

Scoil Maelruain News

November/December 2023.

A snippet of life from our school in Old Bawn.



A message from our Principal.

As the frost bites and we are fast approaching Christmas, the children in Scoil Maelruain Junior have been busy over the past number of weeks.

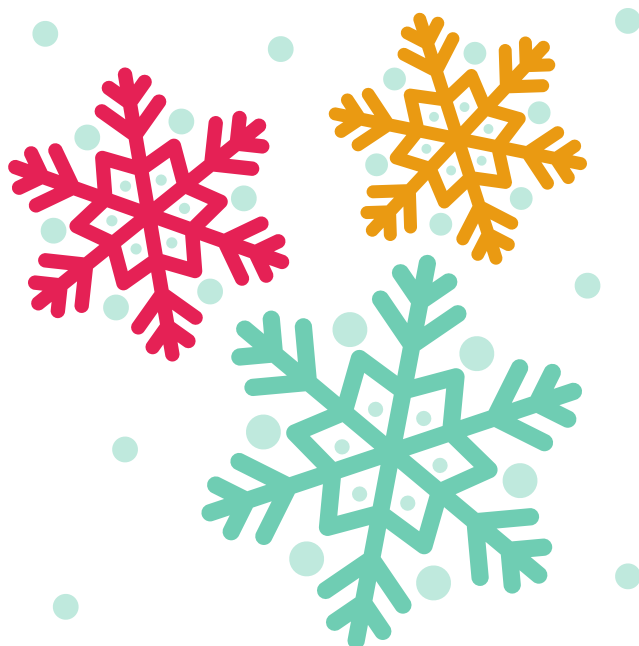
From the 13th - 17th November, we celebrated Science Week. The children in Ms J. McGraths class setup various experiments for all classes to explore.

We have installed the last of our sensory equipment in the school. We have two fabulous sensory corridors where children can hop and jump through the school! A huge thanks to 'Google Data Centres' who provided the funding for all of our sensory materials.

We are looking forward to welcoming parents to the school for our annual Christmas Plays/Performances on the 13th and 14th December.

Mrs. Claire Durr.

Winter



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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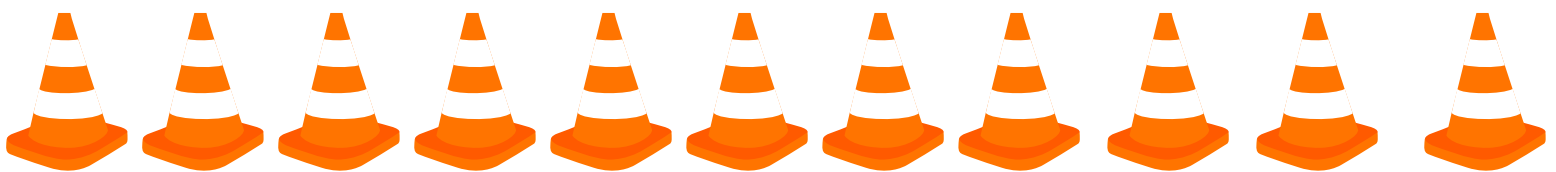
Health & Safety Information.

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

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



Parent-Teacher Communication.

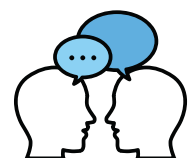
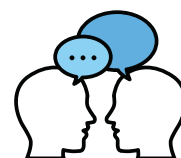
Teachers are unable to speak with parents at the doors in the morning.

Communication with teachers is done through the **Aladdin Connect App**. Teachers will review their notifications at the end of the school day. For this reason they may not be answered immediately.

For urgent communication please contact the office by phone 01-4510706 or by email scoilmaelruainjunior@gmail.com

Parents can also record reasons for absences both before and after through the **Aladdin Connect App**.

We appreciate your understanding in 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 for the rest of the term and in the New Year.

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.



School Website.

We are updating our School Website at the moment. We have added more events to the calendar that can be found on the homepage.

These include specialised weeks such as 'Seachtain na Gaeilge', 'Wellbeing Week' etc, school closures, specialised days such as 'World Book Day' etc.

We will continue to add to this as the year progresses.



Christmas Jumper Day

This year Scoil Maelruain Junior will support St Vincent De Paul in their annual Christmas fundraising drive.

We will hold a 'Christmas Jumper Day' on December 20th.

