



Easter Newsletter, April 2020.

Message to the school community.

On behalf of the Board of Management and the Staff wish all the Children and their families a safe and peaceful Easter.

The situation we all find ourselves in, as a school and as a nation, is unprecedented in the upheaval caused in all our lives. The changes we must endure can be stressful and upsetting depending on our individual circumstances. However, it also provides an opportunity to take stock of our lives and perhaps re-evaluate what are the most important things in life.

As we approach the Easter Break, I believe the children need to treat it as a holiday in the normal way. School work can then resume on the 20th of April-either in the school, or, at home- if the restrictions are still in place. A daily timetable will be posted on creaghsonline (<https://www.creaghsonline.com/>) to give children structure for working. We will continue to offer support to the children in line with the guidelines of government/medical directives.

Normally at this time a brief outline of events for the last school term of the year would be posted. Uncertainty surrounds the following:

- The sacraments of confession, First communion and Confirmation
- End of year Assessments
- School tours
- Credit Union Quiz Final
- Cummain na mBunscoil games
- Community Games

Whatever the next few months bring be assured that when normal school resumes we will plan our teaching 'from where the children are at'. This means that no child will be 'left behind' even if they didn't get as much work done as others. Just as during regular school time, children progress at different rates.

The term since Christmas has been busy as usual with the following highlights

- Parent /Teacher meetings in January/ February
- The SPHE in relation to the modules on STAY SAFE and RELATIONSHIPS AND SEXUALITY
- Inter-school Quizzes- Four teams participated in Trath na gCeist.
Our under 13 team reached the All-Ireland Final by winning the regional final in the Credit Union Competition in Athlone. They should have progressed to the National Finals in the RDS in Dublin in early April.
- The record breaking fundraising 'SAINT BRIGID'S CROSSES' Over E7000 raised for the Social services. Much of this money will go to expand the delivery of Meals on Wheels to the now 'cocooning' senior citizens. Another very special aspect was the community evening in the school hall.
- The Peace Proms choir. Over 60 children from the Senior classes practiced in the school and took part in the fantastic Concert in the Kingfisher building in Galway on January 26th.
- Numerous other activities, on a class, a group or individual basis like-
 - Fr. Garvey's regular visits; sporting and artistic classes; Green School activities; Book Buddies; Library visits and visits to local places of historical or natural interest.
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All of these activities bring together the whole school community-children, staff, parents and even extended families, all of which contributes to a truly holistic education for the children.

I want to acknowledge the commitment of the many staff in

(a) spearheading and (b) providing support for these extra-curricular activities.

It's a mark of the great staff team and pupils we have in Creagh School.

Flags for the frontline

Nationwide, children and their families are being encouraged to fly a flag- club, county, or the national Tricolour to show support for all citizens who are providing essential services-healthcare and otherwise- to make life easier during this pandemic.

And finally, mar focal scoir:

“Ar scath a cheile a mhaireann na daoine”

(Rough translation: 'People flourish with the support of each other')

**Noel Lohan,
Acting School Principal**