



ST PATRICK'S
CROSSMAGLEN -
Nursery

32 page
Newspaper



ST PATRICK'S
CROSSMAGLEN
- P1 work



The Blackboard

An clár dubh

TODAY the Newry Democrat publish an historic bilingual newspaper edited and produced by the P7 pupils and staff of St Patrick's Primary School in Crossmaglen.


The stories are in the words of the pupils in English and Irish. The publication is one of a kind throughout Ireland, and is a remarkable achievement.

On Friday School Principal, Mr Michael Madine, was joined by staff and pupils for a very special occasion as he celebrated his 60th birthday. NM2126301 Noel Moan



**Gaelscoil Phádraig Naofa
Crois Mhic Lionnáin**






St Patrick's Primary School

2021

NURSERY SCHOOL

Crossmaglen





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Dia daoibh, Is mise Michael Madine, príomhoide na scoile seo, agus tá áthas an Domhain orm cúpla focal a rá faoi scoil s'againn.

My name is Michael Madine and I am the Principal of our school . I am delighted to write a few words as a foreword.

I must admit I didn't know a lot about our school, Crossmaglen or the people from the area before I was appointed 11 years ago. I had shared a student house with Aidan Short when I was at college at Queens .

I also attended lectures, sometimes, with Mairead McConville and Eilis Morgan from that time. From my recollections the only time I had visited Cross was a night out with Aidan in the 1980s and watching Armagh play the GOAL Charity match after winning the All Ireland Final in 2002.

In December 2010 I made my first visit to our school. I had just been appointed Principal and Peter Gildea, the incumbent Principal invited me down for a chat before he moved on to his new appointment and before I took up post.

I must admit that I was feeling a bit nervous as I parked my car, outside the school. That unease disappeared when Conor Savage, a P7 pupil at the time, met me outside the school with his hand out to greet me, saying "You must be Mr Madine. You are very welcome to Cross. I'm Conor".

That was quickly followed with a "Failte" from his Rang 7 colleague, Meghann O'Callaghan.

Indeed, despite being a proud "Down" man I have been made very welcome in Crossmaglen over the past 10 years or so. I'm not the only one who has experienced this. When I talk to others as they visit our school, Crossmaglen and indeed the wider South Armagh area they all speak of the genuine welcome and interest that the local people give them.

In the world of education much is said of the "ethos" of a school. If one walks into our school more often than not you will meet children, and indeed adults, who will give you a smile, are not afraid to say hello and have a chat, and probably even more importantly willing to listen to you.

Whilst we undoubtedly encourage this self confidence and openness I do think there is a special ingredient in the "water" of this area that is innate amongst the people of South Armagh that does set them apart in a very positive, special way. Sure, don't they even have own language of "feens, Beurs, munya and rulya!!"

Proud

I have been very proud and happy being Principal of our school over the past decade or so.

There are various groups which have made positive contributions to this

The friendliness, commitment, energy, talent and support of all staff has made my job easier. Likewise the trust and cooperation of our parents and carers is crucial in the success of our teaching of their children on a daily basis. The backing and support of our school Governors is tremendous boost as one embarks on a new initiative or a difficult phase as what we faced with COVID. Finally, the spiritual advice and leadership offered by the priests of the parish Fr Kevin and Fr Dermot is most welcome and valued.

Whilst we will have over 500 children enrolled in September and nearly 60 staff we still try to be as open and accommodating as we can be to our school community.

Principal, Michael Madine

Our school is diverse in that we have a Nursery Unit - St Patrick's, an Irish Medium Unit - Gáelscoil Phadraig Naofa as well as the P1- P7 classes in St Patrick's PS.

As you can appreciate it's a very busy place with a lot of different activities going on in the classrooms, between classes and after school. My favourite part of my job is popping into the classrooms to see what is going on, having a chat on the corridor and indeed to have visitors to my, very tidy office, to see their good work. Whilst the sound of Gaeilge and English predominates our playgrounds and classrooms one can also hear snippets of Lithuanian, Latvian, Croatian, Mandarin and Arabic in the air and shows how cosmopolitan our school has become.

Projects

Our children enjoy participating in a wide range of projects and have the opportunity to meet and work with others. We have been involved in Erasmus projects with our colleagues from Slovenia, Croatia, Italy, Finland and Czech Republic for many years. Closer to home we have a decade long Shared Education Partnership with our friends from Markethill PS.

Our children in the Gaeilscoil are involved in a project with children from the Scottish Isles of Uist & Barra. The Gaeilscoil enjoy their annual trips to the Gaeltacht and their participation in Feis and Dramaiochts. Children also have the opportunity to perform in the schools Traditional Music Group, our Choir and in our after school Drama group.

In Crossmaglen, sport is always to the fore, "Cross Rangers" are very supportive of the school and the children participate and compete strongly in football and camogie. Our lunchtime league battles are legendary and that's where the stars of the future honed their skills. Crosscountry, athletics, swimming, rugby and soccer are also participated in. The school has a great record in quizzes and recently our children have featured in various media outlets including Brexit programmes in the Irish Times and BBC Newsround. Children in the Gaeilscoil have featured in various Irish Medium TV programmes such as Meon Eile.

As one can see we do take a very holistic approach to education and we try to offer the children as wide variety of experiences and challenges over their time with us. As children move on through their educational journey we hope that these experiences contribute to their own life choices when it comes to careers.

On speaking of career, what a wonderful opportunity, our Year 7 children are having to see what its really like being a journalist in this project facilitated by Peter Bayne, Editor of the Newry Democrat. The boys and girls in P7 and Rang 7 have been very busy over the last few weeks writing and editing a range of articles and reports for their "Newspaper"

I have heard of one child remarking how can some newspapers be published every day when it takes our school over a month to publish one!!!

Reflection

This time of year is always a good time to reflect on the eight year journey that our Year 7 children have taken from our Nursery through our school. As parents, it is sometimes not easy to witness their progress on a daily basis but when we look at their early attempts to write, draw and communicate all those years ago and compare their efforts to the present with their rich language, well structured Newspaper articles then we do know that the child, parent, school partnership has worked throughout those primary school years.

