



**Newsletter
June 2024**

Gaelcoil Faithleann Parents Council Cairde na Scoile



We started the year with a celebration to mark Grandparent's Day in January, which as always was a wonderful event.

International Day in March was a colourful, fun event with music, food and sport and a celebration of the more than 20 cultures represented in the school.

We had a wonderful party in the Halla for communion children and their families in April. Our new N. Bheagas had their induction day in June and we were on hand with teas and coffees to welcome their parents in. Our uniform swap shop ended the year.

A very big thank you to everyone who helped all year especially the great team of Class Reps who keep all parents informed and in the loop of what is happening. A very happy and healthy summer to you all, and we look forward to more activities in the next school year!



This school year saw the setting up of a Club Bricfeasta in the Gaelcoil, in response to a need highlighted by parents to be able to drop their child early to school. The Club is open every school morning from 8am and all parents are welcome to use it. Children in the club are given breakfast, and can play with toys, or read until the bell goes! It is a great additional service to the school. The fee is minimal and children can be booked in for one day or all five! It is very flexible. For more information or to book in, contact Caroline on 0838915953.

International Day / Lá Idirnáisiúnta

On March 20th there was a riot of colour at the Gaelcoil as we celebrated International Day! There are approx. 21 different nationalities represented in the school and it was great to include parents from different countries in making this day special. An international cookbook was produced and distributed online to each family in the school. We had music from the Ukrainian choir and Brazilian martial art, 'Capoeira' from Wilson da Silva. Parents spoke to classes about their country of origin, about the food, schools, culture and answered questions! A wonderful day celebrating our diversity.



Leabhar Oidís le haghaidh Lá Idirnáisiúnta 2024
International Day 2024 Recipe Book

We want to recognise and celebrate all the different nationalities and cultures represented by families in the school. As part of this we asked parents to submit recipes from their country of origin - thank you to all of those who gave us a recipe. For the other countries we have included a dish to represent them. Apologies if we have missed any country - please let us know if we have.
International Day is a great opportunity for the children to learn first-hand about different cultures.



"We rise by lifting others" - Robert Ingersoll

Grandparents Day



We were delighted to have Grandparents Day on Jan 26th. The Halla was full to the brim on the day—a wonderful event with Fr Joe giving a blessing and there was entertainment from the school choir and others.

As well as entertainment, and tea and cake in the Halla, the grandparents got the chance to visit their grandchildren's classrooms and see and hear from the children—a truly special day.

Finances...€€€

There were lots of fundraising activities throughout the year, with mufti days, clothes collections and the Wine and Art event, which in itself raised us a great €1,870. The Church gate collection in September was also a good fundraiser—€1,081.13. Mufti days raised €1,061 and the used clothes collections €490.

The money raised was used to bring activities and events to the school. We paid for yoga/pilates classes (€1,200), Communion party (€340), Christmas movie night (€540), along with other events and expenses. These included items such as, Tea and Tissues coffee morning, International Day, Grandparents Day, Induction Day, Easter and Christmas chocolates and graduation day tea/coffees and gift packs. Thank you again for all the great support.



Communion party

We hosted our traditional Communion Party in the Halla again this year, and what a great day it was. After the mass, the families came back to the Halla for teas, coffees and cakes, with the children getting special treat bags. We had organised for photographer, Ian Cronin, to be there to take family photos for those who had booked in with him. Thanks to all the parents who helped on the day, and who donated lovely food. As always it is a very special part of the communion day.



**Parents Council meetings—
2nd Tuesday of each term in
the Halla—starting Sep 10th
at 7.30pm—all welcome!**

Hot lunches

We were sad to say good bye to KASI and the lovely hot lunches they had cooked in the school for the past number of years. We made a 'thank you' presentation from all parents to KASI. Under the Government Free meals initiative we are delighted to have the Lunch Bag delivering a free hot meal everyday to each child.



"In a world where you can be anything, be kind" - Roald Dahl

Farewell to Seán O'Luanaigh



The Chairperson of the Board of Management, Seán Ó Luanaigh retired in February after 34 years in the role! We organised a coffee morning in the Halla to bid him farewell and to thank him for all he has done for the school. The choir and some classes provided entertainment. Go raibh míle maith agat Seán!

Charity Fundraising

We held several fundraisers during the year— GOAL Jersey day in October and gift giving for St Columbanus home and Killarney Nursing Home at Christmas. We had a pyjama day as fundraiser for the Jack & Jill foundation. We also were involved in collecting old shoes for charity. Thank you to all for your generosity.



Induction for new N Bheagas

As a welcome for new N. Bheagas parents at their induction day we organised teas and coffees in the Halla, and a cupcake for each child.



Sport and other activities

Well done to children who did so well representing the Gaelscoil in sporting and other activities from Super Sevens Basketball, to Cumann na mBunscol football, to Oireachtas na Samhna. to the Credit Union quiz —we are proud of you all!



"Don't let anyone dull your sparkle!" - Doreen Virtue

Good luck to Rang 6



Back row from left: Ellie, Brodie, Kayla, Lauren Ní Sh, Evie, Emma, Elisa, Lauren Ní D, Aoibh, Mícheoir Treasa. Middle row from left: Christian, Jack, Seán, Mia Nic Ch, Mathú, Míche, Sophie, Mia Nic Mh, Ava, Christopher, Ryan, Leah and Libby. Front row from left: Caoimhe, Max, Abbie, Nathan, Aoife, Conor, Róisín and Orlaith. (Missing from pic is Dáil)

Rang 6 Yearbook

This year again we have produced a Yearbook for Rang 6 capturing all their memories from their years in Gaelscoil Faithleann—thanks to the class and M. Treasa for pulling so much information together.



Class Reps—thank you



Thank you to all the Class Reps for keeping parents in their classes informed all year—it is a great link .. feel free to contact them if you ever have a query. Our Facebook group also has all relevant information posted.

NB – Siobhán O'Regan and Sarah Lamswood

NM – David Byrne and Eleanor Glynn

R-1 – Marie Linehan and Ruth Dowling

R-2 – Angela Mannix

R-3 – Michelle Sweeney

R-4 – Anne Cronin and Breeda Burke

R-5 – Laura Fleming

R-6 – Caroline Cox

Any parent coming into N.Bheaga this September interested to be Class Rep for their class, get in touch!

A very big thank you to M. Lisa all the teachers, Erin in the office and all the staff of the school, for everything all year — we all appreciate it!



Go raibh maith agat

BEIR BUA

Good luck to our Rang 6 who finished in the school on June 25th. You will be missed! All the very best to you all in your future journey...the next chapter begins! A huge thank you to M. Treasa for all she has done with the class all year.

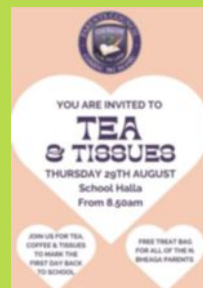
Of the 31 families in Rang 6, 13 are leaving the Gaelscoil for good, as their youngest/only child graduates. A very special goodbye to those families — you will all be missed from the Gaelscoil community.

Goodbyes are not forever, are not the end; it simply means I'll miss you until we meet again.

A look forward



We will start the next school year with our welcome coffee morning 'Tea and Tissues' on our first day back—Thurs Aug 29th. Come into the Halla after drop off and meet other parents. We will have a 'welcome pack' for each new N. Bheaga parent..



Other planned events:

- ♦ Family fun walk—Sep 15th
- ♦ Family quiz - Oct/Nov

All details to follow after the hols!



REMEMBER IT'S OUR PARENTS COUNCIL TO HELP OUR CHILDREN'S SCHOOLING