Parents who would like to donate to this charity can do so through a link that will be sent the week beginning 18th December.

All children are invited to wear their Christmas Jumpers on the 20th.



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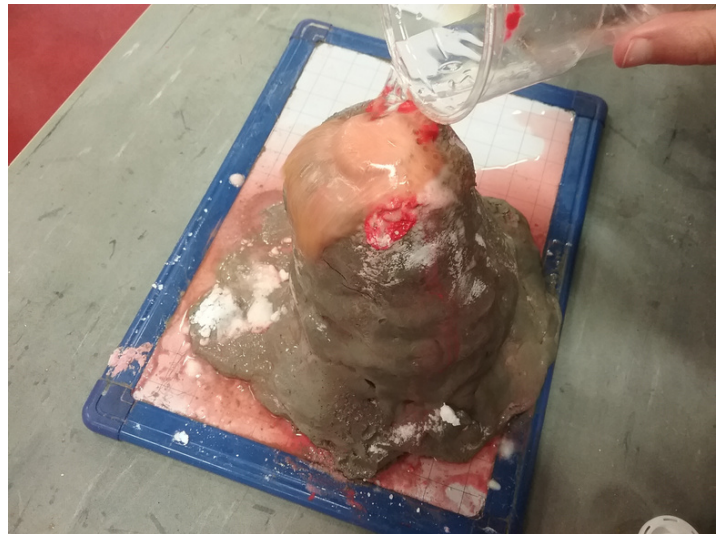
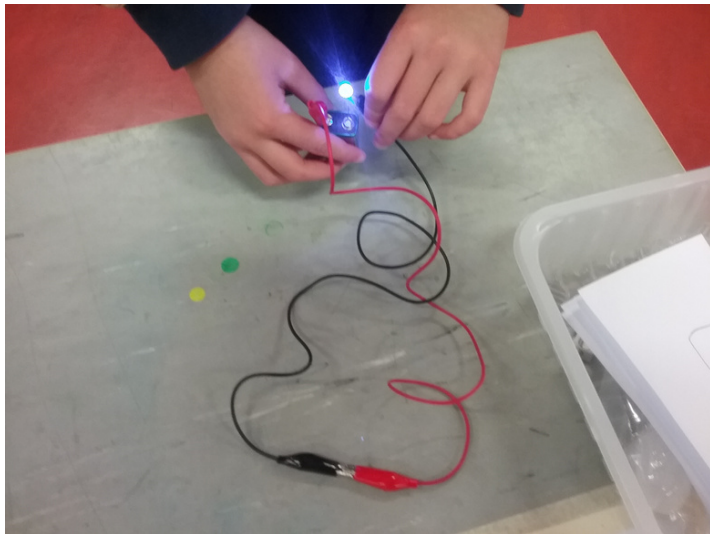
Science Week 2023.

Science Week took place recently and was a great success. The children enjoyed taking part in enjoyable and practical activities all week.

Some 2nd Class students from Ms. J. McGrath's class now outline their experience of participating in the initiative.

"We had fun with the volcano. We put baking soda and vinegar in the volcano. Then it erupted. We made circuits using telephone wire, a battery, a small bulb and insulation tape. (The big bulb did not work). We used insulators (wood and plastic) to break the circuit and conductors (metal) to keep the electricity flowing through the circuit. The bulb lights when the electricity flows in a circuit. We hooked alligator clips to the battery, and then to the insulator, and back on to the battery again. We put food colouring in the water and watched how celery 'drank' up the food colouring through its veins. We used big torches to test transparent and opaque materials. Transparent things allow light to shine through. Opaque things do not allow light to shine through. We had lots of fun setting up the science experiments."

Lola and Ava (Room 9)



School Closures.

Christmas 2023:

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

February 2024:

School is closed Monday 5th February
School is close on Thursday and Friday 15th and 16th February.



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Christmas Performances

We are delighted to be able to invite you to the school for our annual Christmas Performances.

These will take place on **Wednesday 13th December and Thursday 14th December 2023**

They will take place in the school hall. We would like to invite two adults per child.

Check Aladdin Notifications for times and dates for each individual class.



G.A.A.

