

Scoil Maelruain News

October 2022

A snippet of life from our school in Old Bawn.



Principal's Corner

We are nearing the halfway mark in the first term. The newsletter is bursting with school news about our exciting school life. There are 'Dizzy Feet' dancing, tin whistlers 'tin whistling', budding artists in the making and the Green Schools and Active Flag Committees got us all out walking for Climate Action!

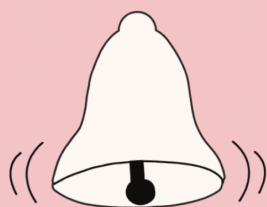
We are all really looking forward to Halloween, dressing up and 'trick or treating'. I hope the children won't give too many frights in their scary costumes! Remember to enjoy the night safely.

Mrs. Claire Durr

Staff Training

Staff training will take place on **26th October 2022**.

To facilitate this, the school will **close at 1.30pm for all children**.



REMINDER

Scoil Maelruain Junior,
Oldbawn Avenue,
Tallaght,
Dublin 24.

Principal: Mrs. Claire Durr
Deputy Principal: Ms. Aideen Butler

Tel: 01 4513967
scoilmaelruainjunior@gmail.com

Scoil Maelruain News

A snippet of life from our school in Old Bawn.



Health & Safety Update



We would like to thank all the parents and students who have followed our health and safety reminders so far. Just a couple of further reminders that we would like to bring to your attention:

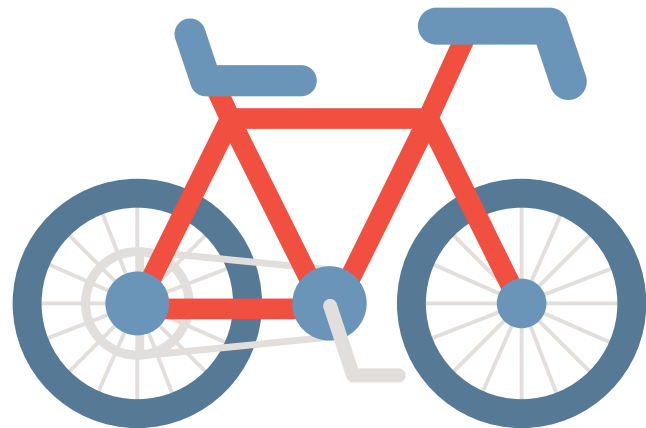
- There is no parking at the school. We have had a number of complaints from local residents about people blocking their houses entry at drop off and collection each day. Children who are walking, cycling and scooting to school are also in danger of being hit by moving vehicles. We would appreciate it if you could walk, cycle or scoot where possible. If you have to drive we would appreciate it if you could park at the church car park and walk to the school.
- Dogs are not allowed on school premises.
- While the school grounds are open for staff access in the mornings we would encourage children to arrive from **8.40am or later**.
- If you need to access the grounds during the school hours please ensure that the gates are left closed behind you.
- Wet Days: children should arrive at school **at 8.50am and later**. If they do get to school before that there are shelters by each door. As we all know the weather in Ireland is very changeable so we would encourage all children to have a raincoat in their bags or wear a coat each day.

Your children's safety is paramount and we appreciate your support with these measures.

Bikes & Scooters

The new bike rack located beside the prefabs is proving very popular with the children. Children who are cycling or scooting to school can park their bikes or scooters there.

We would ask that children **dismount** their 'vehicles' at the school gates and **walk** them through the school grounds.



Scoil Maelruain News

A snippet of life from our school in Old Bawn.



Parent-Teacher Meetings.



Parent Teacher Meetings will take place on **17th and 24th November 2022**. We will return to 'face to face' meetings. We will be using the 'Aladdin App' to allow parents to book their appointments. Slots will be released to parents with siblings in the school on 24th October and to the rest of the school community on 25th October.

Please ensure that you have access to the App so that you can book your appointment. If you have any issues with the App please email scoilmaelruainjunior@gmail.com

For urgent communication please contact the office by phone 01-4510706 or by email scoilmaelruainjunior@gmail.com. We appreciate your understanding on this matter.



