



Music Generation Concerts:

- 5th & 6th classes will perform in St. Mary's Church of Ireland, Carlow on Monday 22nd May @1.15pm- all parents are invited to attend
- Room 5- will perform in George Bernard Shaw Theatre, Carlow on 24th & 25th May @7.30p.m.- tickets are now on sale on www.visualcarlow.ie
- 10 pupils from Recorder Groups will perform in George Bernard Shaw Theatre, Carlow on 24th & 25th May @7.30p.m.- tickets are now on sale on www.visualcarlow.ie



Peace Proms:

Our 4th class took part in Peace Proms 2017. Their gala concert was held on Sunday 5th February, in the RDS, Dublin. The girls sang with choirs from twenty other schools and were accompanied by the Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland. This was a fantastic afternoon's entertainment and thoroughly enjoyed by all!

We extend our thanks to Ms. Coakley, class teacher, and to Ms. Byrne, Mrs. Fitzpatrick and Mrs. Monks who accompanied the girls that afternoon. Thank you to parents/grandparents who attended the performance.

Choir:

A number of our pupils from 3rd – 6th classes together with pupils from 4th- 6th classes from the boys' school have volunteered to sing at 12.00 Mass in Holy Family Church, Askea on one Sunday per month. The girls and boys are very committed to the choir and work hard during practices. This choir sang at the Confirmation ceremony and were wonderful. They will also sing at the First Communion ceremonies on Saturday 27th May. Both schools are really proud of this choir!



Primary Language Curriculum:

School will re- open on Tuesday 25th April, 2017- this is due to the fact that on Monday 24th April, the whole staff will be attending an in-service day.

The purpose of the day is to:

- explore the structure and content of the Primary Language Curriculum with a particular emphasis on the Oral Language.
- begin to explore a suggested planning process for the Primary Language Curriculum.



EASTER NEWSLETTER March 2017



Dear Parents,
Everyone at school has been very busy throughout this term. The term has passed very quickly, and indeed it's difficult to believe that the Easter holidays are upon us. I hope that you will enjoy reading the Newsletter which will give you a 'snapshot' of what has been happening in the school over this term.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued support. Your support is greatly appreciated, as it is only together that we can empower your daughter to reach her full potential and ensure that her time in Holy Family G.N.S is a positive and enjoyable experience.

We wish you a very Happy Easter.
**Le gach dea ghúí,
Mrs. Geralyn Costello
Principal.**



ENROLMENTS FOR 2017/2018:

If you have a daughter who is old enough to start school next year, please contact the school immediately. Pupils must be 4 years old before the beginning of the school year in order to be accepted.

Important Dates for your diary:

- School reopens on Tuesday 25th April.
- May mid-term break : 1st & 2nd May.
- June Bank Holiday: 2nd – 5th June inclusive
- First Communion- Saturday 27th May: Ms. Rice's class @ 12.00a.m & Ms. Regan's class @10.00

Every good wish for a Happy Easter!

**Wesołych Świąt ; Paște fericit ;
Priecigas Lieldienas**

INTERNATIONAL DAY **A Day of Culture and Colour in our school:**

"Hello to all the Children of the World", was the refrain to be heard if you looked in on our school on Friday 17th February.



The girls swapped their green and white school uniforms for multi-coloured clothes and traditional costumes from across the globe, as teachers and pupils celebrated International Day. The girls' bright colours represented flags from all around the world and a fantastic morning of culture and music and was had by all. Pupils took part in a concert during the morning in which music, song and rhythm were present in abundance. The Junior Infant children opened the concert with a lively number all the way from the West Indies. Performances with a flavour of New York, Europe, Africa and Australia delighted all.

We were all extremely proud of our girls as they showcased their talents in an atmosphere of fun, respect and learning. We celebrate International Day in school each year. Collaboration between people of different nationalities enriches all members of our school community.

Credit Union Quiz:

One team from the school took part in the Credit Union Quiz on Friday 27th January in Askea B.N.S. The pupils though not winning any of the prizes really enjoyed the experience.



Team members were:

Treasure Oladipo, Olayinka Falodun, Emma Nulty, & Ancita Roney. Senior team: Fiona Emelue, Mia Mac, Aleesha Sheehan, Oliwia Majdzinska. You didn't win girls, but I'm sure that you enjoyed the experience. Thank you to Ms. Hosey who put so much work into preparing you for the quiz.

