

June 2018



CHORMAIC'S NEWS

All the latest news from Scoil Chormaic CNS, Balbriggan.

In this issue:

- Principal's welcome
- Class in Focus: Ms. Hughes' 4th Class
- Intercultural Day
- School Tours
- Active Week
- Updates from the Student Council
- Thank You to the Parents Association
- Goodbye's from our first ever 6th Class kids

Welcome to the Summer edition of our newsletter

Dear parents and guardians. Welcome to the summer edition of our newsletter. Our fictional 'Chormaic' characters for this edition are below:



Left: Weronika from Ms Lynch's class created this representation of 'Chormaic'.



Above: A creation from Nifemi from Mr McElligott's 5th class.

Right: Yvonne from Ms Breen's 4th class designed this artwork.



Dear Families,

This year was our first ever graduation of sixth class pupils from this school. We gathered on the evening of 15th June to celebrate the graduation of 6th class pupils of the year 2010 to 2018. I have taken some extracts of what I spoke about on the night to remind you all what a significant event this was for us all and to wish the 6th class every success on their journey.

This class is a particularly special class. They are the very first group of children to go through this school from junior infants to 6th class. They are now leaving us to continue their journey of education into second level. Some of the pupils have been with me from the start of the school on September 1st 2010. Many others have joined along the way. They have embodied the ethos of our school in that they have nurtured every new staff member that has come to our school. They have cherished every new member of their classes. Making them feel part of their group. This is a unique feature of this class.

Sixth class, you should know that your families are very proud of you. They, as we do in Scoil Chormaic CNS, have high hopes for you, and they believe in you, and you are making them proud by showing what you can do. The Graduation evening was an important day for you and for them. They are very, very proud of you. So congratulations to all of the graduates, congratulations to the parents, and finally, congrats to the teachers and everyone else who helped our graduates reach here today.

I'll leave you with this final quote, from a great author with whom I imagine you are all familiar, by the name of Dr. Seuss. *"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself in any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. You are the guy who'll decide where to go."*

I wish all of our students and their families a very enjoyable summer holiday. Please read lots over the summer. Any pupil that returns to school in September with a completed summer reading buzz card from the library will be given a homework pass from me!

Kind regards
Deirdre Corcoran

Class in Focus — Ms Hughes' Fourth Class



Our Class News

Hello everyone! We are Ms Hughes' 4th class and we are excited to show you what we have been doing throughout this school year! We have learned about so many new things this year, including the Celts, the skeleton and the bog.

The Bog

We have been learning about the bog during the last few months in 4th class. Ms Hughes brought in pieces of turf for us from a bog in Mayo and for some of us this was our first time to see and touch turf. We also learned about the plants and animals in the bog and did some chalk art work on a scene from the

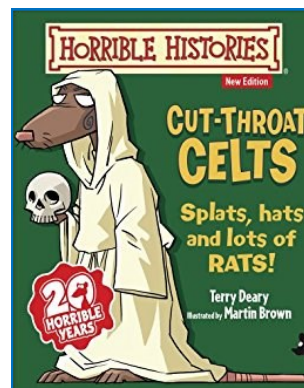


Skeletons

We have been learning about the Skeleton in 4th class. There are 206 bones in an adult body. Our Skeleton protects our organs including, the heart, the brain and the lungs. We created life size skeletons by lying down on the paper and drawing an outline of one person's body and then filling in their bones.

The Celts

We have been learning about the Celts as part of our history lessons and have been reading the 'horrible history' book about it. Irish people are descendants from the Celts and the book has taught us about the games which the Celts invented that have survived through the ages including, 'cloth knife, stone' which is now known as 'rock, paper, scissors' and Hurling commonly known as 'Hurling'.



Roots of Empathy

Since October of this year we have been participating in the Roots of Empathy programme in our class. Roots of Empathy is a very special programme that helps children build empathy and develop emotional literacy. Levi has been our teacher for the year, even though he is one 1 year old and has helped us to develop and understand our own feelings and show and feel empathy.

Thank you to Ms O'Gorman for facilitating our lessons and a big thank you to Levi and his mum Ciara for visiting us this year and teaching us all about empathy.