As always, many thanks to our teachers and staff in Year 7, Mrs

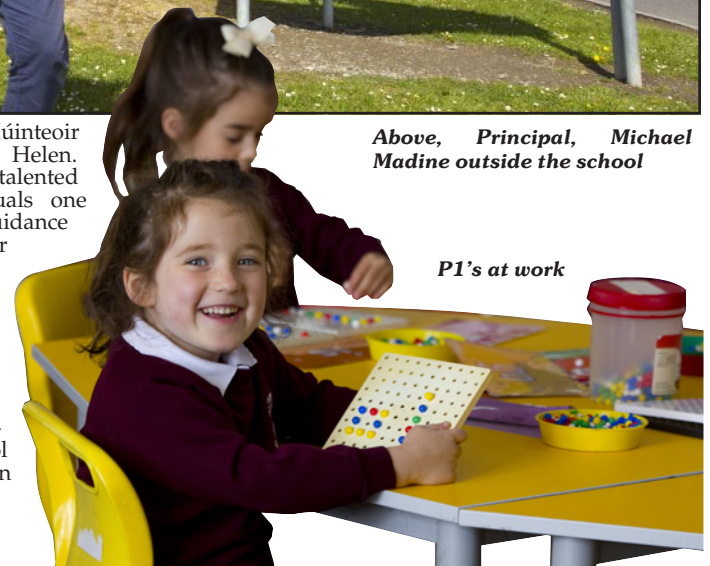


Above, Principal, Michael Madine outside the school

Cassidy P7 teacher, and Múinteoir Barra Rang 7 teacher and Helen. Whilst our children are very talented and hardworking individuals one cannot underestimate the guidance and effort afforded by our children's teachers and support staff, not only in the current year but through their time with us.

We all look forward to the publication of our own newspaper in mid June and we hope you enjoy the insights into our school provided by our children in Primary 7 and Rang 7.

M Madine



PI's at work

Irish Language Bursary Scheme 2021/2022

If you would like to complete an Irish language course, don't forget that the Irish Language Bursary Scheme 2021/2022 is still open. Newry, Mourne and Down District Council invites applications for bursaries towards:

- Local Irish Language Courses
- Gaeltacht Colleges
- Intensive Irish Language Courses

Taking place in the following periods -

Period 1: 1 April 2021 - 30 September 2021

Period 2: 1 October 2021 - 31 March 2022

Applications can be downloaded from www.newrymournedown.org

Completed application forms can be submitted to: gaeilge@nmandd.org

OR by post to:

Irish Language Unit
Newry Office
O'Hagan House
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For further information please email: gaeilge@nmandd.org

Caseys

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Tullydonnell

How I survived lockdown

By Martin Shields

Since last March we have come through two lockdowns and that meant a lot of home-schooling.

We were learning through an app called Edmodo, it is a great way of communicating with the teacher.

We also used Zoom a lot but that often started at half nine in the morning and I would be half asleep some days! Because we were at home there was no routine like there usually is when we are going out to school.

Things were very different and life changed a lot for everyone over the past year. It became normal for people to wear face masks and visors which is something I'd never seen before.

People exercised more to get out in the fresh air by doing online classes, walking, running and cycling. I went on my bike much more and ran in the evenings.

Other things that kept me busy were my quad, looking after and playing with my dogs and working with my horses. Saturdays were spent washing my Mam and Dad's cars. Sadly a lot of people died and because we weren't allowed to travel very far I couldn't get to see my nanny in Sligo.

The first lockdown was great but as the year went on I soon realised it wasn't so great after all because I couldn't do my sports, I missed my friends and believe it or not I missed school aswell. We are all happily now back at school with our friends and doing our sports. Everything is good again.



A smiling face which would brighten up any school day.Noel Moan



A journey through school

Age just 4 off to Nursery we go,
What was ahead of us, we did not know.
All we did was paint and play
We didn't want to go home at the end of the day.
The sandpit and bikes, outdoor play was fun
Thanks to Mrs Murphy and Miss Sheridan it was expertly run.

The 'Big School' was next as we started to grow,
Primary 1 we were ready to give it a go.
We learned our ABC's and our 123's
Classroom Assistants were there to cure our cut hands and knees.
Mrs O' Sullivan and Micheline made it a great year
Moving on didn't cause much worry or fear.

Primary 2 meant our class had to be split,
We didn't really care or mind one bit.
Mrs Carolan and Mrs O'Neill were our teachers that year
Both classes had a great atmosphere.
We were six years old now, we'd learned to read and write
And how to make up after having a fight.

In Primary 3 Mrs Hughes lead the way
Work got harder with each passing day.
We learned about space and on a trip to the Planetarium we went,
This was a year when lots of fun days were spent,
After-school in the Youth Club; cooking, drama and sport
Learning about local history on a visit to Corliss Fort.

In Primary 4 we all turned 8
This year was really great!
We made our First Communion on a sunny Saturday in May
We celebrated in style our special day.
Reunited again altogether as one class,
Mrs Hughes again, what a blast!

P5 came next with Mrs Kelly as our teacher,
Shared Education was a major feature.
Tayto Park was our trip that year,
We rode on Cuchulainn with little or no fear.
Swimming lessons in Newry was lots of fun,
P5 was finally done.

Mrs O'Sullivan and P6 came along with lots of traditional music and song,
The work was tough we had challenges to face,
We had to work at a steady pace.
Our time in school was cut very short,
A pandemic struck, who would have thought!
We ended the year learning from home
On I-pads and computers via Google Chrome.

Our last year P7 with Mrs Cassidy is here, Coronavirus, it has affected our year.
In March we got back to class, together once more.
To make our Confirmation, on our pledge we swore.
Our Trip to Antrim it wasn't to be
But our years in St. Patrick's will always be a special memory.
We'll go our separate ways but we'll always be friends
It's going to be an emotional end!

Life in Quarantine

By Paddy Maughan

March 2020 Covid came to town
All of our shops and schools closed down

People panicked we had to work from home
Our only contact was on a I pad or phone.



The pandemic was all we heard on the news
We were all feeling the blues.

Our world was a damaging place
Fighting Covid was going to be a long race.

Lots of people became sick and died
The NHS we were all on their side.

When would it end no one knows
We survived the Summer and the Winter snows.

We're back to school our fun place to be
Where our friends are part of our family.
Life is getting good again
Let's hope Covid has come to an end.



Lots to do in Nursery class for these young students.

CENTRA
CROSSMAGLEN

Wishing continued success to
St. Patrick's Primary School



End of an Era-The Wee Paper as told by owner Gerry Murray

Reported by: Sorcha Boylan

The Examiner newspaper evolved from the Slieve Gullion View paper set up in 1986 using 'Action for Community Development' (ACE) workers to produce on a fortnightly basis a community newspaper.

In 1992 it was decided to set up The Examiner which would be privately owned and would have to be self-financing.

The paper was put together in offices in Crossmaglen employing 10 people, some full-time and others part-time.

Initially the paper was printed in the 'Northern Standard' in Monaghan, later on in Belfast and then finally in Portadown.

The best thing about the paper was that you had something new happening all the time and you were meeting different people every day.

The stories we remember the most are the sad stories, reporting on people who had died as a result of an accident which was made worse because we are from a very

close knit community we often knew the victims and their families well.