St. Leo's Musical- 'Grease is the Word':

6th classes attended a performance of 'Grease is the Word' on Wednesday 15th March in GB Theatre. Attending the performances at St. Leo's is a long held tradition in this school. The girls thoroughly enjoyed the show.



Parents' Group Address:

The Parents Group would like to wish everyone a happy and peaceful Easter. Parents will be assisting the Easter Bunny with the annual Easter Draw and we would like to thank each and every family for your support.

We have a busy term ahead with our table quiz fundraiser to be held on **Thursday 11th May** in the school hall.

Also, we are hoping to have a flag day in the new term, your support would be greatly appreciated.

New members are always welcome and we hope to see some new faces in the new term. Again wishing you all a very happy Easter.

Caitriona Brennan-Dowling
Chairperson



Lá le Pádraig celebrations:

On Thursday, 16th March, the school celebrated St. Patrick's Day. 4th class told the story of St. Patrick 'as Gaeilge', through the medium of song, dance, poetry, music and drama - it was a fantastic performance. Congratulations to the pupils and their teacher, Ms. Coakley. Thank you to all the girls' parents who came to support them!

Ceolchoirm: Each class from Junior Infants to 6th class contributed to our celebration of our patron saint's day and of our nation's culture and heritage. Bhain gach duine taitneamh as an gceolchoirm.

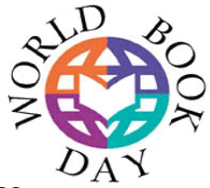


Confirmation News:



- 6th class Confirmation: 'Stations of the Cross' ceremony was held on Tuesday 7th March at 8pm in Holy Family Church. It was a very meaningful ceremony; participating in this ceremony reminds all of us of the true meaning of Easter.
- The Confirmation classes, travelled to Graiguecullen Parish Centre on Tuesday 6th March for their retreat. This is a day of meditation and discussion, during which the pupils take time to think about their Confirmation Day and what the ceremony really means on their Christian journey. The girls really enjoyed the day.
- On Wednesday 15th March, we celebrated the 'Ceremony of Light'.

World Book Day:



World Book Week was celebrated in style on Thursday March 2nd. The pupils were invited to dress as a favourite book character for the day resulting in a sea of colour and a fantastic, fun day of books, reading and discussion. Visiting a classroom on that day, you might think that you were entering the pages of a fairy tale book, as you met Little Red Riding Hood, Sleeping Beauty, Puss in Boots and The Cat in the Hat, to name but a few. The rustle of princess gowns could be heard in many junior classes as the pupils proudly said their "princess" names and talked about their books.

A Book token was presented to each girl in the school to be taken to local bookshops and exchanged for specially published World Book Day titles. So, "Reading is cool!" and "Get excited about Books!" are the messages from all of us here in school!



WINNERS ALL!

Fairtrade Art Competition:

Judyta Dzierba, 1st class, Room 6, was the overall prize winner in Co. Carlow in this art competition.

Glór Cheatharlach Art competition:

Simona Benova, 5th class, Room 15

Slogan winners: Princess Fiona Emelue-Room 16 - Well done girls!

Seachtain na Gaelige Quiz:

Two teams from the school took part in Seachtain na Gaeilge Tráth na gCeist in Éire Óg Clubhouse, on Wednesday 8th March. Team members were: Goda Stepanova, Abbie Nulty, Emma Nulty, Treasure Oladipo, Olayinka Falodun, Ancita Roney, Fiona Emelue and Alannah Murphy. The pupils though not winning any of the prizes really enjoyed the experience!

We celebrate all our winners at Assembly every Monday morning. Space does not allow us to print all of the winners' names. A great number of our pupils are very successful at Irish dancing, modern dance and many sporting activities. We are always delighted to hear of their successes.

FUNDRAISING IN ASKEA GIRLS! Easter Draw:



Many thanks to all who contributed so generously to our Easter Draw, which is one of our main fundraising events throughout the year. The money raised will go towards the provision of resources to improve the pupils' learning experience during their time with us here at school. Names of prize winners will be published in the parish Newsletter and posted in the school foyer. Our sincere gratitude is extended to the Parents' Group for their work in ensuring that the Easter Draw runs smoothly.