Our Active School.



Scoil Maelruain Junior were recently awarded our first flag for being an "Active School". As a school, we show that we are active in lots of different ways - we have regular PE lessons, GAA coaching with Stephen, movement breaks in our classrooms, activities at yard time and events throughout the year such as active challenges and 'Active Week'. We know that physical activity helps us to stay healthy, concentrate, focus and importantly have FUN. Our Active School motto is "*We are healthy, we are fit. Don't stop, never quit*".

We are delighted to welcome back Alan from 'Dizzy Footworks Dance Studios' this term. He is teaching Hip Hop dance to 1st class and Senior Infants for 4 weeks. The children are really enjoying these lessons.

Ms. C. Farrell



Scoil Maelruain News

A snippet of life from our school in Old Bawn.



Christmas Shoebox Appeal



Once again this year, we are appealing for your generosity for the 'Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal.' This is an annual campaign that delivers gifts straight into the hands of children affected by poverty in Eastern Europe and Africa.

Often these shoebox gifts are the only gift that a child will receive at Christmas and the joy that they bring is incredible. Since 2010, over 2.1 million Shoebox gifts have been delivered to vulnerable children across the world.



How can I help?

Build your box at home by covering a regular sized shoebox in colourful paper.

Use the label from the leaflet sent home with your child to decide if your box is for a boy or girl and the age group.

Insert items from the '4 W's' to completely fill your box. '4 W's' item list is available on www.teamhope.ie or on the leaflet sent home with your child in the last few weeks.

Leave your box at Scoil Maelruain Junior at a date soon to be announced.

Don't forget to include 4 euro donation in envelope sent home with your child and close box with elastic band.



Scoil Maelruain News

A snippet of life from our school in Old Bawn.



Helping Hands Update



We are once again looking for Parent Helping Hands. We would like parents to help out with the following:

- To accompany children to and from the church;
- To accompany children on school tours;
- To accompany children to sporting events.
- To help with Maths activities;
- To help out with Literacy activities.



How do I get involved?

All Parent Helping Hands need to be Garda Vetted through the school. You need to bring in proof of address and a photo ID (Passport/Drivers license) to the school and fill in an Application Form at the office ASAP. We need to submit a form to Archbishop's House. They will then email you an e-form which you must return within 7 days otherwise the form will expire and you will need to begin the process all over again. When the 'Vetting' comes through you will be informed by Archbishop's House and the Declaration will also be sent to the school.

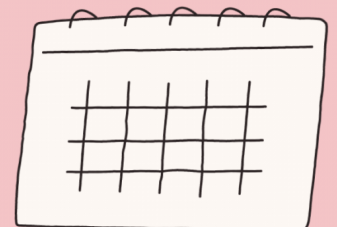
School Closures

Parent Teacher Meetings: The school will close at **2.15pm** on **17th and 24th November** to facilitate Parent Teacher Meetings.

Staff Training: The school will close at **1.30pm** for all children on **26th October 2022** to facilitate staff training

Mid Term Break: School is closed Monday 31st October to Friday 4th November.

Christmas 2022: School is closed Wednesday 21st December at 12pm and re-opens Thursday 5th January.



CALENDAR

Scoil Maelruain News

A snippet of life from our school in Old Bawn.

'Feel Good Friday.'

GOOD VIBES

On the last Friday of every month, it will be #FeelGoodFriday where we will incorporate a fun physical activity into our day.

This month for #FeelGoodFriday on October 28th we are going to have a "Halloween Boogie" at break time with some Halloween music to dance to in the yard.

Children are more than welcome to dress up in their Halloween costumes. Please remember that anything that might fall off or could be lost (masks, hats, wands, staffs, swords etc) should not be brought to school.

We can't wait to see all children dressed up doing some spooky, scary dancing!!!



