

Howth Primary School Scoil Mhuire

October 2022 Newsletter

Welcome Back

Fáilte ar ais daoibh go léir! I am delighted to welcome everyone back to school. A special welcome to all our Junior Infants and new pupils! It has hard to believe it is the midterm already. It's been a busy few weeks since we all returned to school. I hope you enjoy reading what has been going on in our school.

Our Girls in Blue!!!!

Wishing our Senior Girls GAA Team the very best of luck in their Cup Final in CROKE PARK this Friday Afternoon



Enrolment 2023/2024

We are now taking enrolments for the coming academic year. Please find the school's Admissions Policy, Admission Notice and Application Form on our website: http://howthprimaryschool.ie/?page_id=260
Application Forms are also available in the school office.



Volume 1, Issue 1

Newsletter Date



Special points of interest:

- Journey to Croke Park
- Friendship Week
- Maths Week Photos
- Beautiful School Garden
- Say Yes to Languages
- Digital Leaders named
- School Events
- School Calendar

Senior Girls Journey to Croke Park

The girls have had a fantastic time playing for the school team this year. We have a very large panel of 28 players. Each girl had a part to play on a road which has led us to the final in Croke Park.

The girls are all eager and train once or twice a week in school. Our first game was at home against Holy Trinity of Donaghmede. Our excellent defending and ability to score goals at crucial times led to a comfortable victory. Our next group game was a very tough contest. We travelled to Scoil Uí Chonaill on the Clontarf Rd. Chloe Sanfey scored the crucial goal that saw us over the line. Sitting at the top of the table our next outing was against St. Fintans. This was a match where all

the girls on the panel got to play. A win secured our place in the quarter finals and also a night free of homework for the senior classes.

We had home advantage for our Quarter Final. Missing our joint captain Kayla Duffy through injury added to the pre-match nerves. Amelia Carroll scored two excellent goals while our defenders once again put in a massive performance.

Our semi final match was fixed for the neutral venue of Father Collins Park. Horrible weather conditions led to the game being postponed. With the dates for the finals fast approaching we opted to play on an all weather pitch in Fingallians GAA club, the club team affiliated with our opposition. The pitch was tight and

the competition was fierce. We led by a goal and a point at half time thanks to some excellent scores from Elise Goodwin and excellent goal keeping from Megan Tighe. In the second half Mia Coleman scored the vital goal while Zoe Curley scored a fantastic point.

On to the Final we go. We are very excited. Our success will not be judged by the result on the day but by the excitement and increased interest in Girls GAA.



Friendship Week

Friendship week was celebrated in Howth Primary School from October 3rd to 7th 2022. We were delighted to start off the new school year on such a positive note.

The whole school took part in activities which included children telling their friends what they like about them, a poster competition, friendship quotes, art activities, buddy activities including making friendship bracelets, friendship poems and rhymes and

learning about what makes a good friend. Children also got an opportunity to work co-operatively with their friends during PE.

To top it all off, every child in the school learned the Bruno Mars song called "You can count on me". This was sung at our assemblies which were held on Tuesday October 4th. The children nearly blew the roof off the hall with their incredible singing!

This special week has made a big impact among our school communi-

ty. As our school motto says "Ar Aghaidh lé chéile"... "Forward Together".



Voluntary Contribution

We would like to thank those parents who have paid their voluntary contribution. As a Voluntary Non fee-paying Primary School we are highly dependent financially on the monies raised through the Voluntary Contribution. We are most grateful for the generous response from parents to date. We have a wonderful and vibrant school community. Howth Primary School has superb facilities. Your financial support is essential in order that

this learning environment can be maintained.



Say Yes to Languages

This year we are very excited to join 500 primary schools nationwide in delivering the new 'Say Yes to Languages' Programme. We will be introducing French to our two fifth and sixth classes over a 6-week period during the normal school timetable. Ms Peters will deliver the programme to the children. The module is being rolled out in the second term, with the support of

Languages Connect and PPLI (Post-Primary Languages Ireland), a unit of the Department of Education.

Languages Connect promotes the personal, social, professional and economic benefits of foreign language skills to principals, teachers, parents and students. It is funded by the Department of Education and facilitated by Post Primary Languages Ireland. For all the latest up-

dates check out www.languagesconnect.ie or follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

Howth Primary School Garden

The development of the school garden and outdoor learning space began in August 2021. In transforming our outdoor learning environment we are ensuring quality education for our students. Studies have shown the overwhelming benefits of outdoor learning. Student engagement is higher as place-based learning affords more opportunities for risk-taking, problem-solving, and creative and imaginative play while promoting inquiry, curiosity, and general well-being.

On entering the garden you follow the smell of the lavender

plant, leading you to our wildflower meadow where the bees love to hang out. Next to the meadow is the soft-play area that has been used for various lessons across all subjects in the curriculum including, literacy, art, science, geography, maths, and P.E. Next to the soft-play are eight raised beds, which were planted with a variety of fruit and vegetables last year and a green area with three new tables. The soft-play has a sensory garden next to it. Students have upcycled some tyres and planted mint, rosemary, fluffy Lamb's-ear, and sage. The school recently purchased three

reading benches, a story-time chair, and a mud kitchen. These will soon be installed for all our students to enjoy.