School Tours

Junior Infants went on their School Tour to Imaginosity, an interactive children's museum in Dundrum. While the children were there, their imagination came to life. The teachers got treated to an excellent lunch in the diner where the children cooked and served our food! We climbed our way up to the garden after some food to discover the wonders of the little magical creatures that live on the roof!



Senior Infants went on tour to Woolly Wards Farm. They had a great time interacting and handling the animals.

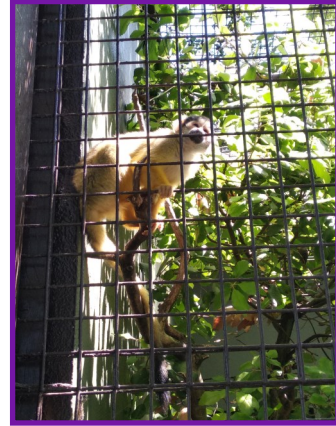


1st Class went on tour to Fort Lucan Outdoor Adventure Land on the 8th of June. It was a great day. There was Crazy Golf, a zipline, high tower walks and a playground. It was a very sunny and hot day, and we got to try one of the water slides. That was a fun way to cool down!



More from our School Tours!

For their school tour, **3rd Class** went to Dublin Zoo. The students and teachers had a great day exploring the zoo and learning about lots of different animals from all over the world. We also showed off our monkey talents while climbing and playing in the playgrounds.



5th and 6th Class had a great time on their school tour at Base Camp East in Co. Wicklow. They learned some amazing survival skills such as how to make fire and cook fish. They also made pine needle tea and even cooked and ate nettles!



Active Week

The 18th to the 22nd of June was Active Week in our school. Children and staff members had the chance to get involved in loads of sports, exercise and outdoor activities. These included Sports Day in O'Dwyers, 'Wake and Shake', bouncy castles, Frisbee lessons, War Fitness, playground games, basketball, a Gaelic Blitz, giant jenga, skipping rope games, obstacle courses and much more. Each class took part in a variety of races too; including running races, egg and spoon races, wheelbarrow races, three-legged races and sack races. The children who came 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each class were presented with a medal at our Active Week Assembly. To celebrate a fabulous week of fun, the children had an ice-cream party on Friday.



5th and 6th Class Gaelic Blitz

On Thursday 14th June, we participated in the annual 5th/6th class Gaelic football blitz in O Dwyer's. This blitz is organised by Bracken ETNS and all of the school from the area are invited to participate. The team played 5 games in total and came out on top in 2 of those games, very narrowly missing out on a semi final spot. "As a team, we played very well and got the furthest Scoil Chormaic have ever got to in a tournament and Fremid scored the most points!" said Martin and Chen who were two of the stars on the day.

The organisers of the blitz said that Scoil Chormaic CNS were without doubt the most improved team and massive credit goes not only to those who played on the day but the entire panel of players who have played for the school over the past three years. Thanks a million to Mr Lacey and Ms King who managed the team on the day. Continued thanks also to Harry Hire and Tara Thiesen who sponsored our first set of jerseys/shorts which our team is still proudly wearing!

Matches

- St.Terasas vs Scoil Chormaic (9-6)
- St.Georges vs Scoil Chormaic (6-9)
- Hedgestown vs Scoil Chormaic (7-9)
- Gaelscoil Baile Brigin vs Scoil Chormaic (12-3)
- Gaelscoil Baile Brigin vs Scoil Chormaic (9-7)

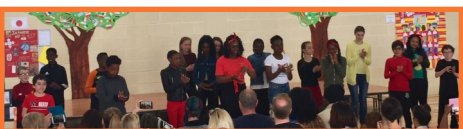
Players

Martin, Ezequiel, Fremid, Hamdan, Chen, Alex, Katelyn, Cindy, Anthony, Ben, Selassi



Intercultural Day

Intercultural Day was a great success again this year! Thank you to all the parents who came to see the children perform—they were brilliant! Below are pictures from the two days.



Dates for your Diary:

Children return to school on Thursday August 30th.



Getting Ready for Next Year:

- All booklists are available from the school and on the school website.
- Please clearly label all books, jumpers, cardigans and other belongings with your child's name.

