



Welcome to our October News Update. It has been a very busy month in Dunboyne Senior Primary School! All of our Curricular and Co-Curricular committees are working very efficiently and effectively to ensure that all of our pupils experience opportunities to participate in and contribute to school life in a meaningful way and to realise their full potential. Thank you to our STEM team pupils who demonstrated competence and confidence in assisting with our October News Update. Maith sibh!



HealthPromotingSchools
Scoileanna Cothaithe Sláinte

Our Healthy Ireland Health Promoting School initiatives got off to an excellent start with visits from Ms. Sarah O' Connell, Road Safety Promotion Officer with the Road Safety Authority. Ms. O' Connell visited all classes in the

school during Road Safety Awareness Week to deliver road safety workshops to all of our pupils. The workshops covered a range of topics on road safety, including road safety at school, pedestrian and cycle safety and urban and rural transport issues. It is essential to highlight these issues to the pupils. Key safety messages relating to all aspects of road safety will be revised and revisited throughout the school during the school year. Please visit www.rsa.ie and discuss road safety awareness at home with your children.



"BeSafe" Campaign

Pupils throughout the school participated in the "BeSafe" poster competition in association with the Meath Chronicle, Generali and Meath County Council last June. The theme for the competition

was "B Safe" incorporating road safety, cycle safety and water safety. We were delighted to receive the very good news that four of our pupils won prizes in the competition. The pupils were invited to the official launch of the "B Safe" initiative in Buvinda House, Johnstown, the new home of Meath County Council to receive their prizes. Congratulations to our pupils on their success. We are very proud of your achievements!



Safety on the School Grounds

Parking in the school grounds is reserved for staff members. Parents are not allowed to park in



the school without the permission of the Board of Management. Please do not obstruct the school entrance gates at any time when dropping or collecting children. Parking restrictions at the school gates ensure the safety of all parents and children entering and leaving the school. Please use the pedestrian entrance at all times when entering and leaving the school grounds. Thank you for your co-operation with this important safety notice.

Super Troopers

Super Troopers is a health homework programme created by Laya Healthcare along with teachers and a team of experts in the area of psychology, nutrition, wellbeing and physical activity. The aim of the programme is to encourage pupils and their families to become more active and to learn about healthy lifestyles. All pupils received a Super Troopers activity journal which includes fun activities around physical activity, wellbeing and nutrition reiterating the fact that a healthy mind is just as important as a healthy body. Visit www.supertroopers.ie to discover more.



Ombudsman for Children's Office

Some of our fifth class pupils visited the office of the Ombudsman for Children on the 12th of October. The pupils participated in an education workshop. During the workshop the pupils were educated about the work undertaken by the Ombudsman for Children's Office. They also explored matters concerning children's rights and lives in Ireland in an interactive, age-appropriate way. The pupils were delighted to meet the Ombudsman for Children, Mr. Niall Muldoon who very kindly took time out of his very busy schedule to join us during the workshop.



Space Week

Space Week is Ireland's newest national STEM week, in parallel with World Space Week, which takes place every first week in October. Pupils are encouraged to use the powers of creativity, critical thinking, science, technology, engineering and maths to focus on the wonders and realities of the Universe around us. During Science Week our school had its very own image of the Moon taken by the TARA telescope network as part of the Tara Moon Project. The image, which was emailed to our school, is unique to Dunboyne Senior Primary School! Pupils also enjoyed other educational and fun activities during Space Week.



National Tree Day

National Tree Day took place on Thursday 5th of October. The theme for this year was "Our Planet, Our Choice". In celebration of Tree Day the pupils planted an Oak tree sapling to help teach pupils about the importance of planting trees to improve biodiversity on the school grounds. It provided opportunities for the pupils to learn about trees and to spend time outside enjoying their natural environment. We had a nice sunny day which ensured that the occasion

was an educational and enjoyable experience for all! Thank you to our caretaker Ray Hughes who provided great assistance on the day.



Christmas cards

All pupils in the school had an opportunity to design their very own Christmas cards during the month of October. A sample of the completed designs will be sent home, providing an opportunity for parents to decide if they would like to purchase cards in time for Christmas. This is a fundraising activity organised by the Parents' Association. Thank you to Anita Reid who has very kindly coordinated this initiative throughout the school.



Gaelic Games

Training has commenced for hurling, camogie and Gaelic football for 4th, 5th and 6th classes. These activities are open to all pupils and we encourage as many pupils as possible to attend. Gaelic games provide opportunities to increase physical fitness, form lasting friendships and promote teamwork in an enjoyable setting. Thank you to all of our teachers who give so generously of

their time, providing excellent coaching to our pupils and promoting Gaelic games in the school.



Cross- Country Competition

Pupils from all classes participated in our school cross -country competition during the month of October. It is evident from this competition that there is a lot of very promising talent in Dunboyne! Congratulations to all pupils who participated and best wishes to the pupils who qualified to represent our school in the Meath Primary Schools Cross-Country Championships which will take place in Bellewstown, Co. Meath on Wednesday 14th November.