Assemblies:

Well done to our teachers and pupils for the wonderful assemblies they have produced during this term.

3rd class, Rooms 10 & 11: St.

Brigid

4th class, Room 13: St. Patrick

5th class, Room 14: 'The Stations of the Cross'

Well done girls, you were all fantastic!

Confirmation Day-Friday 31st March:

The sacrament of Confirmation was celebrated on Friday 31st March in Holy Family Church, Askea. This was a joyful occasion for the whole school community. We extend our thanks to the girls' teachers- Ms. Mullins & Ms. Cronin, the choir & their conductor – Mrs. Farrell, their accompanists- Ms. Olivia Smith, Mrs. Clare Cashin, Ms. Aoife Kavanagh & Mr. Michael Hennessy. A special word of thanks to Bishop Denis, Fr. Tom, Fr. Seán, Sr. Joan and the parish team for all their support. We hope that all of the children had a wonderful day.



First Penance:

On Wednesday 15th February, Rooms 8 & 9 celebrated their First Penance in Holy Family Church. This was an important milestone in the girls' faith journey. It was a beautiful ceremony and all of the girls were brilliant. Míle buíochas to Ms. Rice and Ms. Regan.



Anti-Bullying Awareness Week:



We held our 'Anti-Bullying Awareness Week' from 27th February- 3rd March. During this week, the school's Anti-Bullying' policy was highlighted in each class. Specific SPHE lessons dealing with 'bullying' issues were taught in each class. We ran an Art and slogan competition during this week. All of the prize winners' work is on display throughout the school. The standard of work throughout the school was amazing! The **winner in poster competition** were: Amelia Stachera & Iulia Luchiancuic-Room 10; Erin Kelly & Ola Jaszczak – Room 11; Ancita Roney & Emma Nulty- Room 13; Emma Mc Cartney & Irina Luchiancuic-Room 14; Kim Kumpiranon & Naomi Collier - Room 15; Abbie Nulty & Jessica Almeida - Room 16

FUNDRAISING IN ASKEA GIRLS!

St. Brigid's Crosses:

1st February, St. Brigid's Day is a very important feast day in the school calendar of Holy Family G.N.S. Askea. 5th & 6th classes were very busy throughout the week leading up to 1st February – making St. Brigid's crosses. This is an age old tradition in Ireland, particularly in the diocese of Kildare & Leighlin and one which we have preserved over the years in Holy Family G.N.S.

The project is spearheaded in the school by Mrs. June Farrell, who collects all of the rushes needed to make the crosses. The classes thoroughly enjoy the process of making the crosses and are very proud of their work. Ladies from 'Go Léir', women's group came to the school during the week and spent a full morning making the crosses. A number of girls from 6th classes attended all of the masses in Holy Family Church, Askea, Bennekerry and Tinryland on the weekend of 1st February. During the homily, the girls demonstrated the 'weaving' process. They sold St. Brigid's crosses at all the masses, and the sum of €3,700 was raised.



A cheque to the amount of €2200 was presented to Patricia Wall and Rosemary Slattery of County Carlow Hospice Committee County Carlow Hospice, €500 each to two past pupils who are going to work with Suas in India during the summer & €500 to Research Unit in Beaumont.

We extend our congratulations and thank you to the girls who made all of the St. Brigid's crosses and who gave of their time at the weekend, in order to help those less fortunate than themselves. We also wish to thank everyone who contributed so generously to this project- making it a true communal effort.

3rd classes in the school presented the story of St. Brigid in an assembly to the whole school. They told the story of Brigid through drama, song, dance, poetry, music, prayer and prose. It was fitting that the school's celebration of Catholic Schools Week began with our celebration of St. Brigid's Day- Lá le Bríde.



Being active!

- Basket Ball: Training sessions for 5th and 6th classes are held on Monday evenings from 3.00p.m. - 4.00p.m.
- Irish dancing on Tuesdays
- Dance Club- 5th & 6th classes on Thursdays
- Camogie training for 3rd & 4th on Thursdays

Healthy Eating!

A reminder of our school's 'Healthy Eating' policy. (This policy came

about through discussions with parents, staff and Board of Management). We remind all our pupils who are bringing their own lunches to school- to please bring healthy lunches. Copies of the school's policy is available in the school.



Check our website for all the latest news. <http://askeagns.com>
What's happening in our school?

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