The paper covered all of South Armagh, Newry, Warrenpoint, Mayobridge, Dundalk, Inniskeen and Castleblaney.

The paper ceased publishing mainly because of Covid 19 and the impact it has had on small businesses. All the local businesses in the area hotels, pubs, shops etc. used the paper for advertising their services so because of the closures the paper had nothing to advertise as the main income from the paper was down to the adverts. This unfortunately meant that it was not viable to continue to print.

Another contributing factor was that social media was taking over from the newspaper and sales fell by 50% so it was only a matter of time before small papers closed for good.

We sadly ceased production and publication of The Examiner in march 2020. It has been a wonderful journey and the weekly news in The Examiner was enjoyed by many.



The last ever Sports Day

By Michael McCreesh

On Thursday 27th May P7 were greeted with a warm Spring day for their last ever Sports Day as pupils of this school. Down to the field to compete in eight stations as part of a red, green or blue group everyone feeling very excited. Obstacle course, kicking points, balancing, rugby, scooters, crossbar challenge, beanbag throws and catching skills were the activities.

Races were next; the sprint, cross country and the best part of the day 'The Leaver's Race'. This is the only race you do once in all your years at this school. We brought in 6 pieces of adult's clothing, our Mum's or Dad's and we had to dress in them at different stages of the race track. We all looked really funny, it was great craic.

Green team were the overall winners on the day. It's the last Sports day we'll have here.



Girls and boys enjoyed their final Sports Day at St Patrick's Primary School, Crossmaglen.



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Wishing All Pupils The Best In Their Journey To New Schools And A Huge Congratulations On This Wonderful Supplement

My Dad: Tony McEntee

By: Daire Mc Entee

School Days

My dad was born in 1977 and entered St Patrick's primary school in the Autumn of 1981 aged 4.

Although his birthday was 30th June he wasn't the youngest in his class.

His fond memories of primary school include being thought by Mrs Cassidy in how to sew, having two principals- Mr John Daly & Mr Eamon Devlin, his many friends who he is still in contact today and the many characters in the school (one use to feign an epileptic fit to get out of class), and finally the amount of twins (he is a twin himself) – he thinks there were 11 sets of twins in the school at the one time though I'm not sure I believe him.

Growing Up

His family grew up in the Square where his parents still live and work in the shop. There were 6 kids who slept in 3 rooms, 2 per room and often 2 per bed.

They walked to school every day and he can still remember the running up Carron Road thinking how long that climb was to Mackin's corner. But back then there were lollipop med or ladies who helped them cross the road safely.

We spent most of our free time in the "Square" playing "kerbies" or kicking football often with our neighbours, the Moleys or Murphys. The Moleys had buses and we use to play hide and seeks underneath them!

Not something you would be allowed to do today. Then there was the Troubles and the soldiers, but he thought it best to skip that bit.

Role Models

On the sporting fields he loved watching athletics (Ben Johnston becoming the fastest man in the world in the fastest race ever, at that time), watching Barry McGuigan (from Clones, Monaghan) winning his world title against Eusebio Pedroza in June 1985 then losing it in the scorching heat to Stevie Cruz in

Las Vegas, and finally watching great Ulster teams win the All-Ireland titles in the early '90s.

Football Achievements

He has many football achievements and displays his medals to remind me of them. His greatest achievements are winning the All-Ireland with Armagh in 2002 against Kerry in a very dramatic match where he came on as a sub, and also 4 Club All-Ireland titles as a player and 2 as a joint manager with Gareth O'Neill. He says they were the good old days where football was better, but I've seen some of these matches and players like Joe Fitzy, Gary McShane and Gavin Cumiskey wouldn't last long on the field today!

Roles in Management

My dad says, "management isn't all it is cracked up to be". He says, "you'll understand some day". I don't know what he means by that, but he does spend a lot of time on the laptop.

He currently manages Sligo County GAA team (I did ask was there not one closer to him?), he oversees the underage development

in the Club as well as manages the U15 team, and he has a management role in his work – more on that below..

Job

At the time of writing my Dad is a Sales Director in Orthopaedics for a Dublin based, family-owned business which provides medical products and services to the health sector.

However, at the end of this month he is starting his own business as a medical distributor, providing sales and marketing of medical products & services into hospitals. It is a new venture from him, so I hope it goes well or that holiday we have planned to France next year won't happen.

Family Life

In our house we have 2 boys (Keelan and myself) and 2 girls (Cuisle and Róise). The boys came first so once Cuisle came along mammy wanted her to have a sister and luckily Róise was next.

I can only guess what would happen if it was a boy... In Dad's house there are 4 boys and 2 girls. Nanny Mo (Mona) always said that she wanted 4 boys to carry her coffin and 2 girls to mourn for her – hence the 6. It's a bit morbid if you ask me. They all get on really well and we regularly meet up with them.

I am very proud of my Dad!



Crossmaglen and Armagh great Tony McEntee playing for his club and county. (Below) Tony offers advice as manager of Sligo Seniors. (Above) Father and son , Tony McEntee with his son Daire McEntee.



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ssmaglen Square

Crossmaglen - Not as we know it!

By Ciaran Corrigan and Brogan Coyle-Murphy

The town Crossmaglen that we are growing up in is very different to the Crossmaglen a lot of our parents and our teacher remembers when they were our age.

For many years the British Army controlled our town, they had a huge presence during the years known as 'The Troubles'.

The Troubles started in 1969, Republicans fought against the British Army.

In Crossmaglen helicopters flew overhead during the day and at night-time landing in the barracks on the Cullaville Road. People described the noise as horrendous. GAA members had to learn to ignore the helicopter noise overhead as they played their games on Crossmaglen Rangers pitch. The army had also taken a part of the football club away from them for their use, without anyone's permission.

Watchtowers, lookout posts or sangers were

built all over the town and the surrounding countryside.

The biggest one was the Barucki sanger built in 1976 at the edge of the Cullaville Road that joins the Dundalk Road. It looked over the whole square and town. People were being watched from every angle. It was dismantled on 31st July 2000.

The police station that still exists was known as the RUC station, this was a heavily fortified structure that was bombed many times.

The British Army patrolled the town armed either on foot or in vehicles called saracens. They were big, green army tanks.

The British army left Crossmaglen in 2007 after being there for over thirty years.

We are so glad that we didn't grow up in those days, the people in Cross have more freedom now and are not being watched all the time. It is much more peaceful and are proud to be from Crossmaglen. We have learned a lot about our town's history from writing this report.



British soldiers on patrol in Crossmaglen. (Above) The fortified Police Station. (Right) An army helicopter flies over the grounds of Crossmaglen Rangers.