We have been very fortunate to have received such fantastic help and support from children, staff, parents, and the local Tidy Towns in transforming this space into what it is today. A particular word of thanks to Nicole Dunne for her guidance and support. We look forward to bringing more plants and animals into our garden over the coming year.



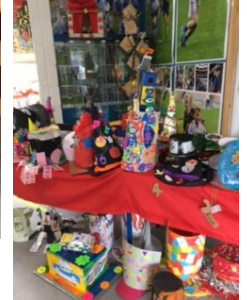
Digital Leaders

Congratulations to Mia Coleman, Romy Brady, Síofra Hughes, Aaron Doran, Jack Malone Duffy and Kohsay Bell who were announced as our student digital leaders. They will be involved in helping teachers and pupils to promote digital learning in the school. They received their digital leader badges at a recent assembly and held their first meeting with some brilliant ideas discussed.



Maths Week

We had a funfilled week of great Maths activities from 17th—21st October. Between Maths trails, table quizzes, Maths Hats making, and all kinds of Maths games it all added up to a great week of fun.



The Boys GAA Teams

Senior Boys played St. David's Ar-tane & St. Brigid's Boys Killester in the group stage, winning both matches. They played John Bos-cos, Navan Rd in the quarter final, very narrowly losing out in a great contest.

Junior Boys played St. Marnocks, Portmarnock, St. Helens, Portmar-nock & Oliver Plunketts, Malahide. The boys improved steadily throughout each fixture. We are looking forward to next year's season.

Tá fadhb leanúnach le snéacha uaige sa scoil. Iarraimid bhur gcábhair chun an fhadhb a choimeád faoi smacht. Seiceáil gruaig do pháiste gach deireadh seachtaine. Úsáid cíor fineálta chuige seo. Má tá gruaig fhada ag do pháiste ceangal suas é. Cuir fios ar an múinteoir má fheiceann tú snéacha.

We have, as most schools do, a problem from time to time, with hair infestation. It would help if every child's hair was checked and finely combed over the Mid term Break. Long hair should be tied up. If infestation is discovered please treat immediately and inform the class teacher.

All information is dealt with discreetly.



HALLOWEEN SAFETY

Parents, Halloween is a time of great fun but we ask all our girls and boys to be aware of the danger of bonfires and also to take care on the streets after dark. You might remind your child that Halloween can be a very difficult time for elderly people living alone and also for dogs. This is especially the case regarding Guide Dogs for blind and visually impaired

people. When Guide Dogs become distressed and fearful they are no longer able to work effectively and may have to be taken away from their blind owner. Please discourage the use of fireworks on streets or near houses. Any bonfires should be adult supervised in open areas such as parks or fields.



School Events for the Year

- 03/10/2022 Friendship Week
- 17/10/2022 Maths Week
- 14/11/2022 Science Week
- 21/11/2022 Parent/Teacher Meetings (school closes at 2.15 on Monday 21st)
- 02/12/2022 Music Makes Magic Open Day
- 07/12/2022 Music Makes Magic Open Day
- 12 & 13/12/2022 Christmas Concerts
- 1–10/03/2023 March Literacy Week
- 07/03/2023 Book Fair
- 13/03/2023 Seachtain na Gaeilge
- 27 & 28/03/2023 First Confessions
- 06/05/2023 First Holy Communion
- 26/05/2023 Confirmation
- 19/06/2023 Active Week
- ** Date for 6th Class Graduation yet to be decided.



School Policies

Please see the following updated policies on our website— School

Code of Behaviour
Child Protection
Anti Bullying
and our Healthy Eating Policy /Nut Free



Outline School Calendar 2022/2023

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER:

Wednesday	31 st August	School Reopens	Normal Day
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OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

Monday	31 st Oct- Friday 4 th Nov (inc)	Mid term Break	School Closed
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► DECEMBER/JANUARY

Wednesday	21 st December	Start of Christmas Holidays	Half Day
Thursday	22 nd Dec - Wed 4 th Jan (inc)	Christmas Holidays	School Closed

FEBRUARY:

Monday	6 th February	Public Holiday	School Closed
Monday	13 th Feb - Fri 17 th Feb (inc)	Mid term Break	School Closed

MARCH:

Thursday	17 th March	St. Patrick's Day	School Closed
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APRIL:

Friday	31 st March	Start of Easter Holidays	Half Day
Monday	3 rd - Fri 14 th April (inc)	Easter Holidays	School Closed

MAY:

Monday & Tues.	1 st / 2 nd May	Public Holiday/School Holiday	School Closed
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JUNE:

Monday & Tues.	5 th / 6 th June	Public Holiday/School Holiday	School Closed
Friday	30 th June	Start of Summer Holidays	Half Day

