

Monaleen National School

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

2018

*Welcome to our eNewsletter !
This eNewsletter includes some of
the many things that have been
going on in the past few months
in our school. The editors have
put a lot of work into this project
so we hope you enjoy it!*



Our eNewsletter Team



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Scoil Mhóin-a-Lín



Sport of the First Term

Football

So far this year we (Monaleen NS) have had great success in the football category.

U11 Boys

We were delighted to reach the final in the Gaelic Grounds but unfortunately were beaten by Milford. We had a panel of 45 boys and saw big improvements as the year progressed. We look forward to next year and hope the boys will keep up the hard work. Coaches :Mr. Stack, Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Keane.

U11 Girls

We played three matches and made it to the semi- final against Gaelscoil Chaladh an Treoigh. We played really well and the coaches were impressed with the skill, work rate and attitude in training all year. Keep playing football - the future is bright!

Coaches: Mr. Nicholas, Ms. Shanahan and Ms. Caulfield.

U13 Girls

We played four matches of which we managed to win three games comfortably .After those four games we got to a semi-final against Mungret, previous winners. At half time we were only ONE point down but unfortunately in the second half they pulled away. We had a super team and we hope all the girls going into secondary school will keep playing!!

Coaching

So far this year, we are lucky to have Jamie Power coaching football in our school. He has been coaching classes from 1st to 5th. Junior and Senior Infants are taking part in gymnastics coaching this term. UL students studying Physical Education also came to our school and taught three classes. We were delighted to take part in an U10 football blitz in Mary Immaculate College. 40 boys and girls took part and developed their football skills.



Under 13 boys after a brilliant performance in Rathkeale

U13 Boys

by Cian Scully & Anton Kolganov

For only the second time in the history of Monaleen NS, we achieved the U13 football double by winning both the City and County titles. In the city competition we topped the group, going unbeaten. In the semi-final, we faced out neighbours Milford, and won comfortably. In the final we played An Mhohdscol. This was a very competitive game played in the Gaelic Grounds. The first half was very close and we lead by one point at half time. In the second half, thanks to two goals , we pulled away.

There was no rest as two days later on November 8th, the county finals were played in Rathkeale, The semi-final win over Lisnagry was the closest match of the campaign. The turning point was a brilliant penalty save by goalkeeper Seán Murray. Despite trailing at halftime, our defense was excellent and we kept them scoreless in the second half and won by four points. In the final we played Bruree. We put on the best performance of the season with our forwards running riot and we ran out comfortable winners. Captain Cian Scully again accepted the trophy from Noel Hartigan, Games Development officer. Cian thanked the opposition, venue, supporters, all the players and coaches Mr. Rea,

Mr.Flanagan and Mr. Shire who managed to get all 28 players game time in both the city and county finals. at the assembly on Monday 12th of November. Hoping now that we can do the same in the hurling Olo cup next term!! Thanks also to Mr. Derek Downes of Eurospar, Rathkeale for feeding all after the final.

The team received a rapturous homecoming at an assembly on Monday 12th of November.Hope that now we will do the same in the hurling Olo Cup!!

The Kindness Committee

This year Mr Nicholas' 6th class are acting as the Kindness Committee in the school. Ms Berkery and Ms O'Neill are involved too and are a great help. We are trying to promote kindness as much as possible and are carrying out a variety of kind deeds. We are trying to encourage that, when something kind is done for you, that you pay that kind deed forward by doing something kind for someone else. So far, we have randomly called to classes and handed out stickers, we have high fived classes going out to yard, we have helped junior infants during Aistear, we have helped 1st class with their reading and art, we have helped Susan to load the shoebox appeal when they were collected, we set up a cinema in the halla for 5th and 6th classes and we handed out kindness advent calendars to most classes in the school. We're noticing more kindness in the school already and we hope it continues .

Junior Entrepreneur Programme (JEP)

Ms. Collins' sixth class are busy developing products and services for their Junior Entrepreneur Programme. There are currently five groups in the class each working on a different product. Each group will showcase their product for Dragons in the coming weeks. One product will be chosen and the class will work together to develop this idea and sell it within the school. Here is a picture of the class getting ready to raise their JEP flag in the school.



