**2012/2013 School Newsletter**

Welcome to our annual school newsletter. As we start our summer holidays here are some of the highlights and achievements of this school year.

**September**

* We welcomed our new students Eoghan Burke, Tess Casey and Anthony O’Driscoll into Junior Infants. We hope they will be very happy in our school.
* We commenced training for our annual cross country running in Kilnaboy.
* On Friday 14th, the whole school went out collecting blackberries in the nearby ditches. We found some juicy berries which we later used for our Blackberry and Apple Jam.
* Hurling lessons commenced with Peter Casey and have continued all year. Many thanks to Peter for his dedication to the lessons! Hail, rain or shine we were outside practising our skills.

**October**

* October 3rd, we travelled to Kilnaboy for the Annual Cross Country Running. Children from 1st class up competed and did extremely well. Well done to Jessica Kelly who came 12th in her race and succeeded in qualifying for the Mullagh races.
* We commenced soccer with Denis Hynes from the FAI. These lessons were enjoyed by all children.
* October 9th, the children in the senior room travelled with Mrs Queally to Ennistymon Library for a Percussion Session. Children made music with percussion instruments.
* October 15th, Mrs Queally brought the children in her room to Glor to meet the author Marita Conlon McKenna. The children brought their books with them and got them signed.
* On October 24th, all children attended the Celtic Rathskallions show in Ballyvaughan N.S... This was our second time seeing this Canadian musical show and it was still a hit.
* The Halloween Party was great evening’s entertainment for children and adults alike. Many thanks to all involved in the organisation of this event.

**November**

* We started the month with the arrival of a new student Duncan Skinner. Duncan joined the children in Junior Infants and has settled in great.
* Nov 6th, we were awarded our Active Flag!
* The Readathon which is held every year commenced. This is of outstanding benefit in stimulating the children’s interest in reading. An amazing amount of books were read and reports written by the children. Well done to Cindy Kruth who was awarded the “Outstanding Reader 2013 Award”.
* The Annual Shoe Box Appeal was held. A total of 22 boxes were collected on Nov. Many thanks to all parents for supporting this! Our local representative Maddie travelled to the Ukraine to hand out the shoeboxes at Christmas time. She will have photos and first-hand account when she comes to visit us again.
* We commenced practising for our Christmas Pageant. Lots of songs and dances to be performed!

**December**

* On Dec 5th, we travelled to Lisdoonvarna to see The Wizard that Was. This was a great play and we were delighted to see a past pupil of ours in a lead role!
* On Dec 19th, we jumped on the bus and travelled to Limerick to see Cinderella. This pantomime was hilarious and thoroughly enjoyed by both teachers and children.
* Cookie Time: the children made chocolate chip cookies with Miss Scales. These were simply delicious!!

**January**

* On January 7th, we returned from our Christmas Holidays to greet our pupils with their new uniforms. The introduction of the uniform was based on vote.
* The children commenced their annual swimming lessons in Lahinch. The bus costs are paid by the various fundraising activities held during the year to defray the cost on parents.
* Work commenced on The Blue Star Programme.

**February**

* 1st Feb was celebrated by making St Brigid’s Crosses.
* On Pancake Tuesday, the teachers delighted the children with pancake making lessons! Pancakes were cooked in the school and the children got to choose their own toppings.
* Feb 21st, Gussie and Alan from Ennistymon Fire Station called to the school to talk to the children about fire safety. The dangers and hazards around the home were pointed out and discussed. The children were made aware of the procedure that should be followed should a fire ever break out.
* On February 29th, Miss Scales brought the senior classroom to a Science Show in Ennis. Here the children learned about 4 famous scientists.
* Daniel Kelly came to the school for work experience. His help and assistance over the 2 weeks was a great support to the teachers.