Pupil book review

Book Review by Alice Currivan

Title: The Magic Faraway Tree

Author: Enid Blyton

Fiction or Nonfiction: Fiction

What is the book about? Four children have an adventure in the enchanted wood in a magic faraway tree.

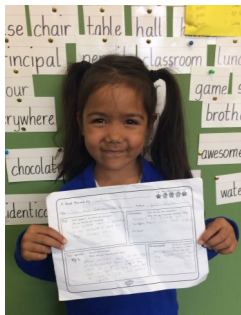
Who are the characters?

Moonface Joe, Frannie, Beth, Saucepan man, Silkly, Connie, Mother, Father

What did you think of the book?

I liked the book. My favourite part was when everyone went to the land of enchantments three people were stuck in a spell. Saucepan man had a spell to free them but he lost it up his kettle spout. I would recommend it because someone might like to read it.

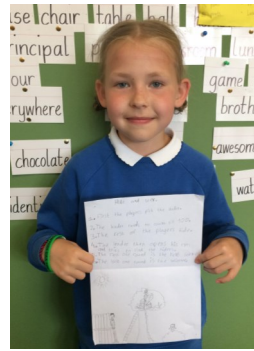
Rating:



Pupil's Writing

Hide and Seek by Elza Zustere

1. First the players pick the leader.
2. The leader needs to count till 100.
3. The rest of the players hide.
4. The leader then opens his eyes and tries to find the hiders.
5. The first one found is the next seeker.
6. The last one found is the winner.



4th Class History Walking Tour

At the beginning of June, our class went on a historical walking tour with local historian, David Sorensen. David brought us to lots of historical sites and told us all about the history of Balbriggan including: the founding of Balbriggan and the Hamiltons; Balbriggan's Mills; George's Square; the viaduct and arrival of the railway; the Sack of Balbriggan; the Hosiery factories; the harbour; the Banks and Maritime Balbriggan. We learnt many interesting facts about Balbriggan. For example, did you know that Balbriggan was once a town of mills? And that many children, some as young as five years old had to work in these mills! Balbriggan was also famous for its stockings and fine hosiery known as "Balbriggans". At one time, three hosiery factories were established here and their high-quality hosiery won gold medals at many international exhibitions. They even made stockings for the Queen of England!

If you would like to learn more about the history of Balbriggan, David Sorensen and co-author Petra Skyvova have written a very informative booklet entitled "Balbriggan Heritage Trail". This booklet is available at the local tourist office on George's Square.



Thank You to our Parent's Association!

The staff of Scoil Chormaic CNS would like to sincerely thank, first and foremost our Parents' Association (both sitting and previous members), and of course our families and wider school community, for the organisation of, and support for, the ongoing successful fundraising initiatives which have been of huge benefit to our pupils.

One of the most recent allocations of these fundraising dividends, directed towards the science curriculum, and at the Infant levels - science taught through the Aistear curriculum - will further complement our teaching and active learning across all class levels from J1 to 6th class. See pictures of the equipment below.

We are so greatly appreciative of the PA's continued support and commitment to Scoil Chormaic, and contained within, their enacting of the ethos of community national schools; nurture, cherish, educate - staff, parents and pupils together.



Update from the Student Council

As the year draws to a close, Ms Kelly and Ms Downes wish to extend a huge thanks to the School Council for all their hard work this year, and wish a fond farewell to our Sixth Class pupils who are heading off to secondary school. The School Council undertook a lot of roles this year, most notably the founding of our School Siopa which has been a huge success. Our current Fourth and Fifth Class representatives will be back in September to help support the election campaigns of other pupils wishing to join the Student Council. Watch this space!

Sixth Class School Council representatives running the School Siopa



Assisting teachers and younger pupils at Intercultural Day



The School Council thanking Friends of Autism & ADHD, and Balbriggan Men's Shed for our beautiful buddy bench.



Our School's First Graduation Class

On Friday the 15th of June 2018, Scoil Chormaic CNS held a Graduation Ceremony for our 6th Class students as they prepare to finish their time with us and move on to secondary school.



Congratulations!!!

