

Rockfield N.S. Newsletter 2018-2019

GAA

Cumann na mBunscol involves a group of Gaelic football games for 5th & 6th classes. This year, we tried our best and made our school proud.

For the mini-7's kicking competition, Evan Farry and Bláithín Lavin were chosen to represent us. The competition was held on Achonry/Mullinabreena gaelic pitch. Bláithín brought her trophy into school and we all congratulated her. We all enjoyed the indoor hurling for boys and girls in Collooney. The boys took place in an outdoor hurling competition. The first game was against our rival school Geevagh! Unfortunately, we lost. However, we did beat Ballymote in our second game and we beat Collooney in our third game.

By: Jayden Muldowney & Tristan Guilfoyle

Athletics, Tag Rugby and Basketball

Chris coached Basketball, Athletics and Tag Rugby with various class groups throughout the year to improve their techniques and skills. We all love and enjoy participating every Thursday and Tuesday.

By: Bláithín Lavin

New ICT Equipment

Some classrooms in the school got new interactive whiteboards and the number of laptops will be increased for next year. This has been very successful in helping both teachers and pupils with teaching and learning.

By: Ben McKernan & Ava Shanley



School opening

The opening day of the new extension in our school coincided with the day of the Christmas play. John Kennedy, the builder, cut the ribbon. Father Pat blessed our two new classrooms and Ms. Scanlon's new office. The Parents Association kindly provided tea and coffee in the hall for all who attended.

By: Katie Coleman & Evan Farry.

School Tours

Junior and Senior Infants are all excited about going to Five Star Fun on the 13th June. First and Second Class are looking forward to their

tour to the Mulvey Centre on the 14th June. Third and Fourth Class meanwhile, are travelling to Lough Gara Adventure Centre on the 20th June, while Fifth and Sixth Class are heading to Shannon River Adventure Centre on the 27th June.

By: Jessica Lynch

6th Class

The last week of term will be exciting for 6th class students. On 17th June they will be going to the beach in Rosses Point as a special treat for their exceptional behaviour throughout the year. On 27th June they will be going on their school tour.

By: Jessica Lynch

Olympics 4 Schools

On June 26th, we will have our annual Olympics for our school. All classes will be divided into countries and compete in the Olympics. Activities will include; various races, tug-of-war and obstacle courses, to name but a few. Perhaps we will get some scrumptious ice-cream again this year!

By: Cormac Price & Laura Shovlin

The Christmas Play

This year the Christmas Play took place over two days, Wednesday 19th and

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Thursday 20th of December. The theme of the play was the Nativity Story told through the piecing together of an old jigsaw puzzle. It was warmly received by all. The children were very excited at the surprise arrival of Santa Clause at the end!

By: Jayda Boyd & Laura Shovlin

In My Shoes Campaign

This year, Rockfield National School took part in helping a charity called "In my shoes!" which provides shoes to children in South Africa. We collected a total of six bags of disused footwear of good quality. I enjoyed being involved in this worthy cause. Thank you to every family who contributed footwear.

By: Calum McCullagh

Ice-Cream Day

Ice-cream Day is a fundraiser for Down Syndrome Ireland. All the children love it as it is a nice treat and the donated money goes to a good cause.

By: Katie Coleman & Jayden Muldowney

Biodiversity

Karen Webster visited our school to conduct art workshops on biodiversity. We had to design and make bird's nests using clay and natural things such as moss,

twigs, etc. This was a fun activity!

By: Evan Egan



Please note the following provisional date for The First Holy Communion 2020:

9th May 2020

Jersey Day

A Jersey Day was held on 3rd May to fundraise for our GAA coaches Iarla and Madeline. They taught us a lot of skills and made us, personally, better athletes. All the children in the school took part and 3rd/4th class attended a blitz in Scarden. We should show gratitude to the coaches for their hard work.

By: Ava Cregg & Ricky Reynolds

Fundraisers

Our ice cream day raised

€539.01 in aid of Down Syndrome Ireland. The Jersey Day collected €412.00 to be used by Sligo GAA to support Gaelic in primary schools in Sligo. Team Hope gathered 116 boxes from our school this year.

Communion

On the 11th of May, 24 children from 2nd class made their First Holy Communion in Rockfield Church. The ceremony was followed by a party at the school hosted by the Parents' Association.

Everyone had a great day!

By: Ava Shanley & Ben Mckernan

Parents' Association

We would like to say thank you to the Parents Association for all their efforts throughout the year and for their help with information evenings, CPR, organising parties, tea and refreshments in the hall etc.