First Holy Communion

First Holy Communion will take place on **Saturday 13th May 2023** in St. Martin de Porres Church. The ceremony for **Ms. O' Sullivan & Mr. Brady's class will commence at 10am** while the ceremony for **Ms. McGrath & Ms. Bradley/Mrs. White's class will commence at 12.30pm.**

Any children who have yet to enrol can do so at the Parish Office between 9am - 12pm.



Scoil Maelruain News

A snippet of life from our school in Old Bawn.



Parents' Association



The Annual General Meeting of the Scoil Maelruain Junior Parents' Association was held on the 17th October. We were delighted to see such a great turn out. We went through the Finance Report for the last school year, our plans for the year ahead and elected the new committee officers.

The officers are:

Chairperson: Brid O' Connor.

Secretary: Ciara Hennessy.

Treasurer: Grace Doyle.

Vice Chairperson: Amy Duke.

Vice Secretary: Suzanne O' Neill.

Vice Treasurer: Anne Marie McCutcheon.

Parents Association Class Reps:

Our aim is to have a parent from each class to act as Class Rep on the Parents Association. We are nearly there and will be in touch with any class that does not yet have a class rep with the hope we can get a nominee in the coming weeks.

Garda Vetting:

There are a few ways of getting involved. You can take part and be an active member on the Parents Association Committee or you can just let us know if you want to be included on a volunteers list so we can let you know when there are opportunities to help out in the school.

You will need to be Garda Vetted to help out, so pop into Valerie at the office and she will get the ball rolling. You will need ID and proof of address.

Fundraising:

Christmas Cards: The Parents Association has organised the annual "Designed by your Kid" Christmas Cards. Thank you to all the parents who helped get the artwork back in on time to get to the printer. Details on how to buy a pack of cards will be sent out over the coming weeks. A contribution of €1.20 of the cost of a pack of cards will go towards the Parents Association. Orders will all be done online.

Christmas Colours Day: On Friday the 25th November, we will help to build on the excitement of the Late Late Toy Show with a Christmas Themed Colours day, which will be €2 per child.

Get in Touch:

For further information or to contact The Parents' Association, please feel free to do so via the e-mail address below.

scoilmaelruainjrpa@gmail.com.



Scoil Maelruain News

A snippet of life from our school in Old Bawn.

Weekly Mass

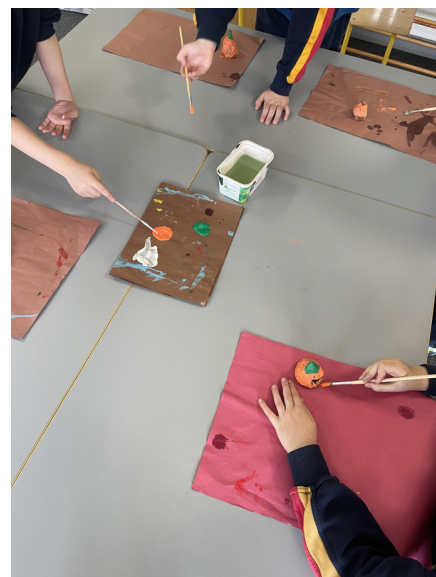
Preparations are continuing for First Holy Communion in Scoil Maelruain Junior. The children from Second Class have begun to attend weekly Mass on Thursday mornings at 10am in St. Martin de Porres Church.

If any parent/guardian/family member would like to join us for Mass on Thursdays, you would be most welcome.



Art & Crafts Class

Arts & Crafts class are continuing after school each week in Scoil Maelruain Junior. The boys and girls are using their creative and artistic skills to create a beautiful array of Artwork. Have a look at some of the their work so far!



Tinwhistle & Irish Dance Classes

The children are also continuing to enjoy tinwhistle and Irish Dancing classes as the term continues. We look forward to seeing their skills and talent blossom in these areas in the months ahead!