All About Our School

By: Aibhlinn Mc Bennett, Nicole O' Callaghan, Ameja Senkute & Caoimhe Hearty

We go to St. Patrick's PS in Crossmaglen and we think it is the best school ever!

St. Patrick's first opened on the 5th of January 1959. We have a self-contained Nursery unit that provides education for 52 children.

In 2002 an Irish Medium unit, Gaelscoil Phádraig Naofa opened and welcomed its first Rang a Haon pupils.

There are 490 children at our school at the minute and this number will be over 500 in September. Our school is getting bigger every year but the problem is we have no more room.

We used to have a big staff room, a library, an assembly Hall and an ICT suite but these are all being used as classrooms.

We are lucky we have a big playing field so at least we have room for our sport and PE.

In 2016 our new school play park officially opened. The park is on the school grounds but is open to the public outside school hours. Every class gets time in the park each week.

Our school offers lots of extra cur-

ricular activities. We have a choir, a traditional group and an eco-committee to name but a few. Someone else has written about all the sport our school offers.

At the back of the school is a memorial garden that was built after the teacher who founded the Gaelscoil, Muinteoir Proinsais passed away. When we go there we remember all the people in our school who have

died. It is a nice quiet, peaceful place and sometimes we go there for circle time or to read.

Mr Madine is our Principal and he is great. He gives us lots of opportunities to take part in different things.

We are proud to be pupils of St. Patrick's and will miss it next year when we move to our new secondary schools.



Our beautiful garden.



Our play park.

under the spotlight



Name - Eleanor Cassidy
Occupation - Primary 7 teacher in St. Patrick's PS Crossmaglen

If you could learn to do one thing what would it be?
 I would learn to speak a new language-Spanish

If you won the lottery what is the first thing you would do?
 I would buy a luxury villa in Spain,

re-tire to it and I could practice my new language.

What do you like most about teaching?

The best things about teaching are the friends you make within the school community and beyond. Our staff all get on really well together and we are friends outside of school also. We were part of the Comenius Project for a

number of years and made many friends from schools all over Europe. I enjoy the relationships you build up with the pupils and in particular working and living in the community means I can see how the pupils grow and change as they get older.

When you have 30 minutes of free time, how do you pass that time?
 I usually read or catch up on whatever series I'm watching on Netflix.

What was the last experience that made you a stronger person?

Seeing how my 93 year old Nanny is recovering from a fall she had recently- she has great fight and determination. Her strength gives me strength.

What is your favourite food?

Seafood-prawns and salmon being top of the list.

What's your favourite activity? (An indoor one and an outdoor one)

Indoors I love Yoga and enjoy attending the weekly classes when I can at Acushla Yoga here in the town.
 Outdoors, I love walking.

What chore do you absolutely hate doing?

I hate one particular part of housework-cleaning the bathroom!

If you could meet anyone, living or dead, who would you meet?

I would love to meet Bruce Springsteen he is my favourite artist.

What three traits define you?

Loud - according to my class and I can't argue with that. I'd say I'm organised and willing to help

wherever or whenever I can.

What's the coolest, or most important trend you see today?

I think Zoom is brilliant. It was a great way of connecting with the class during home-schooling and with family and friends also when we couldn't visit each other. It is also a great tool for webinars and the like.

What would you do for a career if you weren't doing this?

A barista! I love coffee and to get paid for making it and drinking it would be the perfect job.

How do you define success?

Success is achieving what you want. So I say always do your best and you will be successful.

What is your favourite film?

The Notebook

Who is your favourite sports personality?

David Beckham-of course it's nothing to do with his looks!

How would you like to be remembered?

As never saying no to helping someone and for always putting my family first.

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 AND HER PUPILS
 OF ST PATRICK'S
 PRIMARY SCHOOL**

School Days – Interviewer: Daire McEntee Interviewee: My Granda Eamon Carragher

What age were you when you started primary school?

I was 5 years old.

What primary schools did you attend?

My first classroom was next door to where Nanny Hughes' Pizzeria stands now (Aidan Carragher lives there nowadays). We were there because the main primary school at the time which is now known as Rathkeelan House didn't have enough classrooms to accommodate us.

After a year or two we moved to the Blaney Road and the following year the current primary school was built. When I was around 8 years old I moved to Clonalig PS.

How did you travel to school each day?

I walked three miles to school every day and the same back home. If you were very lucky you might have been given a lift from Cross by a neighbour. Coming home from Clonalig it was rare you'd get a lift as fewer cars were going that way.

Even from the young age of five children walked home. We were afraid of our lives of meeting the B Specials (police force) so we often walked across the hills to avoid them.

Did you wear a school uniform or your own clothes?

We wore everyday working clothes handed down to us from our brothers. My aunt would take old clothes to a dressmaker to stitch them into clothes to fit me and my mother would knit jumpers for us to wear.

You would go to Tommy Luckie to get shoes where Mackin's house is now at the top of the Carron Road.

What was your primary school building like?

Inside the classroom there was an open fire. Our desks were wooden benches with a flip up lid and a hole in the top corner where an ink well was placed. As you got older you were allowed to write with ink instead of a pencil.

What was your favourite subject?

The subjects we were taught were mainly English and Maths, maybe a bit of Geography from time to time. Pupils had to contribute money towards buying a radio for the school and it was after that was purchased we learned a bit of Music.

Who was your favourite teacher and why?

My favourite teacher was Mrs Cassidy because she would do craft work with us. My memory is making leather purses in her class.

What is your favourite memory from

primary school?

I loved playing football and tig in the yard.

Do you think children nowadays have an easier time than you did when you were in primary school. Give reasons for your answer.

Yes they do because there is no cane today. The children who weren't able to do their work got hit with the cane on their bare hands. There are also much better facilities nowadays, the buildings are warm with hot water and better teaching resources.

What is the biggest change between the time when you were in primary school and nowadays, in your opinion?

It would probably be all the computers

and Ipads and also the children who live any distance away are dropped off and picked up.

What piece of advice would you like to pass on to children in primary school nowadays?

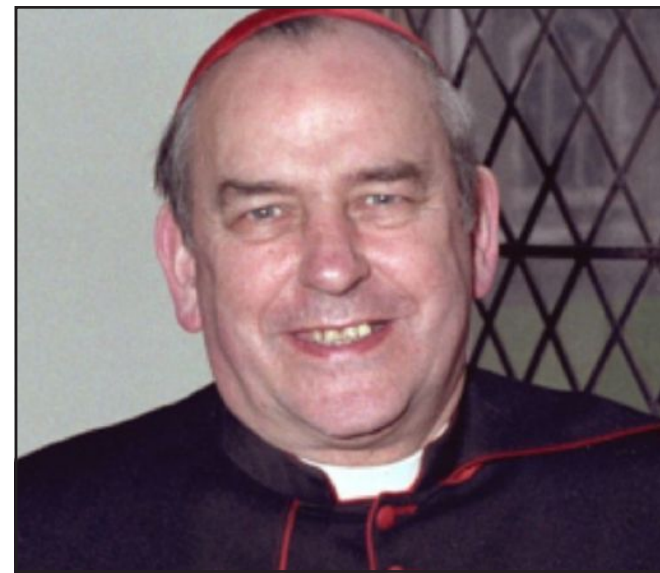
Children don't take for granted all the luxuries you have in school nowadays, be grateful. Children have many more opportunities now, always try your best. Primary school years are the best years of your life.

