



Scoil Muire Bannrion



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Hello from our new Principal, Miss McMahon!

I am originally from County Clare and began my teaching career in Scoil Muire Bannrion in 2003. Little did I know on my first day that I would still be here ten years on! I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody, our recently retired principal Mr Fitzgerald, all the staff, students and parents for all your kind words of support and encouragement. I really look forward to working with you all in the years ahead and I hope to continue the fantastic work that has been done in the school by teachers past and present.



Christmas Shoebox Appeal

This year Scoil Muire Bannrion will again be involved in the Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal. We are hoping that each family might be able to fill one shoebox to help children in some of the world's most disadvantaged countries. The collection date for the boxes is Friday the 9th of November. It may be small but your gifts in a shoebox can change a child's life. We would like to thank all the pupils and families who have supported this cause so generously over the past ten years.



Enrolment Week

Enrolment week takes place for St Mary's Primary School from November 12th to 16th. Times for enrolment are as follows: 9.30am-10.30am and 1pm to 2pm. Please bring your child's birth certificate and baptismal certificate (if baptised outside Edenderry).

St. Mary's Primary School will hold an Open Day on Sunday 11th November from 1pm to 2.30pm. All parents are welcome to attend on the day to view the premises and facilities available.

Children's Referendum

Voting on the Children's Referendum takes place on Saturday November 10th. We encourage all parents to exercise their right to vote and to inform themselves about the reasons for the referendum. For more information read the booklet that was posted to all households recently or go to www.childrensreferendum.ie

Barnardos Dress Up Funny For Money

On Friday October 26th our students and teachers made a tremendous effort to Dress Up Funny for Money for Barnardos as part of a nationwide campaign. From ghouls to ghosts and everything in between the boys pulled out all the stops in raising funds for this very worthwhile charity. A big well done to all the students who put in the effort to get themselves into costumes. Traditional Halloween games were played in the classes and second class made their very own toffee apples as well. Everybody had a really enjoyable day.



World Marathon Challenge

Eight boys represented Scoil Muire Banríon on an Offaly team in Tullamore on October 16th running part of a marathon. The event is called the World Marathon Challenge and over 20000 children took part from 45 different countries. Well done boys!



School Fundraisers

All classes participated in the Christmas Card Fundraiser this year. Children were given the opportunity to create their own personalized Christmas cards which they can purchase and send to friends and family.

Many of our classes are taking part in the MS Readathon this year. Children are encouraged to read a wide variety of books while also raising funds for services to help people with Multiple Sclerosis.

Patronage

As you will be aware from recent media coverage, the Minister for Education & Skills, Mr. Ruairí Quinn, has started a new process to look at the possible transfer of some schools run by the Catholic Church to other patron bodies in 44 areas around the country. Edenderry has been selected as one of those 44 areas. Parents of primary and pre-school children in Edenderry will soon be asked to complete an on-line survey indicating their preference as to what type of primary school that they would like their children to attend. The responses of parents to the on-line survey will be used to consider what changes, if any, could be made to widen the choice of primary schools in Edenderry. The Board of Management of Scoil Muire Banríon will keep parents informed of this process as information is made available to them.

Edenderry's Got Talent



Our second classes took part in an amazing talent show on October 26th. Magic tricks, jokes, poetry and kickboxing talents were just some of the talents demonstrated by the boys. Well done to Miss Tyrrell's and Miss Dolan's classes who put in so much hard work to prepare for the talent show.

OSPCA Visit

The Offaly Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals visited the school on Monday 22nd October. Children from third and fourth class learned the importance of animal welfare.



Specialist Teachers

All of our pupils have benefited from football coaching from Keith McGuinness throughout this term. Our sixth classes also received coaching in flag football from Ken and Jackie Farrell. Second class are receiving tag rugby coaching from Patsy Gorman while third to sixth class will start athletics coaching from Buntu on November 19th. We would like to thank all of our coaches for sharing their knowledge and skills with us.

Maths Week

To celebrate Maths Week some of our students took part in a special maths table quiz. All of the questions were maths related and the children really enjoyed it.

Library Visits

Our fifth and sixth classes visited the library during October. They were encouraged to become members of the library and were reminded it is free and a great place to get interesting books to read! They also watched a film based on World War II called 'Goodnight Mister Tom'. We wish to thank the staff of the library for providing the students with the opportunity to visit the library.

Green Schools

Our Walk on Wednesday campaign is up and running for this school year. All boys are encouraged to walk or cycle to school when possible. We are going for our Biodiversity Flag this year.

Second, third and fourth classes visited the library on November 7th for a talk



from the Irish Peatland Conservation Council. This is part of our Green Schools programme for the year. The children learned what valuable natural resources our boglands are.

In partnership with Edenderry Tidy Towns Committee, students will set up hedgehog and insect hotels in our school grounds and in the grounds of the parish centre. Willie McCreanor and Frank Hardy have been involved in the project and they are using 100% recycled wood from the local area to create the habitats.

National Fire Safety Week

As part of National Fire Safety Week we had a visit from members of the local fire station on Monday 8th October. They taught the boys about the dangers of fire. We would like to thank the fire officers for taking the time to come and speak to the children.



Communion Date

First Communion for the children of 2nd Class of Scoil Muire Bannrion and St Mary's Primary School will take place on May 18th 2013. There will be a number of masses to help prepare the children throughout the year. They will take place on the following dates:

24th & 25th November

23rd & 24th February

15th & 16th December

23rd & 24th March

26th & 27th January

13th & 14th April

Parent Teacher Meetings

Scoil Muire Bannrion will hold Parent Teacher Meetings on Tuesday 27th November and Wednesday 28th November. You will receive an appointment time from the class teacher.

School Band

Trials for our school band will take place over the next week for boys in fifth and sixth class. Details of their first performance will be released at a later date.

Science Week

Science Week takes place from November 11th-18th. The theme this year is 'Everyday Experiments'. Keep an eye on our latest news page and photo gallery on our website to see what experiments the children perform throughout the week.



School Website and Twitter

Check out our fantastic website for updates on school events, pictures and news at www.edenderrybns.ie

School policies can also be accessed (including DES Procedures on Child Protection) on our website.

Don't forget you can also follow us on Twitter for all the latest news at www.twitter.com/EdenderryBNS