Scoil Maelruain News

A snippet of life from our school in Old Bawn.
Green Schools Committee

Our Green School Committee is up and running with both new and experienced members. We are placing a big emphasis on conversation this year. Guzzler from S.E.A.I. has made his appearance through story and has helped the children to understand how energy can be saved in our homes. He has recommended warm jumpers and lots of walking to school! In school, we have our light switches colour coded to ensure that lights are only switched on where necessary. We are recycling paper so any printed pages can be used for drawing and work. We are only using the necessary resources and not being wasteful. Our 'Click Drip' teams are circulating around the school encouraging the children to save both water and lighting. We will have lots of other ideas to share as the year goes on.



Ms. J. McGrath.

Climate Change Week.

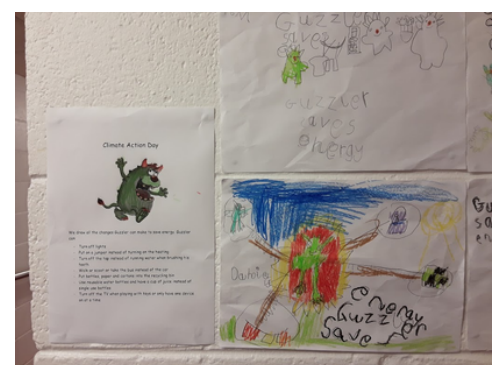
In October, the children went on a walk to highlight climate change. They sported sunglasses and umbrellas to show the how some regions are getting dangerously hotter while others are becoming much wetter.

'Today we got to wear sunglasses and an umbrella. Climate Change is about the weather changing a lot. We went for a walk and we brought our umbrella and sunglasses. On our walk we were looking for The Active School Walkway. We answered Climate Change questions at each marker. Then we did PE after our walk. We learned about the Green Flag.'

Eve, Emily and Sadie. Room 9



Make **A** Difference

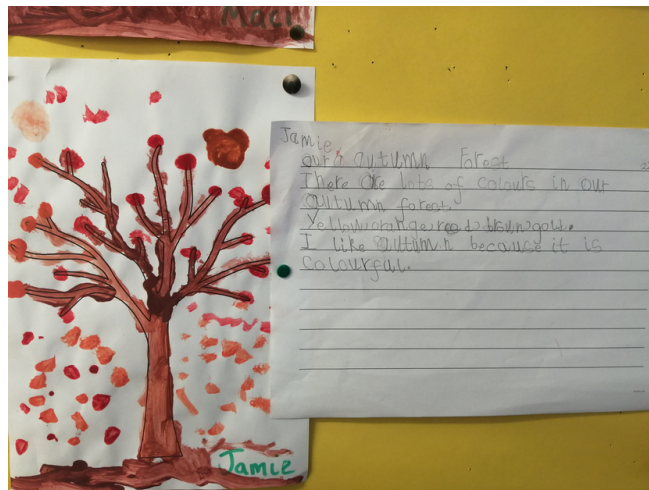
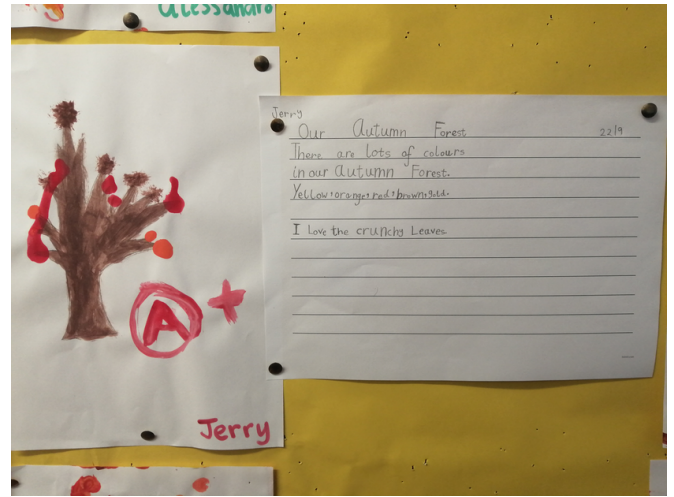


Scoil Maelruain News

A snippet of life from our school in Old Bawn.



Children's Autumnal work around the school.



HAPPY
HALLOWEEN

