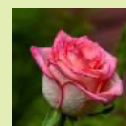


Mol an Óige CNS

- a Steiner education



Second Hand Rose

financially supports the school and we are so grateful to everyone who supports the shop and its committee. There is a big need for more volunteers at the shop and we ask that you consider donating your time.

We have had a wonderful year at Mol an Óige. The Christmas Féile, Bealtaine Festival and St. John's Eve were some of its highlights. Funding for a new polytunnel was received courtesy of a Department of Education grant; the Amber Wellbeing Flag was granted; lunchtime chess and inter school chess tournaments were all the rage; World Book Day saw superb literary costumes worn at school; the Student Council organised fund raising for basketball hoops, and we had Pet Day! Well done to all members of our school community - children, staff, parents and volunteers. See you all again in September!

We are very grateful to Fitzpatrick's Supervalu of Ennistymon which donated £1,500 to Mol an Óige for participating in its Reverse Vending Machine Trial - a recycling initiative. Go raibh míle faith agaibh!

Also, many of the shop volunteers and committee are former parents and they would like to pass it on to some current members of the school community, if at all possible. They have now gone above and beyond the call of duty!

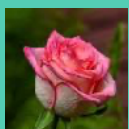
Please call into the shop if you can help out, especially over the summer months.

Thank you to everyone at the shop and on the committee for all you have done, and continue to do. We are forever grateful!



BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Thank you to our wonderful BOM.



PARENT ASSOCIATION

Thank you to the hardworking PAC for all the collaboration and support this year.



STUDENT COUNCIL

Thank you to our fabulous Student Council for all their innovative work and fundraising this year.

Planning ahead for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and Wellbeing

2022/23 ESD/Wellbeing Initiatives Mol an Óige

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 - Quality Education

SDG 4.7 targets that: “by 2030 ensure all learners acquire **knowledge and skills** needed to promote sustainable development, including among others through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship, and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development.”

2022/23 Initiatives

Amber Flag - *Wellbeing*

Supervalu Reverse Vending Machine Trial - *ESD*

School-wide Meditation Practices - *Wellbeing*

Polytunnel - Department of Education *ESD* grant of 3,500 euro (*Promote lifelong learning and engage all sectors of the education system, including the non formal and informal education sectors.*)

Grow at School - *ESD* - raised beds applied for growatschool@giy.ie

ASD Friendly School 2023/24 applied for and granted - *Inclusive Provision Mapping, Wellbeing*

Chess tournaments - *Wellbeing; ESD* - *systems thinking, critical thinking, integrated problem-solving, collaboration and self-awareness*

Christmas Féile and Bealtaine Festival (Parent Association Committee, post-Covid return of school and community gatherings) - *Wellbeing* (*Focus on values and promote active democratic citizenship and inclusion as a means of empowering the individual and the community.*)

Student Council - ‘*Being an active citizen*’ is identified as one of seven key competencies in the draft Primary Curriculum Framework - *ESD* (*Focus on values and promote active democratic citizenship and inclusion as a means of empowering the individual and the community.*)

Learning through Play - Mathematical Play (in-school workshops with all classes and CPD in Clare Ed. Centre for teachers); iPads (online chess games, research); iPads (digital education) (*Be interdisciplinary and recognise interdependence and interconnectivities across other sectors. Promote and use a variety of pedagogical techniques that support active and participatory learning, critical thinking and the development of key dispositions and skills.*)

Greek Olympics - shared four-day Olympic Games (Classes 5 and 6) with other Steiner schools in The Burren Outdoor Centre. Camping. *ESD; Wellbeing* (*Focus on values and promote active democratic citizenship and inclusion as a means of empowering the individual and the community.*)

Continuing routines: Easter garden; Weekly Assemblies; Volunteer Student Teachers; Class Plays; Festivals

Clare Library News

Summer Stars, the annual summer reading programme for children runs from the 12th of June to the end of August 2023. Libraries all over Ireland extend an invitation to children to join the adventure and enjoy the fun and pleasure of reading. Summer Stars is a non-competitive reading promotion initiative. Every child who reads even one book/ebook is regarded as having completed the programme – and it's all completely free!