Maths Week

Maths Week took place from October 18th to the 24th. The aim of Maths Week is to focus on all things maths for one week and for pupils to have fun engaging in maths activities so that they can have a more positive attitude to maths. It also aims to demonstrate to pupils that maths is all around us and that it affects our everyday lives in so many ways. Pupils in our school participated in maths trails, iPad activities relating to maths interactive maths games and table quizzes.

Maths Counts

Liam, Sarah, Matt, Amy and Luke are all friends. Each of them sends one text message to each other person.
How many messages are sent in total?

Arturas, Pete, Nina and Samira meet up. Each person shakes hands with every other person once.
How many handshakes are there in total?

There are 6 teams in a group. Each team plays every other team twice.
How many games are there in total?

Go to www.mathsweek.ie for solutions and more puzzles

#useMATHS

Maths Week Ireland 15-23rd OCTOBER 2016

SPONSORS: GALMAY, ELMEX, etc.



Confirmation Mass

Pupils from sixth class who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation attended their first preparation mass for Confirmation on Saturday 30TH of September in St Peter and Paul's Church, Dunboyne. This was a Commitment Mass, where each pupil submitted a commitment form outlining the spiritual and practical ways they will prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 28th of April 2018.



Visit from Transition Year students.



Transition Year pupils from St.Peter's College visited our school on the 24th of October with Ms. Maye to speak to 6th class pupils about secondary school. The open night for Parents/Guardians is Thursday the 9th of November 2017.

School Incubator Project

There was great excitement in the school on Tuesday 24th of October when Brian Alcot from Nore Valley Park Farm delivered an incubator to the school with seven eggs! Brian gave an educational talk to all of the pupils about the development and life cycle of a chicken. Once the chickens have hatched out, just in time for Science Week, the pupils will look after them for two weeks and watch them grow!





Green Schools' Programme

We are currently working towards our second flag. The theme is energy and we have been focusing on building awareness of our energy use both at home and at school. We have formed a new committee and each member is responsible for relaying important messages to their class about switching off all appliances when not in the classroom. We had our first Low Energy Day on 4th October to put our knowledge into practice! To mark Climate Change Action Week, we invited David Manning from SSE to come and talk to our 5th classes and the Green Schools' Committee about non-renewable sources of energy and their impact on the environment. He also spoke about the development of Wind Energy farms around the country. He showed a video of the

construction of a new energy farm in Co. Galway which is large enough to generate electricity for the entire population of the county!
Keep an eye on our blog for further developments and updates about the work of the Green Schools' Committee.

Children's Book Festival

We were very fortunate to visit with well-known author Judi Curtin in Dunboyne Library. Her visit was sponsored by the Children's Book Festival. Judi spoke about her life as an author to Ms. Murphy, Ms. Russell and Ms. Lordan's classes. She also read an extract from her latest book Stand by Me.

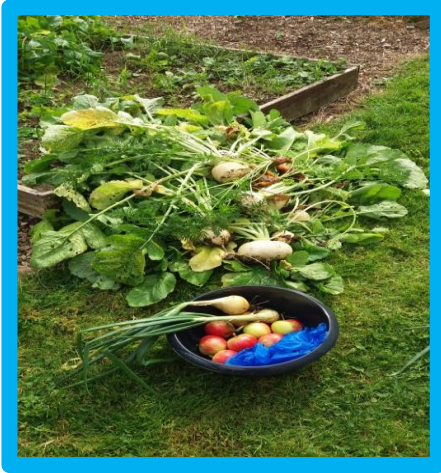


Our School Garden

We were very busy in our school garden before the summer holidays. Lots of children, from many different classes, helped to sow seeds, plant flowers, dig, paint, weed and water. Our school garden was full of colour and life. We are very thankful to all of the members on the garden committee and the teachers who dedicated their time and effort in achieving this.

We also had a visit last June from Mr McCormack - an accessor for Meath County Council Pride of Place Scheme. We successfully achieved level 4 in the scheme and hope to progress to level 5 this coming year.

Since our return to school we have harvested the vegetables and made our very own soup and salad in class. We boiled potatoes, turnips, carrots, onions and fresh herbs for our super soup. We grated carrots, boiled baby beetroot and sweetcorn, prepared lettuce leaves and sliced onions for our scrumptious salad. Tasty times!



School Choir

The Dunboyne Senior Primary School Choir has grown over the last few years and currently has 70 members from 4th, 5th and 6th class. Choir practice takes place every Thursday in the school hall from 12.30 - 1.00.

We have a number of events to look forward to over the coming months. The choir will perform at the School Christmas Fair run by the Parent's Association, the school Christmas Carol Service, the Bank of Ireland Customer Appreciation Day and a number of members will be brought to sing at the Silvergrove Nursing Home in Clonee.

We have also signed up to the Peace Proms which will be held in the RDS next February. The choir will attend a workshop for the Peace Proms in January. Dates have yet to be confirmed.

We are looking forward to another excellent year with our choir and hope to see you all at some of our performances!



Happy Halloween!



Wishing all of our pupils, parents and staff a very enjoyable, happy and safe Halloween!