Did you enjoy your time in primary school? Why or why not?

I didn't particularly enjoy it because the work was hard and you had to do most of it on your own. We would have had very little help with schoolwork at home because there was farming to be done.



Eamon Carragher.



The late Cardinal Tomas O Fiaich

Fr Tom will always be remembered

By: Sarah Donaldson & Sorcha Donaldson

On November 3rd 1923 Tomas O Fiaich was born in Cullyhanna which is about 5 miles from our school.

He was educated locally before leaving to go to Saint Patricks Grammar School Armagh. He began his studies for the priesthood in St. Peters College Wexford in July 1948. To many local people he was known as Fr. Tom.

He became a lecturer in history in St. Patrick's College Maynooth which is in County Kildare, he became vice-president of the college in 1970 and president in 1974.

He was ordained a priest on July 6th 1948, then became Archbishop of Armagh in 1977. The whole county was very proud and honoured when he was made Cardinal on June 30th 1979.

A major event in his life was when Pope John Paul 11 visited Ireland in 1979. Cardinal O'Fiaich was at the Pope's side for the entire visit.

He was a great Irish language speaker and a great historian and wanted to find a peaceful solution to the problems in Northern Ireland. He loved to tell stories.

Sadly on May 8th 1990 while he was leading a pilgrimage in Lourdes he took a heart attack and died. He is buried in St. Patrick's Cathedral Cemetery in Armagh.

In honour of him our local square is named Cardinal O'Fiaich Square.



Cardinal O'Fiaich Square.



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The Parish of Upper Creggan

By: Lily O'Hara & Lilly Mc Coy

We live in Crossmaglen in the parish of Upper Creggan.

The present priests of Upper Creggan are Father Kevin Cullen and Father Dermot Maloney. We also have our deacon, Paul Casey. The first parish priest of the parish was Father Raymond O'Hanlon from 1795, the year the parish was formed until 1796.

still stands today. The site for the new church was donated by a local land lord "Thomas Ball". He gave the land free of charge and work commenced in 1833 and the building opened in 1835. When the new church opened there were about 2000 families in the parish but the famine would have taken this number down.

In 1838 the chapel in Shelagh was built and St. Brigid's in 1932.

WHEN WAS UPPER CREGGAN FORMED

Upper Creggan parish was formed in 1795 when the extensive area known as Creggan was divided into the parishes of Upper Creggan and Lower Creggan.

Our local church here in Crossmaglen is St. Patrick's, the same name as our school. Our church is 196 years old this year. There are another two churches in the parish, St. Brigid's in Glassdrummond and Sacred Heart Church in Shelagh.

St Patrick's was built to replace an old parish church that was located on Mobane Crossroads on the Dundalk Road. One wall of the old church has been retained as part of the Mobane handball alley that

SCHOOL CHAPLAINS

We are very lucky our priests work with us in our school regularly. They celebrate our sacraments with us and our P7 class look forward to Father Cullen's visit every week. He loves the craic, he really enjoys talking about sport. The priests look after the schools in the parish.

PARISH LOGO

The logo is the box used to hold St. Patrick's bell. There is a picture of the bell on a stained glass window as you enter our church and in a glass screen in Shelagh church. In Glassdrummond they have a statue of Saint Patrick.



Memorial statue in Crossmaglen.

Crossmaglen's Memorial Statue

By Erin Crummie and Mia Mc Cabe

There is a very well known sculpture located in Crossmaglen, in Cardinal O'Fiaich Square. Yann Renard- Goulet was the sculptor and he was born in Brittany in France. For years it has attracted the eye of many tourists who wish to know more about its history.

When was it built and why?

The memorial was unveiled in 1979 during The Troubles, many believe as a dedication to the provisional Irish Republican Army, so that means the sculpture on the square is 42 years old!

Inscription

On the statue it says; 'Glory to you all praised and humble heroes who have willingly suffered for your unselfish and passionate love of Irish freedom'.

It says this text twice in English and twice in Irish covering all four sides.



Rev Fr Kevin Cullen.



St Patrick's Church, Crossmaglen, and St Brigid's Church, Glassdrummond.



Rev Fr Dermot Maloney



Well Done to the pupils of St. Patrick's Primary School





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St Joseph's new school planned opening in 2022

By Michaela McGuinness and Joyce Chen

1. In what year was St. Joseph's built?
St Joseph's High School opened its door to pupils in September 1964.

2. How many pupils attend the school?
There are currently 700 pupils who attend St Joseph's and this number will have increased by September 2021.

3. What year did you start teaching in St. Joseph's and what year did you become principal?
I began my teaching career in St Joseph's in August 1994 and became principal in September 2018.

4. When were the plans for the new school drawn up?

5. How long has it taken before work started on the new school?

It was back in 2004 when the then principal Mr Kevin Scally and Board of Governors first made an application to DE for a new school. It took 10 years of our 'Scoil Nua Anois' campaign led by our student council but in June 2014 the then ED Minister John O'Dowd confirmed the financial investment of 16 schools of which we were named. Nineteen months later in January 2016 Hamilton architects were appointed. Planning permission was granted in 2018 and by October 2018 O'Hare and McGovern had been appointed by DE and the trustees of St Joseph's to construct our new multifunctional school. It took almost a further two years before a construction notice

was issued and clearing of the site began on 8th June 2020.

6. Do you know when the new school will open?

We hope to move into our new building in January 2022, at which time our current building will be demolished and our outdoor sports facilities and car park will be constructed. The school should be finished in its entirety by June 2022.

7. What are you looking forward to most about the new school?

8. Can you tell us some of the things that will be really different in the new school compared to the school now?

I am most looking forward to the pupils and staff of St Joseph's having the school they deserve. We will finally have an up to date, modern, fit for purpose school with state of the art amenities - both indoor and outdoor sports facilities, including a fitness suite, music rooms with individual sound proof practice and ensemble rooms and rehearsal rooms. We will have Drama facilities with a green room, fully fitted ICT suites, a Science block, a Modern language area, a specially constructed learning support centre with sensory room. There will be a 6th form study, a library, a Home economics suite, a canteen and outdoor spaces constructed. The pupils and staff of St Joseph's will soon have the same facilities as our neighbouring schools, a

fantastic new facility that will serve our pupils and community for generations to come.

