



# Scoil Mhuire

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

Here is some of the latest news and information from Scoil Mhuire:

## Active Schools Update

### *1- Run Around Europe Challenge*

Scoil Mhuire is currently working towards an Active Flag. As part of this, we are partaking in the 'Run Around Europe Challenge' (<https://activeschoolflag.ie/run-around-europe-challenge/>). This is a four-week challenge and as a result the children may wear their tracksuit every day until the Easter break if they wish.

### *2 – Active Playgrounds*

Another aspect of the Active Flag work will be the development of 'Active Playgrounds' – a structured pupil-led approach to play at break times. The Active Schools Committee and the Student Council have already started work in developing new ideas and games for lunch time. We will be sending out more information in a separate email in the coming weeks. We are also asking children **not** to bring in footballs (of any size) from home to play with at lunch time.

## World Book Day 2024

World Book Day will take place on Thursday March 7<sup>th</sup> this year. We have decided that we will give the dressing up aspect a skip this year and move to a rota of every second year for this activity. Classes will engage in lots of other fun activities to celebrate World Book Day and the traditional €1.50 book tokens will also be given out.

## Enrolments

Scoil Mhuire is now enrolling new Junior Infants for September 2024. If you would like to enroll a child please phone/email the office or visit the website to fill out a pre-enrolment form. Also, if you are aware of anyone who might be new to the area and is looking to enroll children in school please ask them to contact the office.

## Hot School Meals Update

The Lunch Bag have been appointed as supplier of hot school meals for Scoil Mhuire following a procurement process. I have attached some information from The Lunch Bag about the hot school meals scheme ahead of the 'launch date'. More information will be issued in the coming weeks.

## Letters from the HSE

I have attached two separate letters from the HSE which they have asked us to issue to parents (one is a letter regarding measles and the other is a 'Healthy Habits' leaflet).

### Head Lice

It has come to my attention that there are cases of headlice infection again and this has been a persistent problem **across the school**. I am appealing to all parents/guardians to please check your child's hair tonight and treat if necessary. It is important to follow up treatment with wet combing. <https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/2/gp/antibiotic-prescribing/conditions-and-treatments/skin-soft-tissue/headlice/headlice.html>

### Cost of Bus Hire

The costs involved with hiring buses have escalated in recent years and was discussed by the Board of Management recently. We have traditionally charged €5 for 'regular' bus trips (GAA matches, events in Cork etc.), however, we will now have to charge €7.50 per trip to avoid losses where necessary. The use of private cars for lifts is discouraged by school insurer Allianz. Schools locally have begun to 'double up' in the one bus (where possible) to help reduce costs also.

### Scór na bPáistí

Well done to all the children who participated in Scór na bPáistí recently – they were a credit to the school, their families and themselves. Thanks also to Ms. Geary who worked hard to prepare the children for the night itself.

### Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons for children in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Classes begin tomorrow, Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February. Well done to the boys and girls and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Classes who completed their block of lessons last week.

### Congratulations!

Many congratulations to our teacher Ms. Maye who got married recently. I speak for the whole school community when I wish you both every happiness for the future.

Our congratulations also to the boys and girls in Ms. Fouhy's 2<sup>nd</sup> Class who recently received the Sacrament of Reconciliation (First Confession).

### Upcoming Dates/Reminders

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March – school closed for polling in referendum

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – school closing at 12:30 for Easter holidays (reopening Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April).

Many thanks for your continued support of Scoil Mhuire,

Is mise, le meas,



Rory Gibbons

*Principal*