

# Castlehackett NS

## Our School Newsletter

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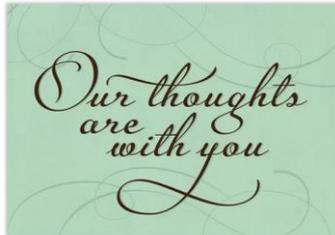
### Issue No. 7 – March 2015

Fáilte romhaibh arís. Mar is gnáth bhíomar an ghnóthach i gcaitheamh na Míosa. Is aoibhinn linn a bheith in ann na buaic phointí a roinnt libh anseo. Bainigí sult as agus Cáisc Shona díobh go léir.

#### Note of Sympathy

Firstly on behalf of the whole school community I'd like to express our sympathy to the O'Grady & Forde families on the death of Mark O'Grady and to the Mongan family on the death of Margaret Mongan. They are in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha dílse.



#### The Solar Eclipse

The pupils were mesmerised by the solar eclipse that occurred on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March. Darkness descended and temperatures dropped and then it was back to maths class again!

The whole experience climaxed after about half an hour. The wonders of nature!



#### Look who popped in for a visit!

We were delighted to welcome and congratulate members of the All-Ireland winning Corofin football team along with the coveted *Andy Merrigan Cup*, to our school on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. The atmosphere was electric when they entered into a packed classroom of pupils and staff.

We certainly have very positive role models in these fantastic footballers. They are an inspiration to us all that hard work and dedication pays off. Well done.



### Fun, it's the shape of things to come!

Well done to Lauren Monaghan who created this beautiful tessellation last week. It brought me to a standstill as I raced between classrooms.

*“What is this life if full of care,  
We have no time to stand and stare?”*

*‘Leisure’ by W H Davies*



### World Book Day

The junior children celebrated World Book Day on the 05 March by making some fabulous bookmarks. Well done Mrs Gannon and her charges!



### Girls & Boys Football Blitz

The senior pupils represented our school admirably at recent Cumann na mBunscol football competitions. There were blue skies all around. We had two very enjoyable outings, the first of many this year!



### Our whistle players hit all the right notes

Pupils practise some of their new tunes out in the open air. It beats any dawn chorus!

The whole school community wishes to congratulate Mr Matt Cunningham their music teacher, who is currently celebrating 50 years in the business. What an achievement! We are very fortunate to have him visit our school.



## Budding authors

Our budding young authors are writing books at the moment as part of their English lesson. You know something is working well when you hear the pupils requesting this activity for extra homework!



## iPad Mania

Some of the infant pupils pose for a photograph with our new acquisitions! Apps for the devices have been purchased and I'd like to thank our very committed staff for availing of in-service training on Monday 23rd of March after school.



## Our vegetable garden

The spring equinox was marked with the planting of early potatoes and some onion sets. Other vegetables will be planted at a later stage. Yes, our planting has started. Many thanks to Ms Mary Kelly and Mr Pat Shaughnessy for inspiring us all to get our hands dirty! The pupils are lucky to be afforded this opportunity. They really enjoyed the experience and they learned a lot in the process.



We look forward to sampling the home grown goodness later in the year.

## Work Experience

We welcome past pupil Cormac Hanley to his alma mater. Cormac is currently in transition year in St Jarlath's College, Tuam and is completing a work experience placement with us as one of his course modules. We are delighted to have him.



## Easter Art

The Easter chicks have arrived! The junior room have done a great job in creating them. Obair ghalánta.



## Our Beautiful Window Boxes

We thank Pat Shaughnessy for our beautiful window boxes. We all take a huge pride in our school and these colourful additions make all the difference.



## Fruity Friday

Here at Castlehackett NS, all the pupils are encouraged to eat healthily. Here we see some of the junior children sharing a pineapple as part of our Fruity Friday initiative. Let's all make a greater effort to bring more fruit to school. Healthy minds in healthy bodies!



## Thought for the month

May all the joys of this glorious season be yours.

HAPPY  
EASTER!



## Park & Stride



We've had a great response to our Park & Stride initiative as part of Green Flags Project. Let's hope the weather allows this to become more common practice.

## Cash for Clobber

Remember, we are always on the look-out for clothes for our recycling appeal. We already have in excess of 100 bags. Buíochas mór for your continued support regarding this fundraising initiative for our school.

## Note from the Principal

Mar fhocal scor, I commend you all on a very productive 2<sup>nd</sup> school term. Maith sibh.

It's all Go! Go! Go! in our final term:

- # First Holy Communion, Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May
- # Our inaugural 8k Road Race & 1k Junior Race on Sunday 07 June at 12 noon. More details will issue in the weeks ahead. The most important thing for now - get training!
- # Swimming classes in Tuam Swimming Pool
- # Our school tours
- # Local GAA competitions

All of these extra opportunities will be provided for our pupils on top of all the excellent teaching and learning that takes place in every classroom every day.

Buíochas le Dia tá Scoil Naomh Iosef beo, beathaíoch agus sainiúil. Bíodh Cáisc shona agaibh go léir. Tá sos álainn tuillte agaibh.

Is mise le meas

*Fergal Ó Neachtain*