Children can sign up for Summer Stars at any of one of the fifteen library branches in Clare. They will get their own Summer Stars Reading card and other rewards to encourage continued reading during school summer holidays.

When your child signs up for Summer Stars 2023 they will automatically enter a draw to win a FREE event for their school in the Autumn. Award winning author Judi Curtin will visit the prize winner's school, compliments of Clare Libraries.

Clare libraries are focusing on Climate Awareness during Summer 2023. Many Summer Stars events will celebrate the wonderful wildlife, flora and fauna of our county. Clare artists will facilitate workshops on climate awareness, biodiversity, sustainability, and the environment in libraries during July and August with a view to fostering increased awareness among children and families of our responsibilities to the environment. Library branches will actively promote a greener Clare by displaying a wide variety of related books for children and adults.

Storytimes, book clubs, craft sessions, nature and wildlife talks and environmental awareness workshops, creative writing, illustration and chess classes are only some of the activities your children can participate in. Check out our Library website www.clarelibrary.ie Stay tuned to our social media for more information and visit www.summerstars.ie where you can



download fun printable activities and colouring pages for Summer Stars 2023.

Research shows that children who read over the summer months maintain or improve their reading level and are better prepared for the new school year when they return in September.

Reading and sharing stories from early childhood onwards

- helps your child get to know sounds, words and language, and develop early literacy skills.
- helps show children to value books and stories.
- helps spark your child's imagination and stimulate curiosity.
- helps develop your child's brain, ability to focus, concentration, social and communication skills.

Clare library branches offer fiction and information books on all areas of interest for children including annuals, comics and graphic novels.

CHESS TOURNAMENT

Representing Mol an Óige with courtesy and flair at the chess tournament in Tuam. *Pictured: Hugh Kelly; Enda Halliday; Darragh O'Donoghue; Hugo Scott; Aodh Nagle.*

PET DAY

Pet Day yesterday was a wild success! Well done to the Student Council and all the parents!



Board of Management News

April 25/2023

- There are six Volunteer Student Teachers in school at the moment: German x 4 and French x 2 (the French students are leaving in May. The German students are here from April 1 until June 30)
- The Parent Association Committee has been doing a lot of work in preparation for the Bealtaine festival on May 1. Other activities are being planned for volunteers and parents in May. One is a crystal bowl meditation and lunch and the other is a guided Burren walk with picnic. Maypole practice for the Bealtaine festival is currently happening at school. Many thanks to all the parent volunteers, especially Richard Dodd who made both the permanent Maypole and the practice Maypole.
- Amber Flag/Mental Health Day to be held on 28/4/23. Lots of inschool activities are being planned including yoga sessions with local and parent yoga teachers. Many thanks to all for contributing so much to the wellbeing of the school.
- Open morning for prospective Junior Infants: May 18, 10:30-11:15 am
- Current enrolment: 115
- Five mainstream teachers; three SET; 15.5 cluster SET hours from three visiting teachers; 7.5 EAL hours; four SNAs - one f/t, two P/T, one infant day. Recently granted 7.5 hours of extra SET. Róisín Brett will be the teacher covering the 7.5 EAL and 7.5 SET hours. This will be three full days per week.
- Attendance: The new EWO will be meeting with some families at school in May.
- Killian has an order prepared for the Bal-a-Vis-X equipment. This will come out of PAC funds.
- PDST Physical Literacy Seminar 5 - Killian will attend as well as one other teacher with the Department providing substitute cover where required.
- Primary Language Curriculum and Primary Curriculum Framework Webinars/CPD = one day closure on Friday, June 2 to allow staff to engage with the curricular developments.
- Polytunnel site has been established and polytunnel is in process of being ordered
- Standardised tests to be done WEEK BEGINNING May 22
- Successful planned fire drill held April 18. Surprise one



