

Scoil Maelruain News

A snippet of life from our school in Old Bawn.



A welcome from our Principal.



Mrs. Claire Durr

On behalf of all staff here in Scoil Maelruain Junior, I would like to congratulate all of the children on a very successful September. It has been such a pleasure to start to get to know the children in the school. A special congratulations has to be offered to our Junior Infants who have completed their first month in 'big' school.

I would like to take this opportunity to say what a privilege it is for me to take on the role of Principal of Scoil Maelruain Junior. I am really looking forward to meeting all of our families and becoming part of the Scoil Maelruain Junior family.

Céad Míle Fáilte

Welcome to all the boys and girls who have started their Scoil Maelruain journey in Junior Infants this year.

We also welcome Mrs. Durr, Ms. Heterich, Ms. Foldessy & Mr. Beirne to the school staff.



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Health & Safety Update



Thanks so much to those parents and students that are using the school pathways to enter the school grounds. We would also like to thank parents and students for making sure that gates are closed during school hours. We really appreciate your efforts to keep our students safe.

We have a few health and safety 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 when possible to school. 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.
- We would encourage all parents to enter and exit the school grounds through the gate closest to the playground and not to use the gate by the car park.
- If you need to access the grounds during 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.

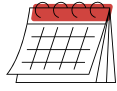
Launch of new Bike Shed.

We have great news for the children of Scoil Maelruain Junior! There is a new bike rack located beside the prefabs. 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.

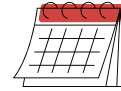


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Important Dates



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.



Parent-Teacher Communication



Teachers are unable to speak with parents at the doors in the morning. Communication with teachers is done through **email**. Teachers will review their emails at the end of the school day. For this reason emails may not be answered immediately.

For urgent communication, please contact the office by phone 01-4510706 or by email scoilmaelruainjunior@gmail.com.

We appreciate your understanding in this matter. Formal Parent teacher meetings will be arranged later this year.



Tin Whistle Class



Tin Whistle classes are currently taking place in the school each Monday and Tuesday from 2.30pm-3.30pm with Mr. S. Brady. The participating children will get an opportunity to perform for classes in the school later this year.



Art & Crafts Class



An Arts & Crafts class is being run by Ms. E. Burns, Mrs. C. Glennon, Ms. A. O' Sullivan, Ms. R. Tierney & Ms. C. Breen every Tuesday & Wednesday from 2.30pm to 3.30pm. The aim of the club is to foster the children's creativity and develop their artistic skills. The club will encompass many aspects of Arts & Crafts. It will be a great opportunity for the children to have fun and make new friends!

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Irish Dancing

The Mowlds Academy of Irish Dancing are hosting Irish dance classes in the school every Wednesday at 2.30pm. Irish dance teacher, Natalie Mowlds has twenty years experience and has been holding classes in Scoil Maelruain for the last twelve years. Through the classes, Natalie encourages each child's natural ability to move and dance while in turn teaching basic Irish dancing steps in a fun way. For further details, contact Natalie on 087 7471957.



Born to Sing

The Church of St. Martin de Porres are looking to re-launch a childrens' choir in our parish church. They are currently seeking the following people to bring this project to fruition.

- One or more people who will lead the rehearsals.
- Children who will be part of the choir.
- Anyone interested in promoting the choir.

The choir will sing at special occasions during important liturgies. Adults and parents of children who wish to know more or are interested, please leave your name and phone number in the Parish Office on 01-4510160.



G.A.A. at Scoil Maelruain Junior



Each week, Stephen Stewart from Thomas Davis G.A.A. club visits the school to coach the children in gaelic football and hurling.

Second class student, *Zack Smyth* outlines the enjoyment this activity brings to his school life.

"On Tuesday mornings, we go out and play G.A.A. with our coach, Stephen. We are learning the skills of G.A.A. We are focussing on reaction games. Coach Stephen is a great motivator for all of us. He makes learning G.A.A. easy and fun while helping us improve our fitness. G.A.A. is the highlight of my week."

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Helping Hands



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.
- Help out in Junior Infants and Senior Infants for Maths Stations.
- To help out at Literacy Lift-off/Guided Reading stations.
- To help out in Junior infants for Fine Motor Stations.

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 as soon as possible. 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.

Walk on Wednesday Initiative

Scoil Maelruain Junior is participating in the 'Walk on Wednesday' campaign where children are encouraged to 'think green' and walk rather than drive to school once a week.

2nd class student, *Chloe Brady* outlines her experience of taking part in the initiative.

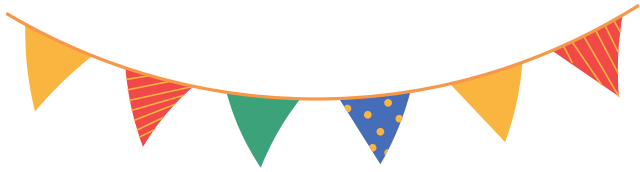
"Today is 'W.O.W' day. I walked and strided. I liked it because I went with my Mom and got fit. I saw my friend on the way to school. My Mom and I have a nice chat when we walk every Wednesday. I'm happy because I did not get stuck in traffic."



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Happy Campers



Over the Summer holidays, many children in our school attended our multi-activity Summer camp 'Happy Campers.'

The camp was organised by Ms. A. O' Sullivan, Ms. R. Tierney and Ms. C. Breen. The children had a jam packed week participating in baking, cooking, outdoor games, arts and crafts and much more. Keep your eyes peeled for more 'Happy Campers' camps in the coming months!

Congratulations

Congratulations and best wishes to Mrs. K. McGarry on the recent birth of her baby son, Shay!



Scoil Maelruain Junior Online



Visit our website where you can find all the information you need about our school.

www.scoilmaelruainjunior.org

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Parents' Association



A big welcome back to all the children/parents and an even bigger welcome to the new children and parents starting out in Junior Infants. The summer went by way too fast and we hope everyone is getting back into the swing of things.

We also welcome Mrs. Claire Durr as our new Principal and are excited to grow our partnership together in the years to come.

New Parents: We are looking for parents to join the Parents Association from the new Junior Classes to make sure you have representation across each class level.

Funding for the school: The Parents Association will be providing funding to the school towards the school library and materials for Aistear in each classroom. Aistear is the early childhood curriculum framework for all kids from birth to 6 years in Ireland.

Junior Infant Parents Coffee Morning: During October we will also be hosting coffee mornings for the parents of our new Junior Infant classes to provide an overview of the Parents Association. We will confirm a date closer to the time.

AGM: Our Annual General Meeting will be held in October 2022. A notification will be issued from the school to let you all know the details if you would like to attend.

Get in Touch: Do you want to get involved in the Parents Association?

If so, contact us on scoilmaelruainjnrpa@gmail.com

Parents Association Committee:

Chairperson: Adam Curley.

Secretary: Ciara Hennessy.

Treasurer: Sandra Walsh.