Board Games in Ms Hurley's

Board Games club ran for 6 weeks before Christmas in Ms Hurley's classroom on Thursdays at 2:45 to 3:45 for children from 3rd and 4th some of the games played included connect four, Battleships, Jenga, chess, Tetris, dobbie, frustration, 5 second rule, scrabble, snakes and ladders, draughts, guess who ,word search and Ludo.

Hopefully we might be able to run it in the new year!

Thanks to all the teachers who helped, Ms Hurley, Ms Hourigan, Ms O' Connell and chess help from Mr O' Brien.

Keep an eye on the school app and website for details of after-school activities in the school in term 2.

Page edited by Katie Liu
and
Chloe Widger

Healthy Eating Review



In October of this year, our school formed a committee to review our Healthy Eating Policy. The committee included acting Deputy Principal, Mr Mac Craith, three other teachers, Ms. Kelly, Ms. Ní Thiarnaí and Ms. Lenihan, two parents, Amy Martin and Marie Reddan and eight pupils; Cillian

McNamara, Alice Sheedy, Eugene Ruskulis, Sarah O'Flaherty, Robbie Widger, Darragh Brown, Ella McDonald and Lucy Morgan. The committee worked with community dietician from the HSE, Christine Gurnett and Emma Heffernan, a past pupil who is trained in nutrition. The Food Dudes program, co-ordinated by Mrs Kelly, was a huge success and ran during the time that the Healthy Eating Policy was under review.

The committee met to decide on how to survey the school community, including parents, pupils and teachers. They then collated the data and put together a PowerPoint presentation to convey the findings to the school at two assemblies. The pupils presented the PowerPoint. The committee found that although 70% of children have fruit every day for school lunch, only 19% of children in our school are currently getting the recommended five or more fruit and vegetables a day (as recommended by the HSE). This was the most important finding, although there was a lot of other information gathered that informed our revised Healthy Eating Policy.

The new Healthy Eating Policy was ratified by the Board of Management on the 10th December and will be launched in January 2019.

Some of the main points are that nuts are not allowed for

Follow the link to read our Healthy Eating Policy on our website:

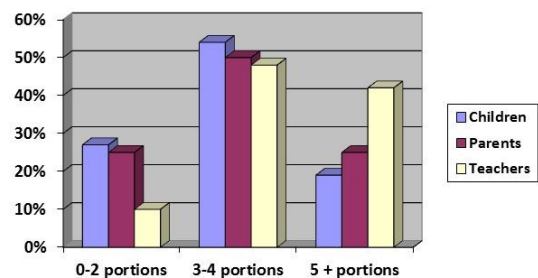
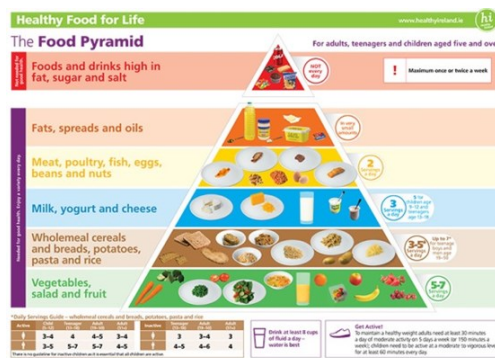
[Healthy Eating Policy](#)

school lunch due to some serious allergies amongst pupils. Children can bring food outside at both breaks so that they have enough time to eat. Treats can only be provided on a Friday, and they must be small, personal sized treats (not sharing sized portions).

The policy provides a lot of clarity on the foods that are encouraged for school lunch and the foods that are not allowed. The new Healthy Eating Policy was ratified by the Board of Management on the 10th December and will be launched in January 2019. Some of the main points are that nuts are not allowed for school lunch due to some serious allergies amongst pupils. Children can bring food outside at both breaks so that they have enough time to eat. Treats can only be provided on a Friday, and they must be small, personal sized treats (not sharing sized portions). The policy provides a lot of clarity on the foods that are encouraged for school lunch and the foods that are not allowed.

We hope that the changes in our educational approach and our emphasis on healthy choices for school lunch will lead to our pupils making healthy choices from a very early age and lead to healthy eating for life!