**March**

* Football lessons with Cillian Malone commenced. These lessons continued up until the end of June.
* March 13th saw Grace Howard collect her prize for coming 3rd in the INTO Handwriting Competition. Well done Grace, keep up the great writing.
* This year for St Patrick’s Day we did a dance routine to the song A Purple People Eater. We made our own costumes and accessories.
* Ahoy Matey! On March 19th, we travelled to Lahinch to see the show Pirates of Penzance. It was a lively show! Well done to one of our mums Jo Irwin on her great performance!
* March 21st, we had a big day of celebration in the school. Senator Martin Conway and Davy Fitzgerald came to the school to raise our Blue Star Flag and our Active Flag. This was a great day for the school and many thanks to all those who attended to help celebrate.

**April**

* As part of our Award of Science and Maths Award, we invited Nurse Ailish Lawlor to the school. She came in and discussed her job with the children. The children had their temperature taken, their heart rates monitored, bandages put on etc. Great fun was had!
* Sow & Grow Campaign: on April 19th we planted our seeds of peas and basil.
* The Discover Primary Science & Maths logbook was completed and sent off.

**May**

* Beach Clean Up

On Friday May 3rd, the whole school ventured down to the beach to give it a Spring Clean. Numerous black bags were filled with pieces of ropes, buckets, etc.

* Confirmation was held in Fanore on May 23rd. Congratulations to Isabelle and Jessica on their special day. A special thanks to Mrs Queally who co-ordinated the day with the other schools and for all her hard work in making this a very special day for the children. Music and song filled the church.

**June**

* On June 4th, we travelled to the bog in Kilmoon to turn and foot the turf. This was a great experience for the children, many of whom had never been to the bog before. Many thanks to all the parents and members of the community who helped us out.
* On June 11th, Miss Scales brought her children to the Imecofarm in Clarecastle. Here they fed the animals, went for a pony trek, travelled on the “train”, zoomed along the zip wire and much much more.
* On June 12th, we returned to the bog to complete the footing of the turf, this time we were accompanied by Thomas from TnaG.
* On June 14th, Mrs Queally and Miss Scales brought the children in the senior room on their school tour to University of Limerick. Here the children swam, went kayaking, participated in archery etc. Following UL, the children went to the Crescent for one of shopping!

**General:**

* Gardening

Many thanks to Sarah Casey for her help throughout the year with gardening. The children have learned a great deal from Sarah!

* Work Experience Students

We were delighted to have our past pupils Anne and Nora Casey and Aoife Howard return to us for work experience.

Website

Don’t forget to check out our website [www.fanorens.com](http://www.fanorens.com).

We endeavour to keep this as up to date as possible.

* Fundraisers

Each year we carry out various fundraisers for the school. The fundraising money is used throughout the year for bus costs, this eases the financial burden on parents for the various outings and trips.

To date this is the result of all our fundraisers:

Bake Sale: €510

Church Gate Collection €545

2 Clothes Collections: €542.50

Total: €1597.50

Total Bus Costs for the Year: €2060.

We would like to wish Isabelle Walsh and Jessica Kelly farewell. We wish them both continued success in their years ahead in secondary school. Many thanks to their parents for assisting us over the past number of years with numerous outings, fundraisers etc. Your help and assistance has been greatly appreciated.

Finally, we would like to thank all parents and members of the community for their help and assistance over the course of the school year i.e., parents driving, cake sales etc. Without this assistance many of our outings, activities would not be possible.

We wish everyone an enjoyable and happy summer and look forward to seeing you all again on Friday August 30th.

**Board of Management**

Anne Pilkington Fr. Richard Flanagan

Bríd Queally Carol Scales

Paudge Casey Paul Connole

Christina O’Connor

**School Year 2013/14**

***School Re-opens on Friday August 30th.***

**October mid-term break**

School will close from Monday 28th October 2013 to Friday 1st November 2013

**Christmas**

School will close on Friday 20th December 2013.

School will re-open on Monday 6th January 2014.

**February 2014 mid-term break**

School will close on Thursday 20th February 2014 and Friday 21st February.

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**Easter 2014**

School will close on Friday 11th April 2014.

School will re-open on Monday 28th April 2014.

**Summer 2014**

School closes on Tuesday 24th June

