

Scoil Maelruain News

October 2023.

A snippet of life from our school in Old Bawn.



A message from our Principal.

It has not just been the leaves that have been falling this Autumn but the rain too! But that has not dampened our spirits here at Scoil Maelruain Junior, we have been as busy as ever!

The children took part in Maths week from 16th - 20th October. They played Maths games, activities and even had a Maths Quiz. Thanks to parents who volunteered to help out during the week.

We celebrated Grandparents day this week with many classrooms having visits from their grandparents. They read the children stories, shared their personal history and enjoyed listening to the children reciting poems and songs. Thank you to all the families who took part in the celebrations.

Mrs. Claire Durr.



HAPPY
HALLOWEEN



Scoil Maelruain Junior,
Oldbawn Avenue,
Tallaght,
Dublin 24.

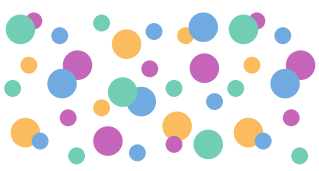
Principal: Mrs. Claire Durr
Deputy Principal: Ms. Aideen Butler

Tel: 01 4513967
scoilmaelruainjunior@gmail.com

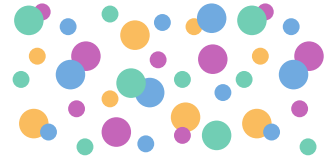
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Google Data Centre Grant-The next phase!



Google



We applied for a grant from Google Data Centres last May and were successful. The grant has been allocated for Sensory Projects in the school. The next part of our project has been completed.

We have installed climbing walls, a climbing bridge and pyramid and a sensory corridor so that children can be active to and from yard and the hall.

We are delighted to have the opportunity to improve our school in this inclusive way!

Enrolment for 2024/2025 school year.

DON'T FORGET

We are currently accepting applications for students starting school in the 2024/25 school year from **Monday 16th October 2023 to Sunday 11th November 2023.**

APPLY

Parents will be offered places in the incoming Junior Infant class by Sunday 3rd December and must accept by Monday 18th December.

This is earlier than last year's enrolment and will be advertised on our website, through the parish and signage on school grounds.

NOW

If you are thinking of enrolling your child please note the change of dates for enrolment.

School Closures

Mid Term Break:

School is closed Monday 30th October to Friday 3rd November.

Christmas 2022:

School is closed Friday 22nd December at 12pm and reopens Monday 8th January



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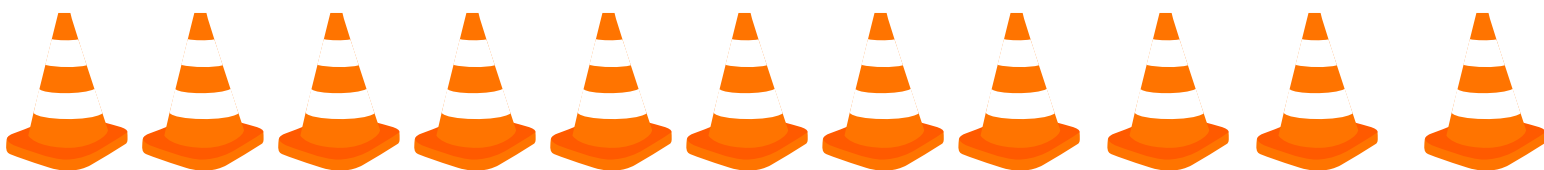
Health & Safety Information.

Thanks so much to those parents and students that are using the school pathways to enter the school grounds. We would also like to thank parents and students for making sure that gates are closed during school hours. We really appreciate your efforts to keep our students safe.

We have a few health and safety reminders that we would like to bring to your attention.

- **Parents using the car park for drop off and pick up for after school activities are asked to reverse park and accompany children through the car park.**
- Dogs are not allowed on school premises.
- We would encourage all parents to enter and exit the school grounds through the gate closest to the playground and not to use the gate by the car park.
- If you need to access the grounds during the school hours please ensure that the gates are left closed behind you.
- **Wet Days:** children should arrive at school **at 8.50am and later**. If they do get to school before that there are shelters by each door. As we all know the weather in Ireland is very changeable so we would encourage all children to have a raincoat in their bags or wear a coat each day.

Your children's safety is paramount, and we appreciate your support with these measures.



Bikes & Scooters.

There is a bike rack located beside the prefabs. Children who are cycling or scooting to school can park their bikes or scooters there.

We would ask that children **dismount** their 'vehicles' at the school gates and **walk** them through the school grounds.

Thank you to all for their co-operation with this matter.



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'Do This In Memory Of Me'

2nd Class children who will be making their First Holy Communion next year have commenced attending the 'Do This In Memory Of Me' programme in St. Martin de Porres Church since last weekend.

The special Masses are aimed at preparing the children for the Sacraments of First Confession and First Holy Communion next year. We wish the children every success as they prepare for these special occasions next year.



Helping Hands.

We are once again looking for Parent Helping Hands.

We would like parents to help out with the following:

- To accompany children to and from the church;
- To accompany children on school tours;
- To accompany children to sporting events.
- To help with Maths activities;
- To help out with Literacy activities;

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

How do I get involved?

All Parent Helping Hands need to be Garda Vetted through the school. You need to bring in proof of address and a photo ID (Passport/Drivers license) to the school and fill in an Application Form at the office ASAP.

We need to submit a form to Archbishop's House. They will then email you an e-form which you must return within 7 days otherwise the form will expire and you will need to begin the process all over again. When the 'Vetting' comes through you will be informed by Archbishop's House and the Declaration will also be sent to the school.



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Irish Dancing.

The Mowlds Academy of Irish Dancing will continue Irish dance classes after school following the mid-term break.