This graph shows how much fruit and veg our community is consuming each day (the information was gathered prior to the Food Dudes program this autumn). Fruit and veg is very important for good health,



Monaleen Choir

The school choir are very busy this December. We were delighted to sing at the Milford Hospice: Light Up A Memory Ceremony on Sunday, 9th of December.

On Thursday 13th of December we were carol singing at Supervalu, Castletroy Shopping Centre. All money collected will go to Simon Community, for the homeless. We would love for you to come along and enjoy the carols. The choir will be singing at 7p.m. mass in Monaleen Church on Saturday, 19th January.

We are also very excited to be performing at Limerick Peace Proms with the Cross Border Orchestra on Sunday 3rd of March 2019 at 7p.m. in the University Of Limerick. Tickets are available on sale on the Peace Proms Website.

The choir is great fun, we love singing and practicing.

By Grace Gavin

School Band

School Band Performance in the School Hall, Dec. 18th children from 2nd – 6th classes performed a section of traditional music and Christmas carols along with their teachers. The choir also entertained on the day. All were welcome to attend.

By Ms. Patterson



Class Focus

ART

Ms Mulcahy's Rang a Tri

We have done many art activities this year. This month we have been decorating our classroom with Christmas Art. First, we made garlands using crepe paper. We chose our own colours and it involved folding the crepe paper over and back to make a garland. We also made fairy lights. This involved using chalk on black paper and smudging the chalk to light the fairy lights. We are making a candle in stained glass window this week. This time we are using a different art material to make the colours. We are using oil pastels on black paper. Ms. Mulcahy's class love art and using different materials to create our artwork. Check out our class window to see our baubles!



Page edited by Milosz Zacharski

And

Salma Bwanakeri

This Is The Choir!
Maybe You See Yourself
There! :).

HISTORY MAKERS

Limerick County GAA was first founded in 1884.

This year (2018) they have made astonishing moments in hurling.

In the men's Quarter final stage Limerick versus Kilkenny. They beat Kilkenny for the first time in 45 years. That was one of the most memorable moments in the history of Limericks hurling and it was surely memorable for all the Limerick supporters who have been waiting so long for that to happen.

Final score: Limerick 0-27 and Kilkenny 1-22. At the semi-final we beat Cork. It was very close but at the end, Limerick, the best team won. Final score: Limerick 3-32 and cork 2-31. And then the moment we were all waiting for. The all-Ireland final. Limerick vs Galway.

1 minute left.....then 8 MINUTES TIME. Limerick were eight points up but then with 3 minutes left Limerick were only 1

point up.

Then Galway's Joe Canning got a free in the last minute! Limerick were really hoping it was too far back for him. He took it. It dropped right in front of the goals.

Then the one and only Tom Condon caught the ball. He pucked down the field. The ref blew the whistle. Limerick have finally won the all-Ireland final!

Final score 3-16 to 2-18!

Goal scorers for Limerick are, Greame Mulcahy, Tom Morrissey and Shane Dowling.

Everyone went mad!

It was amazing! 45 years since they won. As they went up to collect the LIAM MCCARTY, the crowd went WILDDDDDD!!!!

Declan Hannon picks up the trophy. Tons of pictures taken.



The team for the all-Ireland final was:

Nicky Quaid in goals. Full back line Sean Finn, Mike Casey and Richie English. Half back Diarmaid Byrnes, Dan Morrissey and Declan Hannon in centre (captain). Midfield goes Cian Lynch and Darragh O'Donovan. Next, half forward line Gearoid Hegarty, Tom Morrissey and Kyle Hayes. Last but not least full forward is Aran Gillane, Seamus Flanagan and Greame Mulcahy.



Page edited by
Chloe Widger
and
Salma Bwanakeri

Class Focus History

Mr McCarthy's Rang a Tri

Mr McCarthy's 3rd Class learned all about the Stone Age in October. They then completed an exciting project where they became archaeologists on a dig, made clay pots with Stone Age designs, built their own Stone Age settlements and recreated some of the different types of Stone Age tombs.

It was a fun way to learn about our ancient past.

