date is Sunday, May 18th and we ask all members of the school community to put it in the diaries and invite all family, friends and the wider community to join us on the day.

Book Fair February 10th - 14th

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent Book Fair. We are delighted to announce that the school now has credit of €1,050.00 to spend on books for our classrooms!

Uniform

Please ensure that your child wears the correct school uniform of navy tracksuit and blue polo shirt each day. Please ensure that children adhere to jewellery rules, which stipulate that only stud earrings may be worn. False nails are also not permitted in school. These two points are of particular importance as jewellery and false nails are not safe for P.E and yard games. We also ask that children wear velcro runners until they are able to tie their shoelaces. Please ensure to teach your child to do this when they are able, as it is an important life skill.

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Pancake Tuesday

The Student Council will hold their annual Pancake Tuesday fundraiser next week. They are asking for a monetary donation of your choice from each child for their pancake. Members of the Parents' Association have kindly agreed to come in and help with the cooking. The Student Council are asking for donations of toppings. While some Nutella is a nice treat it would be lovely to see some extra fruit & yogurts as a healthy option ☺

Handball

Well done to John Whelan who represented the school in Rackard League Handball in St Joseph's Community Hall yesterday.

Credit Union Schools Quiz

The Credit Union Schools Quiz took place in the Riverside Park Hotel on Sunday, February 9th. Well done to our U11 team of Mikey Cummins, Amber O'Toole, Finn Roche and John Whelan and our U13 team of Caoimhe Walsh, Jackson Kehoe, Tara Murphy and Jacob Hennessy who represented Ballymurn N.S. on the day.

Cricket

Ms. Morrissey recently undertook a cricket coaching course, which meant she then got some free cricket equipment for the school. Ms. Sheehan's class have really enjoyed playing cricket during P.E. over the last number of weeks under Ms. Morrissey's guidance, when the teachers swap classes and Ms. Sheehan teaches French to 6th class.

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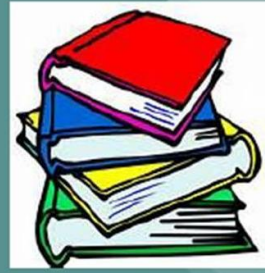
Rackard League Handball

Well done to John Whelan in 3rd Class who represented the school in St Joseph's Community Centre yesterday in the inter schools Rackard League Handball Competition.

Dates for your Diary

- March 6th - First Confession
- March 7th - World book day celebration
- Márta 10ú -13ú - Seachtain na Gaeilge
- March 11th - School Photos
- March 14th, 17th & 18th - School Closed on these dates for St Patrick's Day
- April 1st - FAI Primary 5Aside Boys
- April 8th - FAI Primary 5Aside Girls
- April 11th - School will finish at 12.15pm for all pupils for Easter break
- April 28th - School reopens for all pupils at 9.20am
- May 5th - School Closed May Bank Holiday
- May 10th - First Holy Communion 11am
- May 18th - Ballymurn 5K
- May 29th, 30th & June 1st - School closed on these dates

World Book Day Ballymurn NS March 7th 2025



- Design an alternative book cover for your favourite book
- 2D or 3D designs
- Use recycled materials and be creative!
- A school tour to view all the creative designs will take place on March 7th
- We can't wait to see all the creativity :)

Class Reports

Ms O'Gorman's Infants

It's been a busy term in Junior and Senior Infants, and we have covered a lot of ground since Christmas!

The main themes that we have covered and used as part of our integrated play area were 'Polar Explorers' and 'The Farm'. The children learned lots about the Inuit and various polar animals. We covered the weather in Geography during this time, and the weather diaries kept by the children in January made for some bleak reading! We created some beautiful polar bear art, and explored the fabric and fibre strand of art to create some outfits that were suitable for the winter weather. We covered the themes of 'An Aimsir' agus 'Eádaí' sa Ghaeilge, and everybody is now very confident speaking as Gaeilge on these two topics. Some beautiful farm themed art work was created by the children too, and there are some very realistic pigs on display in the classroom at present. We learned about new life in Spring, and baby animals and plants. We are kicking off our Incredible Edibles programme this week, and we will keep you all updated as we endeavour to grow our own strawberries, potatoes and onions.