Farewell Messages from our 6th Class

Abbie

My favourite memory: When I was in Senior Infants and the girl's bathroom was out of order!

My piece of advice: Use the boy's bathroom if you have to!

Stefania

My favourite memory: The 6th class disco!

My piece of advice: Be nice to everyone.

Wojciech

My favourite memory: The sports days.

My piece of advice: Listen to teachers and respect them.

Patrick

My favourite memory: A movie day in first class.

My piece of advice: Never be something that you're not.

Evelina

My favourite memory: The ice cream van on sports day.

My piece of advice: Tell someone if there is someone making fun of you.

Seri

My favourite memory: Our basketball games with St Georges.

My piece of advice: Always be proud of yourself.

Adja

My favourite memory: When I joined the school in 4th class.

My piece of advice: Tell somebody if you are getting bullied.

More Farewell Messages from our 6th Class

Leule

My favourite memory: Moving to Balbriggan and joining Scoil Chormaic CNS.

My piece of advice: Be friendly to others.

Martin

My favourite memory: Playing against St Georges in basketball.

My piece of advice: Try your best.

Christian

My favourite memory: When I fell and ripped my bottoms.

My piece of advice: Always do your homework!

Ezequiel

My favourite memory: When we started our Gaelic team.

My piece of advice: Try your best in everything that you do.

Scott

My favourite memory: When I joined the school and met Jason and Katie.

My piece of advice: Be respectful to others.

Deborah

My favourite memory: Going to the school disco.

My piece of advice: Always have good friends around you.

Zoe

My favourite memory: Joining Scoil Chormaic CNS.

My piece of advice: Be nice to everyone.

More Farewell Messages from our 6th Class

Markas

My favourite memory: When I was practising basketball on yard.

My piece of advice: Work hard at everything.

Oliwia

My favourite memory: When we had an ice-cream and music party.

My piece of advice: Make lots of friends.

Katelyn

My favourite memory: Playing as a team during basketball.

My piece of advice: Have lots of confidence.

Claudia

My favourite memory: My confirmation.

My piece of advice: Listen in class.

Kamile

My favourite memory: My confirmation.

My piece of advice: You should do your homework every-day.

Ben

My favourite memory: Doing hurling in 6th class.

My piece of advice: Best of luck in all that you do.

Alex Ajayi

My favourite memory: Playing basketball in 5th class.

My piece of advice: Keep your friends close.

More Farewell Messages from our 6th Class

Braen

My favourite memory: Winning the basketball game against St Georges.

My piece of advice: Work hard even when you think you can't do something.

Natalie

My favourite memory: Making gingerbread men in 2nd or 3rd class.

My piece of advice: Have fun.

Tibor

My favourite memory: Breaking an egg in 4th class.

My piece of advice: Listen to your teachers.

Alexandru

My favourite memory: Making friends in 4th class.

My piece of advice: Have fun!

Cindy

My favourite memory: Making a volcano in 4th class.

My piece of advice: Make every day count!

Celina

My favourite memory: When I first met my friends and teachers .

My piece of advice: Be resilient and tough, no matter what.

Mary

My favourite memory: Our lipsync battle in 5th class.

My piece of advice: Keep working hard and join lots of sports.

How to make a school appointment

1. *Parents wishing to speak to the school principal Ms Corcoran, in relation to their child or other school matters should do so by making an appointment through the office.*
2. *An appointment with the principal is only necessary after the parent has already liaised with the teacher and is seeking further information or if requested by the principal.*
3. *The principal and staff generally do not make phone calls to follow up on incidents which happen in school to parents.*
4. *When making such an appointment, parents must recognize that the school is a busy place and the principal is not available to meet parents immediately. However, the appointment will be made for the next available possible time. There are times reserved in the principal's day for such meetings.*
5. *This is to facilitate parents not having to come more than twice in any given day to the school. There is also time for the school to investigate the incident and respond to same. Therefore, again, reducing the number of meetings necessary to get the incident resolved in the appropriate manner.*

Points 4 and 5 also apply to teachers and appointments can be requested through the child's homework journal or class Dojo.

Have a wonderful break during
the summer holidays!

From all of the staff of Scoil Chormaic C.N.S.

