



Nuacht litir na Samhraidh.

Special points of interest:

- Reading Buddies ran from May to June 2014
- Thomastown Credit Union comes to the school every Tuesday.
- School will re-open on Thursday August 28th 2014.
- There will be a class of 28 Junior Infants in Scoil Phádraig in 2014/15
- The Mobile Library Service visits the school monthly

New Building

The building started on the 4th of March. There will be a new classroom, a resource room and a disabled access toilet. There has been many fundraisers this year to help pay for the extension. There has been bag packing this year and there has been a race night. Despite the noise, the classes have continued and will be fully finished before September. Skylights have been put into Mrs. Coleman's and Mr. O Dowd's classrooms.

By Seán Reade and Hope Williams.



W.O.W. 2014

On the 5th of March the school started water on Wednesday (WOW) where each student brings in water instead of juice. Each class's percentage is recorded. This was recorded over a twelve week period and three occasional spot checks. As we continued, the score got mostly higher. Each class tried their hardest and every class got 100% at least twice. The school's highest percentage was 97% in week 5. There was also a trophy for the best class.

By Olivia O Keffe and Finnian Shefflin

Country Cup Final 2014

On the 24th of June we played against Freshford in the Country Cup final in Nowlan Park. The first score for Ballyhale was by captain Stephen Barron. It was a low-scoring first half and the score at half time was 1-4 to 1-2 to Freshford. The second half was much more high scoring. Finnian Shefflin and Stephen Barron scored goals for Ballyhale in the second half and Ballyhale led after 15 minutes of the second half by 3-5 to 4-3. Freshford replied with 2 goals and regained the lead. At this stage goals were flying in at both ends of the field. The final score was 6-7 to 5-3 to Freshford. The Ballyhale team were outstanding, especially the two girls. It was a very entertaining match and either team could've won. The atmosphere was amazing on a beautiful evening in Nowlan Park. Niall Shortall, Dara Mason, Cian Cullen, Tommy Doyle, Dearbhla Doyle, Casey Corcoran, Reece Anderson, Killian Corcoran, Edmond Fitzpatrick, Larry Cody, Stephen Barron ©, Therese Donnelly, Finnian Shefflin, Brandon Ryan, Seán Reade. Michael Cullen, Tom Cleere, Jack Cody. The medals were presented in Carroll's Knocktopher on Tuesday evening. Well done to the team on a superb effort.

Inside this issue:

School Trips	2
Leaving 6th Class	2
First Communion	3
Drumming	3
Swimming	3
Sports Day	4
Fundraising	4



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School Trips to Kilkenny, Carlow and Enniscorthy

On the 21st of May the Junior and Senior Infants went to the Kilkenny Fire Station and Kilkenny Castle Park. They also went on the tourist train around Kilkenny City. On the 19th of June, first class went to Rancho Riley's which is in Carlow. Second and Third classes went to a chocolate factory called the Chocolate Garden and then went to a Dolmen Stone and Kilkenny Castle. Fourth, fifth and sixth went on their school trip on June 19th and went to the 1798 Visitors Centre in Enniscorthy. They also climbed Vinegar Hill and, to finish it off, they went to Gravity.

By Brandon Ryan and Aisling O Mahony.

*Good memories
from 6th class
pupils*

*"School tours and
Sports Day"*

*"Making new
friends"*

*"Reaching the
Country Cup
Final"*

"the Lion King"

Drama 2014

Drama ran from the 26th of September to the 13th of December. A man called Jason taught us. The previous year we did separate class shows, but this year we did a marvellous show in which the whole school performed. We did a show called the Lion King, with guest appearances from Spongebob, Indiana Jones and some animals from Madagascar. Everyone improved a lot with funny voices, singing and dancing. We sold tickets for our show which was on Friday 13th of December. We did two shows. One show was on Friday morning which was a practice for the main show, but people still came. On Friday evening everyone who was performing in the show came with wonderful outfits. The show was great and a lot of fun!

By Ella Moore and Yanal Phelan

6th Class Leaving 2014

17 children will be leaving the school this year: 10 girls and 7 boys. We had eight great years in the school. Our teachers were: Ms O Shea, Ms Ronayne, Ms Phelan, Ms Connolly, Ms Mc Namara, Ms Mc Cormick and Mr O Dowd. We will miss the school and not being able to use the new classroom. All the teachers were a great help during the years and we learned loads. We are going to the Presentation in Kilkenny, Scoil Aireagail, St. Kieran's College and St Brigid's in Callan. We will be leaving on the 26th of June 2014 at 12.30. We had a great time in primary school.



By Cian Cullen and Dearbhla Doyle.

Funny Answers From 6th Class

Edmond told us that you could heat your house using a candle and cool it down by blowing the radiator. Therese told us that Barney was a bear in *The Jungle Book* and that Jesus was born in 1978. Stephen wondered how many X's there were in the word "quickly" and said that Argentina began with the letter R???? Candice was speaking about Indians and called them Ninjas. Casey told us that 18 hogs were on a go cart. Maeve said that the famous whale *Free Willy* was actually a large seal. Reece informed us that he hangs up his tights in the wardrobe Dearbhla believed that a drought was actually a cold wind that comes in under the door Chinese food is not eaten by Chinese people according to Therese. Brandon puts his clothes in the dishwasher when they need to be cleaned. Cian told us that jaffa cakes are actually a fruit And finally, Irish International soccer player Séamus Coleman is actually the Bishop of Ossory (Brandon).