One of the biggest changes is that the school will now all be under the one roof. Pupils and staff will no longer have to go outside to change class, this will be especially beneficial during the Winter months or on our many, many rainy days. It will be so great to have our new purpose build school, one that reflects the high quality learning and teaching that will be taking place in each classroom where we will continue to live out our mantra

'Every Child, Every Chance, Every Class, Every Day'.

9. How much money will it take to build the new

school?

The new school has a budget of £17.62 million pounds.

10. What things will we as the new Year 8's have to look forward to in the new building?

More space, larger classrooms, state of the art music, drama, art, PE, Science, Home Economics, Languages, ICT, Technology and Design dedicated areas, top class sport's facilities, fitness suite, the school canteen will hopefully resemble a café etc. basically everything you could wish for in a school bar a swimming pool!

I wish you all a fantastic summer and I can't wait to meet all of the newest members of the family of St Joseph in August 2021.



ST Patrick's P.S Crossmaglen, Mrs Gibney's Nursery class with teachers Mrs McQuillam, Bridgette and Alannah. NM212102



ST Patrick's P.S Crossmaglen, Mrs Murphy's Nursery class with teachers Christina, Patricia and Ciara. NM212101

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MRS Burns Primary 2 class with C/A Ciara. NM212104



MRS Carolan's Primary 1 class with C/A Micheline. NM212105

Healthy Kidz a way of life at St Patrick's

by: Jack Daniels & Colin Byrne

Sport is a very important part of life here in St. Patrick's. All of the children have a huge range and choice of activities to participate in, anything from football to cross country running. We have great teachers and coaches to help us along.

Healthy Kidz is the PE programme that all the pupils from P1-P7 take part in. We have an expert coach Owen Donaghy who makes all our lessons fun and unique.

Karol Mc Quade is another of our coaches. He does a bit of everything and even though he is from Tyrone we don't hold it against him. Karol used to take us for Pe but now he trains us in gaelic and he helps out with Sports Days too.

Micheal Murphy who the Youth development officer in Armagh county board trains all the girls from P3-P7 in camogie. Micheal comes every week to our school and he also trains the Crossmaglen Rangers senior camogie team.

We have three great coaches in school too; Mrs Bellew, Muinteoir Barra & Muinteoir Miceal.

Mrs Bellew takes charge of girls sports and last year she won an Irish News All Star award. We are luck to have her. She also plays ladies football for Armagh, Crossmaglen Rangers and camogie too.

Muinteoir Barra and Muinteoir Miceal train the boys in Gaelic football. They prepare us for matches and competitions and the lunch time league we all look forward to every year.

Let's not forget our principal Mr Madine who organises all our sports and buys us the equipment we need. We love sport her in St. Patrick's, it is a big part of life in Crossmaglen.



Pictured above: Owen Donaghy, Karol McQuade and Michael Murphy.



Coaches: Mrs Bellew, Muinteoir Barra & Muinteoir Miceal.

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MRS Bellew's P4 class with classroom assistant Leanne Rushe. NM212108

P3 & P4 students



MRS Fearon's Primary 3 class. NM212103



MRS O'Sullivan's Primary 6 class with classroom assistants Martina and Irma. NM212114



MRS Kelly's Primary 5 class with classroom assistant Ann Marie. NM212106

Pictures by Noel Moan, Newry Democrat



MRS Cassidy's P7 class. NM212112

Confirmation, Covid and the Webcam

By Ciaran Mooney

Saturday May 15th 2021 saw my class receive the sacrament of Confirmation in St. Patrick's Church Crossmaglen at 11am.

We arrived a few minutes early to get seated and settled before the ceremony began. Fr. Dermot and Fr. Cullen confirmed us all, there were thirty of us in total.

It was different to other years because of current restrictions. Due to Covid 19 there were only two other adults allowed to accompany us to Confirmation so my sisters had to stay at home.

Our church however has a webcam so people at home could still tune in and watch it all without feeling completely left out.

The only other people present was our teacher Mrs Cassidy and our principal Mr. Madine. The weather wasn't the best, it rained on and off all morning but by the afternoon it had dried up.

After we were Confirmed the majority of people went home and had parties at their houses with bouncy castles because again no hotels were open because of Covid.

It was a great day, the best part of my day was seeing all my cousins.

Pictured are my class with Father Dermot, Father Cullen and Mrs Cassidy.



P7 Confirmation Class 2021.



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Páistí Rang 7 anseo le Múinteoir Barra agus Cúntóir ranga Helen Magee. NM212110



An tAth Diarmuid anseo le páistí R7 agus Múinteoir Barra ag Cóineartú GPN ar an 8ú Bealtaine 2021

Cóineartú

Le Oran Lenaghan agus Casey-Jane Creegan

Is am spéisialta í Cóineartú do na páistí agus do na tuismitheoirí.

Ag an Cóineartú téann muid faoi lamh an Easpaig. Bhí an Chóineartú ann ar an 8ú la da mhí Bealtaine ar a 11 a chlog leis an tAthar Dermot mhar gheall ar covid-19 ní raibh cead ag gach duine dul isteach san eaglais. Bhí cead ag beirt, do chara as chríost agus duine amháin eile.

Ag an chóineartú, bíonn daoine ag léamh agus ag ceol. Maireann an t-Aifrean thart ar uair an chloig leis na paidreacha uilig, an tAifrean féin agus an ceol. Bhí muid ag ceol "Is é an Tiarna M'aoire" le Múinteoir Dearbhla. Don Chóineartú, bhí muid uilig ag caitheamh eadaí deasa. Nuair a théann tú faoi lamh an Easpaig, faigheann tú tabhartais an Spioraid Naoimh agus seo iad: Eagna, Tuiscint, Breithiúnas Cóir, Misneach, Eolas, Urraim agus Iontas agus uamhan i láthair Dé. Chomh maith leis seo, ag an Chóineartú, faigheann tú torthaí an Spioraid Naoimh. Seo iad: grá, lúchair, síocháin, foighne, cineáltas, maitheas, uaisleacht, dílseacht agus féin-smacht.

Agus d'fhoghlaim muid faoi Shiombailí an Spioraid Naoimh: colm,tine,gaoth agus anal. Creidimid gur tháinig an Spioraid Naoimh chugainn le linn an chóineartú s'againn.