By: Eva Griffiths & Cian Connolly

CPR Course

Amanda Farry came into teach us CPR. We learned a lot of interesting things and facts. She told us where the two defibrillators are located in Coolaney in case of emergency situations. This

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information is very beneficial to us.

By: Evan Farry & Ava Cregg

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Feis Ceoil

We were very successful in this year's Feis Ceoil art competition as eight people were invited to a presentation ceremony in the Sligo Park hotel on the 25th of May. All who attended received either medals or certificates. On Monday 22nd of April the poetry recitation category of Feis Ceoil took place in Gillooly Hall, Sligo. Every child who attended went home content after everyone performed their poem to the best of their ability.

By: Ríain Maloney

Grandparents' Mass

On the 12th of April our Grandparent's mass was held in the church. Some of the children from the school brought up gifts, some said prayers and we all sang a few songs. Our grandparents

came over to the school after mass for tea and cakes which the children had baked and brought in. Our grandparents also came around to visit our classrooms.

By: Katie Coleman & Evan Farry

Clothing Collection

Rockfield National School held a very successful clothing collection earlier this year, as we raised €930.00. We are due a payment of €810.00 shortly from our most recent collection. We would like to thank everyone in our community for donating items for the collection.

By: Calum McCullagh

Quiz Time!

This year we took part in three separate table quizzes. The first one was the Credit Union quiz in Ballymote after which Ríain, Laura, Ava Cregg and Cormac returned to the school with third, while Evan Farry, Jonathan Henry, Áoibhe McGuinn and Adam Henry got fourth. Next was the Cumman Na mBunscoil quiz with the two teams finishing sixth and seventh, respectively. Last was the Irish quiz where Ava Shanley, Laura Shovlin, Ríain Maloney

d Bláithín Lavin received third place.

By: Ríain Maloney & Laura Shovlin

Skipping Rope Workshop

A skipping rope workshop was gratefully sponsored by the Parents' Association for the whole school last September. We learned a number of different skipping skills to suit all ages. New skipping ropes were purchased for every class and have been used during lunch breaks throughout the year. We all enjoyed this fun day.

By: Adam Lyons & Christopher Marren

Pic removed from web version of newsletter. Awaiting full GDPR clearance

A Trip to Sligo

Last November, 5th and 6th class were brought to visit the famine graveyard. Everyone gathered in a circle and said a Hail Mary for the people who died during *The Famine*. Then we went to the Hawkswell to see a science show. We got to see lots of scientific experiments. We

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were also brought to see the old Sligo Gaol building.

By: Ella Mc Carrick

Mr. Henry's Nature Talks

Last Autumn Mr. Henry gathered various species of tree branches and leaves and brought them into school to discuss with us. His interest in nature inspires us all! He also picked rushes and taught us how to weave St Brigid Day crosses for the 1st of February.

By: Alicia Conway



Music

We were very busy this year with The Music Generation. Dave Flynn and Karl Burthom came to teach guitar and singing workshops, Junior Davey came in to teach bodhrán and Michael Hurley came in to teach tin whistle. Performances were held in the school hall to showcase our musical talents! The music sessions are always enjoyed by all.

By: Alicia Conway & Jayda Boyd

New Library

Work has started on painting and renovating our outdoor prefab to turn it into a new school library. This will be extremely beneficial to both teachers and pupils who will be able to borrow books using a system similar to that of a real library. The Parents' Association are helping to input books to the system and the children will act as librarians to run this facility themselves. I'm sure everyone will love it! **By: Ava Cregg & Evan Egan**

Cyber Bullying

On the 21st March, Jeremy Pagden came into the school to educate us on internet safety and to help us to stay safe on social media or while we use online sites. The song he used to alert us on internet dangers was very "catchy". Our parents were also invited to an evening session.

By: Bláithín Lavin and Kyle Kelly

Ballymote Fire Station

The Ballymote Fire Service visited the school on June 13th to give a talk to 3rd and 4th class on fire safety. Their key message was not to leave phones or tablet devices plugged in over-night

to charge as this can be a potential fire hazard. Each child received a Fire Safety pack and important information on how to react in a fire emergency situation.



Green Schools

I learned a lot about energy waste, recycling and climate change this year. On the Green Schools' committee, we carried out several school surveys about recycling and we also looked at what we can do to conserve energy. On June 5th it was World Environment Day, so as a part of our action plan, we had a Conserve Energy Day at school. The children were encouraged to save energy at home too. It was a great success!

By: Jessica Lynch