



St Mary's Convent Primary School

Bunscoil Clochar Mhuire
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Imlitir 30

May 11th 2020

A Chairde,

I would like, on behalf of the teachers and parents/guardians of Second classes, to thank Fr Paul for the lovely **Ceremony of Light** held on Saturday last. This was the First Communion date and it was lovely to mark the occasion. We look forward to getting our new date from the Bishop when religious ceremonies are permitted, once again. A recording of the ceremony will be posted on our website and Facebook page tomorrow.

Our photo collage worked well at the assembly but I would like to add to it, week on week. If you want to take photos of the letters of your child/ren's names and put them together to make up the name, please send the collage to

office@stmarystrim.ie

and we will include it at Friday's assembly. This is also your advance notice that pupils may bring some of their work, like a drawing, to show at assembly on Friday.

Google Classroom: We have been using this, on a limited basis since school was closed. It has expanded to more and more classes, as we introduce it on a phased basis. If you have received an email about it, these links will explain it more to you:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DMJt55A-DA0>

We will have further training next week, when you have been using it a little more. Watch this space! As this will be a long term option for the classes not using Dojo or Seesaw, we are encouraging these pupils to engage with Google Classroom. There will be teething problems but with patience and support, we will get there. It will cut back on the need for textbooks and the use of printing facilities. Google Classroom was part of our Digital Learning Framework plan, before we closed and we will be using it when we return to school also.

As we will not be returning to school before September, it is important that we get engagement from all families, especially those families who have decided not to pick from the menu of work that we send out. Please email us (office@stmarystrim.ie) to let us know that you have chosen not to pick work from the menu. Alternatively, you may phone the Deputy Principal, Mrs Nally, on the school mobile 0873223206. During school hours only, please. We may have to reconsider the menu, in the long term, and your views are important to us.

Congratulations to Elena Haughey who won 2nd Prize in Meath County Council's recent essay competition on Climate Action. The prize was a selection of books from Antonia's Bookshop. See her essay below, in the Green News. You can hear what the judges from Meath County Council had to say about her essay in this link:

<https://twitter.com/MeathClimate/status/1256290778239971329?s=20>

Darkness into Light



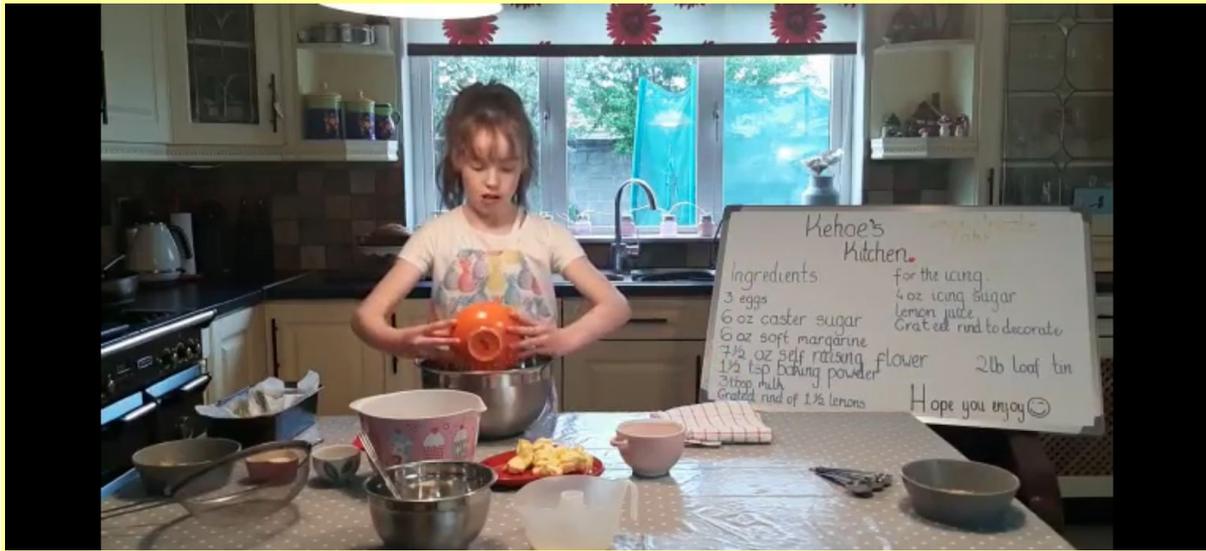
The annual walking event, Darkness into Light has become a huge phenomenon in Ireland and despite the lockdown, many people showed their support in Trim last weekend. Many of our pupils were out walking before sunrise to show their support. One of our Banna Ceoil members and her sister (a former member) welcomed the Dawning of the Day with their music. You might like to view this clip:

<https://youtu.be/4K0KNI4IUks>

Well done to everyone who took part in and donated to this very worthy cause.

Many of you have been doing very creative things at home. The Kehoe sisters have posted a fantastic cookery demonstration to Facebook. It is really worth viewing and trying! It is also on our School Website.

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=586199328687052>



Well done girls! Super demonstration and camera work!