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RANG 3 le Múinteoir Dearbhla agus Cúntóirí Ranga Mairead and Moneena. NM212118

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RANG 2 le Múinteoir Aisling agus Cúntóirí Ranga Niamh agus Odhran. NM212120



RANG 1 le Múinteoir Dearbhla Ní Néill agus Cúntóir Ranga Rosie Uí Mhuirí NM212119



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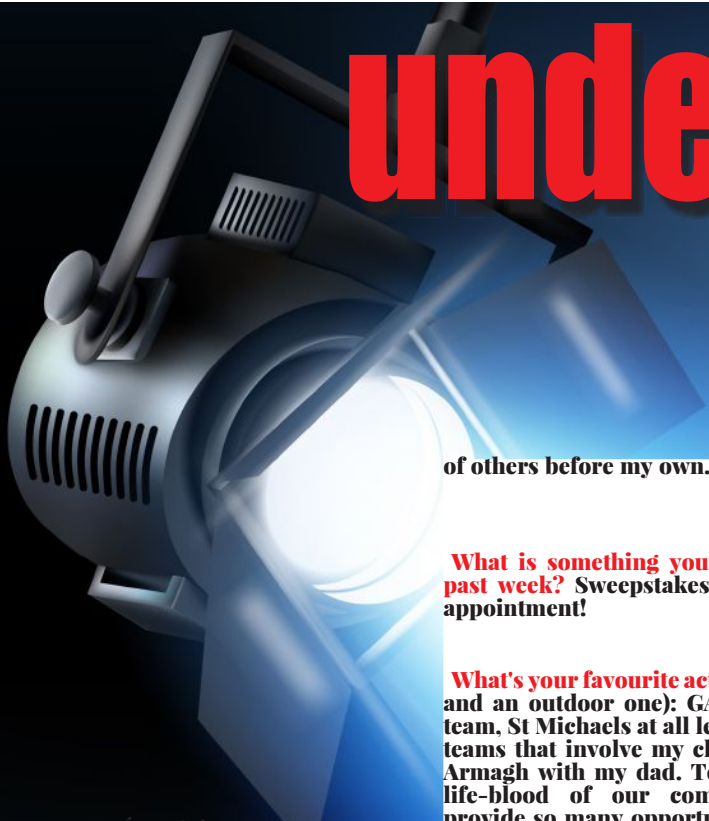
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under the spotlight



of others before my own.

What is something you have learned in the past week? Sweepstakes usually lead to disappointment!

What's your favourite activity? (An indoor one and an outdoor one): GAA. I follow my club team, St Michaels at all levels, especially those teams that involve my children. I also follow Armagh with my dad. To me, the GAA is the life-blood of our communities and they provide so many opportunities for our young people.

What chore do you absolutely hate doing? Ironing

If you could meet anyone, living or dead, who would you meet? Michael Collins

What three traits define you? Loyalty, dedication and friendship

What's the coolest, or most important trend you see today? I see the younger generation involved with TicToe – and although I'm no expert on it, my colleague Odhrán Murphy just passed 10,000 followers for his singing. Obviously a fantastic platform if used wisely.

What would you do for a career if you weren't doing this? When deciding on college places, I had options for Teaching at St Marys or Law and Politics at Queens. Although delighted that I chose Irish-Medium Education, I often wonder what life would've been like if I had

pursued a Law degree.

How do you define success? I define success by an individual or team working to maximum capacity, literally trying their best and achieving their goal as a result. This is the same for a child preparing for a spelling test as it is a team trying to win a championship: work hard, cut out the mistakes, try and try again, visualise success. Achieve.

What is your favourite film? 300. Or possibly Braveheart

Who is your favourite sports personality? Micheál Ó Muireachartaigh

How would you like to be remembered? As someone who made a difference.



Name – Barra O Muiri
Occupation – Múinteoir/ Councillor

If you could learn to do one thing what would it be?
Play golf at a reasonably high level

If you won the lottery what is the first thing you would do? Buy a house in the Donegal Gaeltacht, close to An Bhun Bheag

What do like most about teaching? I like making a difference in children's lives. I had some wonderful teachers when I was growing up, and I decided at a young age that teaching was for me.

When you have 30 minutes of free time, how do you pass that time? Entertaining my children at home, or catching up with friends and family.

What was the last experience that made you a stronger person? Probably becoming a father in 2009 and learning to put the needs



Barra agus mic léinn leis an gCorn Angklo Celt



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An Fhéile Scoldrámaíochta

Le Síomha Ní Gribin agus Shea Ó Sabhaois

Glacaimid páirt san Fhéile scoldrámaíochta gach bliain, i Mí an Mhárta le Múinteoir Aisling, Múinteoir Bláithín agus Múinteoir Barra.

Tá traidisiún an-láidir againn leis na dramaí agus bhuaigh muid cuid mhór duaiseanna don scoil in Iúir Cin Trá, i Letir Ceannáin agus fiú ar an Mhuilleann gCearr. Déanann Mrs Ó Sullivan an ceoil traidisiúnta do na dramaí agus de ghnáth, bíonn baint acu le hOidhreacht ár gceantair dhúchais féin anseo i nDeisceart Ard Mhacha.

Rinne muid Annie, Scéal na Dufaire, Cuisle na cúise, Taibhsí an tSleibhe, Mama Mia agus Ní Mar a shíltear a Bítear.

Ceoldráma a bhí in Mama Mia agus bhain gach duine sult as na feistisí agus na hamhráin.

Bhain Cuisle na Cúise agus Taibhsí an tSleibhe le laochra na Litríochta agus leis an chomhlint a rinne scríos ár phobal na nGaeil agus ár chaisléan Glas Dromainne.

Déanann páistí Rang 7, le cuidú ó Rang 6, na scoldrámaí.

Anuraidh, bhí muid iontach tógtha faoi Anne, ach thainig covid-19 agus chuir sé stad le gach rud. Ní dhearna muid ar an ardán é ach uair amháin – ag Feis an Iúir, ach bhí rath air! Bhuaigh muid Scoth-léiriú an Fhéile, an duais is luachmhaire duinn. Shíl muid go raibh deis iontach againn dul an bhealach ár fad. Ach ní raibh a fhios ag duine ar bith cad é a bhí i ndan duinn.

Bhuaigh Gaelscoil Phádraig Naofa an Comórtas scoldrámaíochta sa bhliain 2018.

Rinne said Taibhsí an tsleibhe. Chuaigh siad go dtí Páirc an Chrócaigh agus fuair siad corn ollmhór agus boinn. Tá pictiúiri de na dramaí uilig inár seomraí ranga agus i halla na nGaelscoile s'againn. Tugann sé deiseanna duinn ár dtallan a léiriú ar na hardáin is mó sa tír seo. Is breá linn an drama!