- shortly in order to compare times.
- Greek Olympics with Rang 5/6 and other Steiner schools including Raheen Wood, in Burren Outdoor Centre in June: four night stay (see school tour policy). Parents must be Garda vetted through school in order to volunteer on the trip.
- Orla at ETBI CNS conference in Athlone, May 25/26
- Calendar 2023/24 decided: Return on Wednesday, August 30, 2023; finish Friday, June 21, 2024. Otherwise, no deviation from the standard national school calendar.
- Staffing for new school year being finalised at the moment.
- Current enrolment: 115
- Substantial order gone in for new books from Oxford Reading Scheme and Stiles comprehension scheme
- Website launch in June. Staff have been working to develop the site and gaining knowledge as they go. When it goes live, it will still be a work in progress and under constant review.
- Booklists: work being done on this at the moment - money granted to pay someone for the additional work required under the new circular/scheme. See the following for information for parents from the Department of Education

From September 2023, schoolbooks, workbooks and copybooks for children in recognised primary schools, including special schools, will be provided to every child free by their school. There is no charge to parents/guardians for this, as schools receive funding from Government to cover these costs. Information note for parents: Schoolbooks, workbooks and copybooks will be provided by the school. There is no need for parents to buy or rent these. There will be no fee for parents for this.

CORE ELEMENTS OF STEINER EDUCATION

- new course beginning in October

Core Elements of Steiner Education is an introductory course and is of value not just for teachers, but also for support staff, school board and committee members, parents and individuals by informing and inspiring them and consolidating their support and commitment in deepening their discovery around this education.

Core Elements of Steiner Education covers the developmental picture of the child from 0-21 years and reveals how the Steiner Waldorf curriculum can meet the child on that developmental continuum through archetypal themes and activities that address the whole unfolding human being through head, heart and hands. The course also addresses the inner path of the teacher, cultivating the awareness of your own biography, strengths and challenges that are drawn to work in the service of young children.

We can be contacted at swim.cpd.training@gmail.com for any questions or further information.



Board of Management News

March 20, 2023

School Development/Planning:

Parents Association Committee (PAC)

The in-school management team and PAC to meet monthly.

We are delighted to welcome Elda Rush, our new deputy principal since February 20.

School Closure:

Half day on Thursday due to snow - see email to BOM.
Snow Day Friday in consultation with ETB - all three secondary schools closed as well as Scoil Mhainichín and sundry others.

Launch of Primary Curriculum Framework

Half day (for review) + half day (Primary Language Curriculum).
We can close for one whole day if we like, which is probably best. This date will be decided in April.

Open Day for new Junior Infant parents held.

SENO visit - The SENO, Marian Cody dropped in for an informal chat.

Chess - Tuam competition, eight children going.

Critical Incident Policy to be revised using LCETB template.

Free Book Scheme for Primary Schools - see info note, should get update soon and funding to issue in April.

Bus Forms/spreadsheets - Engine capacity, kilometres travelled (Climate Action)

Once-off cost of living measure to support increased school running costs (Circular 0077/2022) received

2023 School Library Home Languages Funding Scheme - 500 euro granted.

Céilí a great success.



St.Patrick's Day was a great success and Mol an Óige won a trophy. The Cattle Raid of Cooley.

World Book Day a great success!

Care Aware Crew: Project with Rang 5/6 around first aid.

SLÁN GO FÓILL, RANG A SÉ, AGUS GO N-ÉIRÍ LIBH!

Farewell for now, Sixth Class, and the best of luck to you all!

You have been a wonderful group and we are all so very proud of you. We wish you all the luck and happiness in the world!

Enjoy the Summer holidays, everyone :)

Back to school on Wednesday, August 30!