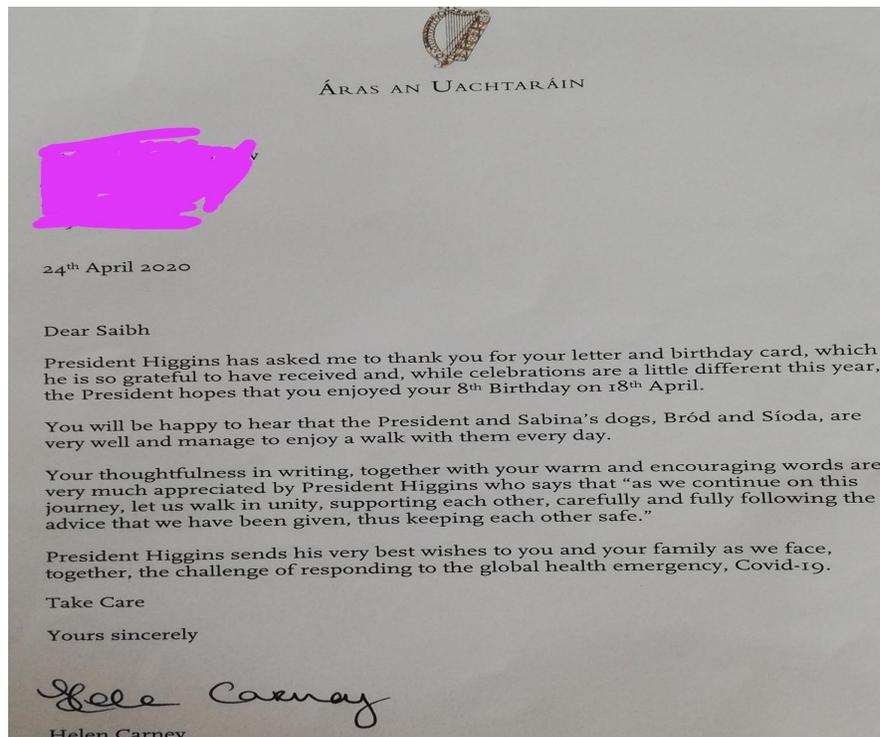
National Spelling Bee 2020: The school received confirmation that the NSB for 2020 has been officially cancelled. As a school community, we once again congratulate our very own Spelling Bee Champion for 2020, Emma McShane, from Room 27! We all hope that the competition will be able to return in 2021.

Mr Galligan



Two other pupils that we know of, LilyAnn and Saibh have been busy writing to the President and Ryan Tubridy. They were delighted to hear from our pupils and I hear that their letters will form part of an exhibit in the National Museum.

Here's the reply Saibh got from Mr President (our own Michael D!) :



Green News

I hope everyone is keeping safe, well and enjoying the good weather. There are so many beautiful sights to be seen and at the moment. Nature is at its finest in the trees, the blossoms, the lambs, the moon, the flowers, the minibeasts and of course those beautiful birds who provide the amazing soundtrack for the performance.

As we all say now, we must appreciate the simple things we took for granted in our locality. We will hopefully have a renewed respect for our local environment and treat it accordingly. Trim Tidy Towns committee should have an easy job if we cooperate!

Our Green theme for this year was Global Citizenship Marine, which included features like rivers. The Boyne was to be the topic of study for 6th classes this month when they were to do a kick sample with the Community Water officer. Sadly, this never happened. An Taisce has sent a link to activities that can be accessed from home if any of the pupils have an interest in matters marine. It can be found in the following link:

["Green-Schools Stay Home"](#)

and the Marine Environment specific activities are here:
<https://greenschoolsireland.org/green-schools-stay-home-marine-environment/>

Last week Elena in Room 20 was awarded second prize in the County Council Essay competition on Climate Action. Congratulations Elena! We are so proud of you. We will attach your essay here!

Saving Ireland

I was so scared. The world was just ... just falling apart. Everyone kept coming to me saying 'what should we do'? I was useless I had no answers. In just 10 more years Ireland would be down under seas ... in just 10 more years! I went home that night lost. I didn't know what to do but I knew it had to change. Ireland is stronger than this I kept saying in my sleep. The next morning I went into work early. I went into the staff and told them this has to change. They said 'what has to change Elena'? I was so upset they did not know what was happening to our country so I went to my best girl Ailbhe and told her this has to change. She said 'I will help as much as I can Elena, but we're sinking, we can't do much about that'. 'Ailbhe' I said 'we are so much stronger than this'. I just walked away and counted to ten like my Daddy always said to do, but I was really annoyed. She wasn't going to change my mind about saving my country though. I went into my office trying to think of ideas but I had none and no one was helping me. I got the same questions as yesterday but today I had an answer, it was 'we will get through it'. My people were still really worried and scared. I was too. I went home that night upset, angry, worried, scared and nearly crying. In my sleep I felt everything sinking slowly. It was like a nightmare but worse because it was real life. I knew I was responding to this crisis very early but if we don't do something now Ireland will never be saved. So I woke up even earlier than yesterday, went into my office, took out my notepad and started to take down notes to save Ireland. This is the message I need to get across to the people of Ireland and they need to do it now:

- 1. Drive Less*
- 2. Walk or use your bike whenever possible*
- 3. Recycle more*
- 4. Use less plastic*
- 5. Buy less*
- 6. Stop cutting down trees*
- 7. Look after our bees*
- 8. Save water*
- 9. Look after our rivers and seas*
- 10. HELP EACH OTHER*

When the staff came in I asked them to put this up on Facebook and Twitter. They said 'why not print it off and send it to everybody'? I said 'we are trying to save Ireland'. That day even more people came into me asking me the same questions. I had the best answer 'check Twitter and Facebook'. My people were very proud of me and my work and the Government. But I know it's not just up to me. Everyone has to play their part.

One of our budding architects from Room 12 has been busy building a bug hotel! It looks like a 5-Star to me! Well done! The Bugs will love it!



Stay safe, Stay home and stay Green!

Mise le meas,

Cóilín Ó Coigligh

Cóilín Ó Coigligh, Príomh Oide.