Irish dance teacher, Natalie Mowlds has twenty years experience and has been holding classes in Scoil Maelruain for the last twelve years.

Through the classes, Natalie encourages each child's natural ability to move and dance while in turn teaching basic Irish dancing steps in a fun way.

For further details, contact Natalie on 087 7471957.



Tin Whistle & Guitar Lessons.

Booking next term: Term 2

Tin whistle Term – €35 for the term Wednesday the **8th** of November to Wednesday the **20th** of December. (7 weeks) 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm.

€6 if its pay as you go. Tin whistles can be bought from Mr. S. Brady in school. Limited spaces

Term 2 Guitar: 2 classes

Guitar Term - €70 for the term Thursday the **9th** of November to Thursday the **21st** of December. (7 weeks) **€11 pay as you go per lesson.**

***Please note:** The 2:30 – 3:30 lesson straight after school is currently full. Please contact via email to be on a waiting list. Followed by a 3:30 – 4:30 lesson after the first lesson. Limited spaces. Guitars purchase suggestion: Amazon.

Rules: As some students will be bring in guitars with them on school property, the school or myself will not be liable for any damages or theft of guitars or tin whistles etc. **N.B:** Guitars and tin whistles are not allowed to be used or taken out during school hours and should not cause disruption. The guitars and tin whistles are the owner's responsibility and should not cause distractions to others in school during school hours.

Finally, also note: Due to meetings and staff meeting in the school, these set days of Wednesday and Thursday may be subject to change for particular weeks to another day in the week if a meeting is being held.

Please email me at sbrady@scoilmaelruainjunior.org to book your place I will get back to you as soon as I can.



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Maths Week 2023.

Maths Week took place during the month of October and was a great success. The children enjoyed taking part in enjoyable and practical activities all week.

We held a Digital Table Quiz in the hall, embraced team work; and solved our 'Problems of the Day'. The children made estimates in 'Measures', and recorded their findings.

Many thanks to the parents who facilitated our Board Games morning, by assisting in classrooms with a fun and engaging event!

Mrs C. Byrne
Maths Co-ordinator



Grandparents Day.

There was a wonderful atmosphere around the school this week as we celebrated Grandparent's Day as a school community.

The children reflected on the role of their grandparents in their lives and some of the classes has grandparents visit to hear songs being performed and poetry recited.

The children were overjoyed to see them visit their classrooms. Many thanks to all the grandparents who were able to attend.



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Arts & Crafts.

After a successful first term of Arts and Crafts we have decided to run another block after midterm. Our Christmas arts and crafts will be running for 4 weeks; starting on Monday 20th November.

Our classes will be running on **Mondays** and **Wednesdays** for this term.

If you would like to register please email aosullivan@scoilmaelruainjunior.org



G.A.A.

As the mid-term break approaches, children in First Class and Second class have been attending weekly G.A.A. training in school with Stephen Stewart from Thomas Davis G.A.A. Club.

The boys and girls are learning lots of new skills and having great fun at the same time.

We look forward to seeing their skills develop as the year progresses.



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Parents' Association



Annual General Meeting

Our AGM was held on the 2nd of October. We were delighted to see such a great turn out. We went through the Finance Report for the last school year, recapped over the past year's activities, looked at plans for the year ahead and elected the new officers of the Committee.

The Officers for this school year are:

Chair: Lisa Smyth.

Secretary: Blanche Hardiman.

Treasurer: Grace Doyle.

Vice Chair: Brid O' Connor.

Vice Secretary: Ciara Hennessy.

Vice Treasurer: Amy Duke.

Welcome from the new Chairperson and Secretary:

Hi everyone,

We hope you and your families are well and settling in to the first term of school! Firstly, we would like to thank Brid, Ciara, the Parents Association, Parents and Families, Clairev(Principial), Valerie (Secretary) and all the staff at the school for everything that they have done over the past year, they certainly have accomplished a lot.

The Parents Association are currently working on a calendar of events (some of which are highlighted below) for the coming year and this will be shared in the coming weeks.

One activity that we have planned is a coffee evening for Parents of the Junior Infant classes that joined Scoil Maelruain this year. It is an opportunity to meet other parents and check in to see how you and your little ones are settling into school life. So keep the evening of 15th November free and further details will be confirmed shortly.

Finally, we would like to thank you for the lovely warm welcome. We are really looking forward to working with you all over the coming school year to enhance the school experience for families in Scoil Maelruain Junior whilst having some much-needed fun along the way!

Lisa and Blanche.

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Parents' Association



Parents Representative's on the Board of Management:

A note issued from Claire Durr a few weeks ago seeking parents' nominations to sit on the school Board of Management. The school are seeking a female nominee and a male nominee. If you are interested, in this role please email us at:

scoilmaelruainjrpa@gmail.com

The deadline for nominations is **Friday the 10th November**. Should there be more than one nominee each, a vote will need to take place.

We will be in touch around the voting and selection process during November.

First Aid Courses

The first course was held on the Courses are running at the moment, with the first held on the 25th October. The next one is on the **15th November at 6.30pm**. if you are interested in attending please contact Gillian Doyle 0876630665.

Fundraising

Christmas Cards: The Parents Association has organised the annual "Designed by your Kid" Christmas Cards. You still have until the **3rd November** to order online.

Readathon:

Over the Halloween mid term break, our annual readathon will take place. Each child should receive a sponsorship card home by the end of this week. Cards and funds to be returned to the school by **Thursday the 9th November**.

Finally, just a reminder that we are always looking for parents to help out where they can such as in the School Library and in running events like Communion Breakfasts, bake sales etc.

Please get in touch if you are interested in volunteering.

You will also need to be Garda Vetted through the school. You can do this through Valerie in reception.

Get in Touch:

scoilmaelruainjrpa@gmail.com.

Parents Association Committee