In English, we've been working on the comprehension strategy of 'prediction' and we've listened to some lovely farm stories. Our phonological awareness, phonics and reading has been progressing really well, and Junior Infants are very proud to be able to say they are now reading decodable readers at home each night, and really enjoying them. Senior Infants reading is also going from strength to strength. We continue to do lots of free writing, handwriting and dictation practise also.

The new Primary Maths Curriculum is being enjoyed by all in Infants, and everybody is really enjoying the playful learning experiences that we have been having, particularly during our maths stations time, when we are joined by Ms. Kehoe and Ms. Barrett.

In P.E., we've really enjoyed learning some new Gaelic Football skills with Dylan.

Ms Lawlor's 1st Class

Over the past two months the children have made fantastic progress with their cursive handwriting. They've been very enthusiastic and are making a big effort to learn the correct formation of the letters, writing them clearly and neatly. They are beginning to join the letters to write their names and words and very soon we'll be moving on to writing short sentences too.

Another new skill that they've made great strides in is Irish reading. Ms Sheehan's 4th and 5th have been pairing up with our class every Monday to read with their Irish books with them. This has been a fun way to practice our reading!

Our Aistear play has helped the children to learn more about rainforests, the weather and space. The children have created some lovely artwork such as tropical birds made from clay, toucan drawings and a printing of planet Earth in space. We have explored the Water Cycle and we are growing our own rainforest in bottle to observe how the water cycle works. We've discussed different weather patterns and how weather is measured. We were very excited to measure the rainfall and the children were fascinated by how acorns change according to the weather!

Even though the children have been busy learning, the highlight of the last few weeks was definitely their grandparents and parents visit to our classroom. That was the best day ever!

Ms Sutton's 2nd & 3rd Class

Hello from 2nd and 3rd class. A few weeks ago we did a sugar investigation on our teeth we looked at the sugar in food. We figured out that there is a lot of sugar in a chocolate cake!!

We also built our own bridges. At my table we used wooden spoons and cardboard. Everyone used different things to make their bridge. We had to estimate if it would hold a toy car. Every-ones bridge held up the car.

We also had Grandparents day, first there was mass and then the grandparents came back for tea and biscuits it was a lovely day.

3rd class has been helping 2nd class to practice their prayers for their First Confession. They are working really hard to learn them.

In 2nd and 3rd we were reading a novel called 'The Diary of a Killer Cat' it was very interesting and funny.

We also did a project on Egypt we learned about the Pyramids and the Sphinx. We also learned about Mummies and the Golden Masks on the Pharaoh.

Last week all of 2nd and 3rd played a blitz in Blackwater, we had two teams. There was a white team and a green team we played against Screen and Curraclloe. We all played 2 matches and really enjoyed the day. We had no homework that day.

We have been learning some really nice songs and my favourite song is "Let it be" by the Beatles We also made our own projects on The Stone Age. We made a booklet. We tea stained the cover with wet tea bags they turned out very nice. We also learned how to write our name in Ogham it was very interesting. Did you know the Stone Age people used lines instead of letters?!

Go raibh maith agat Penny Parle- Rang a trí

Ms Sheehan's 4th & 5th Class

Baking Day: We were rewarded with a baking day for good behaviour in class. We split into groups and made cookies and brownies. We brought in all our own ingredients and took turns with the instructions. It took a long time to be baked but it was all worth it in the end. They were delicious!

Sports: We have enjoyed GAA sessions with our coach Dylan. That was fun. We have also learned how to play cricket with Ms. Morrissey. That was interesting too. 5th Class enjoyed yoga this morning while 4th class took part in a hurling blitz in Blackwater.

