

## Nuacht na Scoile



## Ficheall



Our chess players brought home awards from their tournament in The Rock National School—well done, boys!

We were also delighted to host 120 pupils from five schools for the regional Ficheall competition. Well done to everyone who took part in what was a wonderful and memorable day.



## Quiz

Our quiz teams competed in the local Credit Union Quiz and achieved excellent results, earning 2nd and 3rd place finishes. Well done, everyone!

## Pickleball

After-school pickleball classes were held for 6th class this term. Everyone really enjoyed trying out this new sport.

## Badminton

Badminton returned this term for 5th and 6th class. We're looking forward to hosting a mini local tournament next term.

## Pancake Tuesday

We had great fun in February as all classes celebrated Pancake Tuesday, enjoying lots of tasty toppings on their pancakes!

## Hurling

Our school hurling teams continue to play weekly matches in their respective divisions. Best of luck to all players!

## Soccer

Best of luck to our two teams competing in the FAI 5-a-side Laois tournament this Friday!

## Easter Library Activities

Our Easter activities in the library were a huge hit this year! It's wonderful to see the boys enjoying the space and developing a love for reading.

Congratulations to the winners of the "Guess How Many?" competition: 1st place Kyan Meade, and joint 2nd place Gearóid Cullen and Caelan Tynan.

## Bake Sale



Thanks to everyone who baked and supported by buying. A total of €1,518 was raised, which will go towards school equipment for the yard.

## Handwriting Competition

Well done to the boys in 2nd class who came 1st in their class handwriting competitions:

- **2A:** Ethan Gray
- **2B:** Fabian Klusa
- **2C:** Eden Robin

## Athletics - Cross-Country



Scoil Phádraig had a fantastic day at the Cross-Country event! Our Senior Team took home the gold, while our Junior Team finished 3rd overall. Congratulations also to Andrew McCallum and Jackson Dunphy, who won individual silver and bronze medals.



## Fís Awards

Our filmmakers travelled to The Helix in DCU for the Annual Fís Film Awards, where they won **Outstanding Achievement in Filmmaking – Suspense** for their excellent short film *The Third Floor*.



### Fittest Class Challenge



All boys ran the track for 10 minutes today in our Fittest Class Challenge. Since Christmas, the boys have been training for this challenge and we eagerly await the results tomorrow.

### Seachtain na Gaeilge



Our school enjoyed a fantastic week of Gaeilge in March! Children were heard using their cúpla focal throughout the week, and our *Caught ag Caint* Class Challenge was a

wonderful way to encourage conversation. The Table Quiz was a hit with the older boys, and all pupils had great fun Irish dancing with Ms. Gorman. Well done to all the winners and Gaeilgóir na Seachtaine winners.

### Blue Star Programme

3rd Class pupils, under the guidance of Mr. Seale, are taking part in the Blue Star Programme, which teaches children about the European Union and its impact on the lives of Irish citizens. We were delighted to welcome MEPs Barry Cowen and Maria Walsh to Scoil Phádraig to meet the students involved in the programme.

The 3rd Class boys presented their projects on EU member states and asked the MEPs many insightful questions about their roles. They also discussed key EU policies, including the GDPR and CAP.

Well done to our 3rd Class teachers and to Mr. Seale, who was selected by the Blue Star Programme for their Champion Teacher Spotlight!

### Embrace Farm

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Faith in Action Charity Event this term. Our chosen charity was Embrace Farm, and we are delighted to share that over €600 was raised on the day.

## Band & Tin Whistle



Beginners tin whistle classes were held over the last 10 weeks for boys in 3rd–6th class. Local musician Mary Carolan visited the school weekly to support our young whistlers. It was fantastic to see so many of the boys marching on St. Patrick’s Day in our school band. Special thanks to our volunteer teenagers that helped out weekly and walked with us in the parade also!



## Swimming

The next block of swimming lessons will begin after the Easter break, starting on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> April. 1st Class, 2nd Class, 3A, and 3C will all

attend for six weeks. Over the Easter is a great time for the boys to practice drying themselves and getting dressed after showers in preparation for the lessons.

## Wear Red Day for Anti-Racism

Our school joined a national anti-racism campaign involving schools, workplaces, and communities. Last Friday, everyone wore red to stand together for equality and to celebrate the rich diversity at Scoil Phádraig.

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## Catholic Schools Week

At the end of January, we celebrated Catholic Schools’ Week. The boys took part in a prayer service. 3rd Class welcomed their grandparents for a visit, treating them to wonderful performances and refreshments in the hall. All pupils also took part in a Walk of Hope through the streets, marking the end of winter and looking forward to the promise of spring.

## Penance

On Wednesday, 15th April, the boys from 2nd Class will celebrate their First Penance in the church.



## First Communion

On Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> the boys will celebrate their First Holy Communion

## 6<sup>th</sup> Class Retreat & Confirmation



On Tuesday, 24th February, our Confirmation boys took part in a very special retreat day. We began the morning by sharing a relaxed breakfast together, giving everyone a chance to settle in and chat. From there, the boys moved through a lively mix of games, Bible stories, music, prayer, and quiet meditation. The boys participated with great enthusiasm, showing curiosity, teamwork, and a real sense of reflection as they prepare for their Confirmation.

On March 12<sup>th</sup> then the boys received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Congratulations to all involved

## Cycling Safely

Our 4th Classes began their Cycle-Right Training course this term, providing a wonderful opportunity for the boys to develop confidence and skills as cyclists.

## Soccer Mornings

Our soccer mornings have been a huge success! The boys really enjoy starting their day playing the sport they love.

## Easter Camp

Some places remain for the Easter camp from 7th-10th April for both boys and girls. The camp is hosted in our school however this is a private run camp ran by teachers but it is not affiliated with Scoil Phádraig. Fill in forms on link below.

[https://forms.gle/KiuwNHvu33sunHp\\_x6](https://forms.gle/KiuwNHvu33sunHp_x6)

## Bodhrán



4th and 5th Class students took part in an engaging Bodhrán workshop to

celebrate our Irish culture. The boys enjoyed a lively and engaging workshop.

### Rainbows

Rainbows is a gentle, structured peer support programme. After Easter, we are hoping to host a programme aimed at children whose parents have separated, for children aged 7/8. If this is something you feel your son would benefit from, please email [rainbowsscoilphadraig@gmail.com](mailto:rainbowsscoilphadraig@gmail.com)

### Holidays

The Easter holidays are approaching next week, marking the end of Term 2. On Friday, 27th March, there will be a staggered dismissal as follows:

- **11:35 am:** All buses
- **11:40 am:** Junior Infants, 1st & 2nd Class
- **11:45 am:** Senior Infants, 3rd & 4th Class
- **11:50 am:** 5th & 6th Class



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