As the term continues, children in Scoil Maelruain Juniot 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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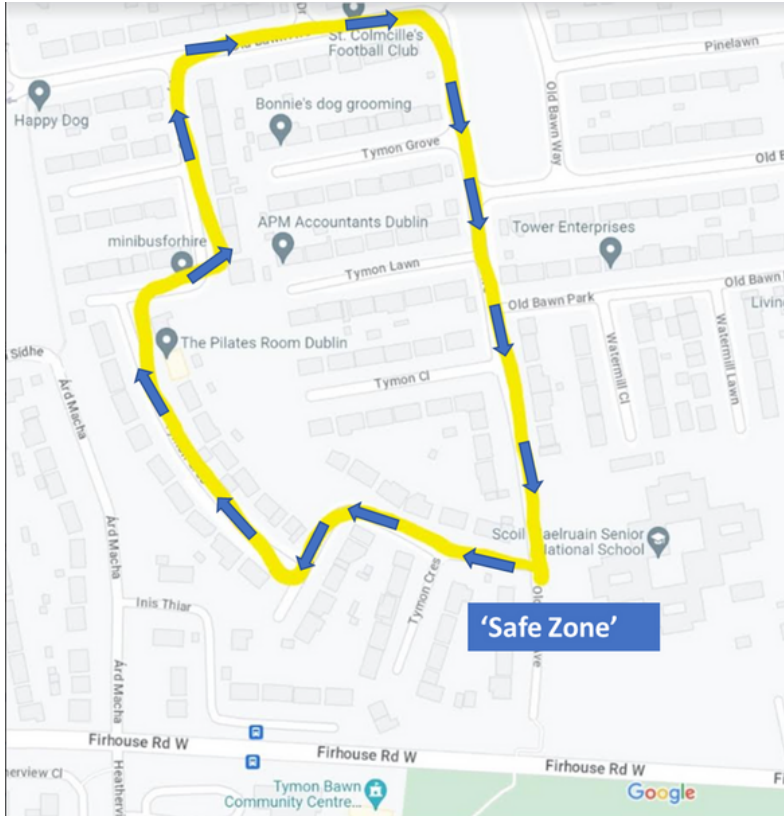
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Parents' Association



Safe Streets.



Thank you to everyone for your co-operation with the 'Safe Streets' initiative so far.

We would like to remind parents/guardians of the following:

Do not do a U-turn and go back down Old Bawn Avenue, use the exit through Tymon Crescent.

You can park in St Martin De Porres Car Park.

On wet days you can drop your child to school up until 9.05 am as the school doors remain open until that time.

Avoid parking in front of residents' driveway.



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Parents' Association



Christmas Cards: For those that ordered the “Designed by your Kid” Christmas cards you should have received them by now. Well done to all of the children as they drew fantastic pictures. The Parents Association raised €1,052 and would like to thank everyone who ordered Christmas cards.

Readathon: We held our annual readathon over the mid-term break and €2,745 was raised by the sponsorship received. A huge thank you to the kids who got really involved and read loads over the mid-term break and to those that sponsored them.

Parents Representative's on the Board of Management

We would like to confirm that **Gillian Doyle** and **Declan Buckley** have been elected to sit on the school Board of Management. We wish both Gillian and Declan the very best in this role.

First Aid Courses

The first course was held on the 25th of October. There was great uptake on the first aid course, and it went really well! Feedback was really positive for those that attended. Unfortunately, we have had to reschedule the second course and we are now planning to have that in the New Year. If you are interested in attending, please contact Gillian Doyle 0876630665.

Ho! Ho! Ho!

The Parents Association have reached out to Santa's team in the North Pole to see if he could possibly visit Scoil Maelruain Junior before we all finish up for the Christmas break! More details to follow!

Online Parents Seminar – “Embrace the Chaos”

We have arranged to have an online talk for parents which will be hosted by Rachael Smith, Life Coach & Primary Teacher. Details of the event are outlined below, and further details will be provided in the coming days.

LOOK!

Embrace the Chaos

A talk for Parents hosted by Rachael Smith
Life Coach & Primary Teacher

Helping Parents Change from
Overwhelmed & Unfulfilled to
Feeling Calm, Content & Confident!

We'll Explore:

- Self care tools
- Family Values
- Removing Parent Guilt
- Enjoying Family Life

WHERE & WHEN:
Online (Details to follow)
TUES 12TH DEC
8PM - 9.15PM

RACHAEL.SMITH.COACHING@GMAIL.COM
INSTAGRAM @EMBRACE_LIFE_COACHING