Scoil Phádraig, Ballyhale.

First Communion 2014

The First Holy Communion took place on the 10th May at 11 o'clock. The 2nd class put a lot of effort into the decorating of the church and in practicing for the communion. 3rd - 6th classes were in the choir. Deirdre Kehoe played the guitar. The priests who said the mass were Fr. Brennan, Fr. Lynch and Fr. O'Callaghan. After the mass, everyone was invited by the Ballyhale Woman's Guild to the hall for tea and sandwiches. Everyone who took part in the choir got a chocolate bar. All 8 boys and 8 girls in the Communion class looked wonderful in their outfits.



Padraig Kehoe and Shane Lawler.

Bad memories from Scoil Phádraig

G.A.A. 2013/2014

This year the girls' camogie team got to the Roinn C semi-final. They got knocked out by a strong Tullaroan side. The girls won three out three matches to get into the quarter-final. But unfortunately they got no further than the semi-final. The girls' football team tried their best, but didn't do as well as they had hoped. The boys' hurling team reached the Country Cup final against Freshford and the quarter final of the Roinn B competition, but lost to a good St. John's side. The boys' football team didn't do well in the Roinn A league, but they did manage to get to the quarter-final of the Country Cup where they were beaten by a very good Lisdowney team.

By Maeve Kenneally and Reece Anderson

"Losing the Country Cup Final in Nowlan Park"

"First day at school"

Drumming

This year we started drumming in May. Fifth and sixth got to make up their own rhythms. It was so much fun. We did not play the drums the first day. We made up rhythms instead. The second week we revised the steps we did last year like tone, bass and slap. The third week we started playing the rhythms we'd made up, and on the fourth week we got split into our groups. For the last few weeks we practiced to perfect our rhythms. The show was on the 20th June. Our parents came and watched us play in the show. It was so much fun. Every class from second up to sixth did drumming. We all enjoyed it. We had a great time doing drumming.



By Amy Laherty and Andrew Devereux

"Getting punishment sheets for misbehaving"

Swimming

The swimming classes started on the 17th January 2014 and were at 11.00am. It took 45 minutes to get there. There were five groups. Third class to sixth class went swimming. There were two buses, a mini bus and a coach. Third class and fourth class went on the mini bus. There were three fourth class on the coach with fifth and sixth class. We had excellent swimming instructors who showed us how to perfect the different crawls. At the end of each lesson we got to play with our friends. On the last week we got to go on a bouncy water obstacle course. The swimming lasted for 9 weeks. We got a certificate for our improvement. All the children thought the swimming was great fun. The swimming took place in Carrick-on-Suir.

By Tommy Doyle and Dara Mason.



Scoil Phádraig

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Sports Day 2014

On sports day the first race was the sprint. The junior infants went first and the 6th class went last. It was the junior infants' first sports day and they competed very well. The girls went first every time and the boys went last in every race. Before little lunch we had a cake sale. Some parents of the children in the school baked some buns and brought them in and sold them. The buns were lovely!

By Brí O Donoghue, Shauna Coady, Candice Nolan and Casey Corcoran.

Visit to WIT

5th and 6th class took part in the Bord Gáis Networks Science forward trip to the Waterford Institute of Technology on the 12th of December 2013. We left school at 9am and arrived at WIT at 9:45am where we were separated into groups with other schools. We were brought to one of WIT's lecture halls and were told many interesting facts. There were four activities. One was to find out what kind of fingerprint we had. Another was CSI. We all enjoyed our trip to WIT.

By Sarah Deacon and Stephen Barron.

Reading Buddies and World Book Day

This year World Book Day took place on the 12th of March. It is a day dedicated to books. Most people dressed up as their favourite character from their favourite book. Here's a tip, if you make the costume yourself, you usually have a better chance of winning. Nearly all of the older girls dressed up in their pyjamas and nearly all of the older boys didn't dress up at all. Most of the younger girls dressed up as princesses. The best costume from each classroom won a five euro book voucher.

This year Reading Buddies took place from May to June. The Juniors to Second Class are the junior buddies, and the Third Class up are the senior reading buddies. Each senior reading buddy has either one or two reading buddies depending on the number of children in the class. This year Reading Buddies took place every Thursday. All the junior buddies love Reading Buddies and so do the senior reading buddies.

By Edmond Fitzpatrick and Emma O Keefe

Fundraising

We had some fundraising events for the new school building which included bag-packing, the school play, a race night, last year's jumble sale, the cake sale on Sports day and kids' discos. Everybody took part. The jumble took place last year, and last year's sixth class sold all the toys. The bag-packing took place in SuperValu in Thomastown. That was on last September during the Easter Holidays. Bag-packing also took place in Dunnes Stores. The school play took place on Friday 13th of December 2013. The rehearsal was on during school hours in the hall. Tickets were sold for the rehearsal as well. The rehearsal was on at 12:30 pm. The evening show was on at 7:30 pm. The race night was on in Carroll's on 14th of June 2014. It was on at 9:00 pm. The cake sale and sports day were both on the same day. The Parents' Association ran the cake sale. The kids' discos were on at Halloween, Christmas and in the summer.

By Therese Donnelly and Kian Molloy