Art Exhibition: On 31st January we had a class art exhibition. We got to display all our art and the school and all our parents came in to see it. We got lots of nice comments and it was lovely to see everyone. Everyone's art was really good. We learned how to draw portraits. We are now exploring colour. We mixed 3 primary colours last week to make new colours.

Farming: We had a webinar yesterday with Tillage Farmer Shay Galvin organised by Agriaware. It was very interesting and today we are writing a report about what we have learned.

Ms Morrissey's 6th Class Pupils Reports

J.E.P.

JEP stands for Junior Entrepreneur Programme. It's where the 6th Class open a business and sell something in the school. It is a very fun experience and I think the whole of 6th class are going to enjoy it a lot.

We had a visit from an entrepreneur, Annemarie Wade. She made JDU Fitness and she came to our class and talked about how she started her business and a bit about it.

Then we had Ms O'Gorman, Leanna, Monica and Damian do Dragon's Den. Four groups did a sales pitch to the Dragons and the Dragons decided what would be best to do. In the end they decided the best to do would be jewellery. So now our big idea is jewellery and we can't wait to get started.

By Tyler O'Toole

Grandparents Day

Our 6th class designed art using different materials for our Grandparents. We also wrote acrostic poems for them.

The Parents Association and staff helped with tea and coffee in our classroom.

The Grandparents got to see the classrooms and sit down and enjoy tea and biscuits.

Everyone had a great day!

By Tara Murphy

French

6th class started learning French this month with Ms Sheehan. They learned about how to say hello, goodbye, the colours, the days of the week, the months of the year and the numbers from 0-20.

They also learned to ask and answer questions like 'How are you? What age are you? What's your name and where are you from?'

We really loved it! Au revoir!

By Ellie Sheehan

Crescent Class

The Crescent Class have been very busy settling back into school life since the Christmas break. In January our theme was 'The Arctic.' We spent time playing in exploratory sensory trays with snow and ice, learning about arctic animals and creating arctic scenes in art. Our favourite animal was the polar bear and we wrote a fact file on this animal.

We have absolutely LOVED spending time in our new sensory room and this has definitely been the highlight of the term! The children enjoy watching the sensory lights, sliding into the ball pit, climbing the climbing wall and jumping on the trampoline. This space has been so important for regulation and of course fun!

In maths we have been learning about fractions and we made pizza to test out how we would divide it up among our friends. In English we have practised summarising stories, writing fact files and writing recipes.

Our February theme is 'Friendship' and the children have been learning about what makes a good friend. We interviewed some of our peers in mainstream classes and had great fun asking them questions and answering theirs. We have been learning the song 'You've Got a Friend in Me,' using Lámh signs and one of our talented pupils is learning to play it on the piano as well. We are looking forward to hosting an assembly on Friday for the whole school.



Community Notices

Crossabeg Ballymurn Ladies Gaelic Football Club

Training will be starting back in March and we are hoping to recruit more girls into our club and to support women in sport. We run an all-inclusive club and the main aim of our organisation is to teach skills, exercise, make friendships and have fun.

**TRY LADIES GAELIC FOOTBALL WITH
CROSSABEG BALLYMURN LGFC**

GIRLS AGED 5+

EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING IN CROSSABEG COMMUNITY
PITCH

OUR COMMUNITY PITCH IS A HIVE OF ACTIVITY EVERY
WEDNESDAY EVENING WITH ALL AGE GROUPS TRAINING.
WE FOSTER AN ALL INCLUSIVE APPROACH. OUR AIM IS
TO LEARN NEW SKILLS, BUILD FRIENDSHIPS, GET
MOVING IN THE OUTDOORS AND TO HAVE FUN!!!

PLEASE MESSAGE 0879041268
TO BE ADDED TO YOUR DAUGHTER'S AGE
APPROPRIATE WHATSAPP GROUP