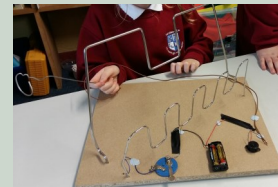
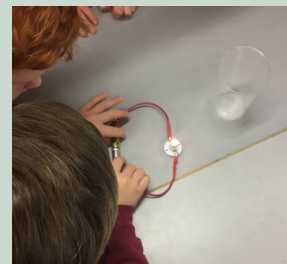
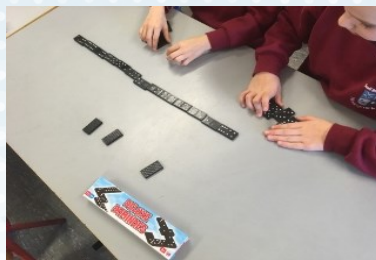


STEM

Science • Technology • Engineering • Math

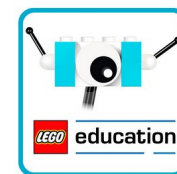
STEM

(Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) play an integral role in our school life in Monaleen NS. Science and Maths are taught as discreet subjects and while Technology and Engineering are not core, they are integrated into our teaching. Technology generally refers to the IT infrastructures we use and that available to our pupils such as interactive whiteboards, laptops and IPad. Engineering concepts are promoted through problem solving, design and construction. These are particularly evident in robotics projects in 6th, and in projects carried out in collaboration with local companies such as Dell/EMC, Analog, Cook and Regeneron.

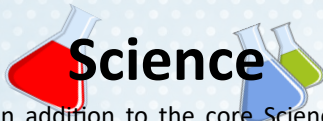


STEM Award

We are delighted to have received a Community Award for education in STEM from Analog Devices. Thanks to Louise Rock for nominating us. We received a cheque for €1000 which will be used to buy STEM equipment for the school.



Page edited by
David Sheahan
and
Milosz Zacharski



Science

In addition to the core Science teaching, we actively celebrate Science events in the school. In Term 1, we had Tree Day (Oct 4th), Space Week (Oct 4th to 11th) and Science Week (November 11th to 18th). For Tree Day, every class, equipped with a tree map, and keys for seed and leaves, toured the school yard learning about our local habitat. A highlight of the day was a visit by Albert Nolan, naturalist with Limerick Leader, who took five classes on a school yard tour focusing on the life in our habitat. Albert did a feature on his visit in the Limerick Leader.

For Space Week, we explored the relative sizes on planets and distances between them. We observed that while we visualize the planets as being evenly spaced, that is not the case as the gas giants are much further away. Neptune is 78 times further away from the Sun than Mercury!



What makes Science week so successful is the level of participation. Every class in the school gets an opportunity to experience Science. Our four 6th classes, visited shows in LIT and UL. Classes from 2nd to 6th "host" other classes by demonstrating their experiments. Among the many topics studied were electricity, magnets, forces and materials.

Our guest speaker was Joseph Campbell whose talk on Secret Life of Ireland's Bees engaged all pupils from 1st to 6th. He discussed different types of bees, their importance in honey and bee-wax making but most importantly on their role in pollination. Thank you to Ms. Patterson for arranging this visit.



By Mr. Flanagan



Maths Week

During Maths Week in October our school participated in several different activities.

Firstly, all of the 4th, 5th and 6th classes participated in an all-Ireland, online maths competition called Manga high. We were all given an account to play on in school and at home. On Manga high, there are multiple different tasks, all different levels of difficulty for each class. For completing each task, you get either a bronze, silver or gold medal based on how well you did in the task. If you reach 150 points, you will receive a medal. Overall 13 students achieved a medal for their excellent work on Manga high.

The teachers also arranged a maths table quiz for 3rd to 6th classes. There were 4 rounds, which were 1 picture round, 1 sequence round and 2 regular maths rounds. The winning team won a pen, a wristband and a homework pass.

The younger classes (Junior Infants - 2nd Class) played many different games such as Maths Bingo, board games that include maths, rocket blast-off games and building rockets from shapes. They also did algebra and magic numbers.

These were some of the fun activities that our school took part in this past week for Maths Week.

By Hazel Donaghey

Science in Pictures