Glacann páistí páirt i ndrámá Nollag, (Right) Is cuid den spraoi a bheith ag gléasadh suas in éadaí páirt a ghlacadh sa drámaíocht iomaíochais



Ag baint taitneamh as an bhféile, na mic léinn óga seo ó St Patricks

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Baill foirne nach bhfuil againn níos mó

Eileen Duffy & Múinteoir ProinsiasLe Cahir agus Fáinche

Múinteoir Proinsias: D'oscail an Ghaelscoil s'againn sa bhliain 2003, agus chaill muid beirt baill foirne ó shin.

Beirt duine a bhí iontach tabhachtach duinn uilig, a d'fhág bearna ollmhór in anam na nGaelscoile.

Is iad Múinteoir Proinsias, an duine a bhunaigh Gaelscoil Phádraig Naofa. Fuair sí bás mar bhí tinneas uirthi. Ní raibh sí ach 37 bliain d'aois agus bhí sí ag obair mar mhúinteoir Rang 1 ag an am.

D'obair sí sa scoil Bhéarla ó 1991-2003 Déanann muid cuimhne uirthi gach lá i ngáird-

ín s'aici. What is life? Full of care. We have no time to stand or stare. Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí. Seo atá scríofa ar bhinse s'aici.

Eileen Duffy: Bhí post ag Eileen mar Chúntóir ranga I nGaelscoil s'againn ó bhí 2004 ann. Bhí sí ar fheabhas agus iontach cairdiúil, agus chuidigh sí le gach duine.

Bhí sí lenár rang ó rang a 1 go rang a 5, nuair a thosaigh Helen nuair a bhí droch-thinneas ar Eileen. Tháinig Eileen ar áis go rang a 2, ach ní raibh sí ansin le tamall fada.

Bhí ailse ar Eileen i 2010 agus troid sí go cróga ach fuair sí bás ar an 17ú lá de mhí Martá i mbliana. Fuair foireann na scoile agus cairde Eileen cloch agus crann le cuimhne uirthi.



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Múinteoirí Ghaelscoil Phádraig Naofa

Le Ava Campbell & Eoghan Ó Coinn

Tá scoil s'againn ar fheabhas! Tá na múinteoirí iontach deas ann. Tá ar scoil i gCrois mhic Líonnain, ar bothar an Charran. Tá 7 mhúinteoirí gaeilge ann.

Tá scoil Béarla agus Gaelscoil ar aon suíomh amháin againn, agus nuair a dhéanann tú cuntas ar pháistí na Naiscoile, tá breis is 500 páiste i scoil s'againn. Bíonn múinteoir Dearbhla (i rang 3) i gceannas ar an chóir. Bíonn múinteoirí Barra agus Mícheal i gceannas ar an pheil.

Tá corn againn a fhaigheann dalta na bliana i Rang 7 darbh ainm Corn Múinteoirí Proinseas, in onóir do Phroinsias Branigan a fuair bas sa bhliain 2007.

Bíonn múinteoir Aisling i gceannas as an Chóir Seannós. Is é sin grúpa ceol atá iomlán as Gaeilge.

Tá múinteoir Barra, Múinteoir Bláthín agus múinteoir Aisling ar gceannas an grúpa dráma agus bíonn Mrs O'Sullivan (Múinteoir sa scoil Bhéarla) i gceannas ar an ghrúpa traidisúnta don scoil iomlán.

Bíonn na múinteoirí ón Ghaelscoil i gceannas ar chámra Phroinseas. Is é sin camra don Gaelscoil agus scoileanna eile fosta le Gaeilge a fhoghlaim. Tá na múinteoirí sa scoil seo thar barr.

Tá na múinteoirí iontach deas, tugann siad seans dúinn gníomhachtaí maithe a dhéanamh, mar shampla tras tíre i gBill Bronaigh agus lunch time league le Múinteoir Mícheal agus Múinteoir Barra.

Gach bliain déanann muid drama. Bíonn muid ag cleachtadh ar feadh tamaill agus bíonn comórtas ann, má bhaineann tú sin teann tú go Dún na ngall agus faigheann tú corn mór don bhliain iomlán.

Ba mhaith linn ár mbuíochas a thabhairt do mhúinteoirí na nGaelscoile as an tacaíocht agus an sár-oideachas a thugann siad dúinn.



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Corn Múinteoir Proinsias

Corn Múinteoir Proinsias
+Duais Mhic an Ghirr

Le Molly Bellew + Aidan Mckevitt

Achan bhliain, ag deireadh scoilbliana Rang 7, tugann múinteoirí na nGaelscoile amach duaiseanna do dhaoine a rinne sar iarracht.

Tugann said Corn Múinteoir Proinsias don pháiste a mbíonn na tréithe céanna acu is a bhí ag Múinteoir Proinsias, cinealtas, cairdeas, misneach agus grá don teanga.

Tugann said Duais Mhic an Ghirr don pháiste a dhéanann an iarracht is fearr Gaeilge a labhairt.

Ba é an buaiteoir is déanaí do chorn Múinteoir Proinsias ná Donnacha Aherne. Ba í an buaiteoir is déanaí do dhuais Mhic an Ghirr na Róise Ní Mhuirí.

Thosaigh Corn Múinteoir Proinsias i 2009, agus ba í Hannah O'Hare an chéad duine a bhfuair an duais. Le Corn Múinteoir Proinsias a fháil chaithfidh tú a bheith deas leis na Múinteoirí agus do do chairde agus obair iontach a dhéanamh i gcónaí.

Thosaigh duais Mhic an Ghirr i 2017, Ba í Eimear McMathon an chéad duine a bhfuair an duais Míc an Ghirr, bhuaigh Eimear McKeivitt an duais seo fosta. Bíonn ar an bhuaiteoir bheith ag labhairt i nGaeilge an t-am ar fad leis na múinteoirí agus le páistí níos óige sa Ghaelscoil.

I scoil s'againn, caithfidh tú béith I d'ionspóráid do dhaoine eile: Bí deas le gach duine, déan obair iontach, labhair i nGaeilge leis na múinteoirí agus le do chairde agus bíodh peannaireacht maith agat (is maith le gach duine peannaireacht néata!)

Téann an Corn Múinteoir Proinsias agus Duais Mhic an Ghirr chuig na páistí is fearr gach bliain.

Cé a bhainfidh na duiseanna i mbliana? Cé bhfios!



Winner of Corn Múinteoir Proinsias 2020



Winner of Duais Mhic an Ghirr

Dán Rang 7 – Ag imeacht

Tá ár rás rite, lóin ite, lámha nite,
Agus déarfaidh muid slán.
Bhain muid an oiread sin suilt as ár scoil,
Gur scríobh muid le chéile an dán!

Tá múinteoirí na scoile iontach cairdiúil,
Faigheann muid go leor ama ag léamh.
Bíonn comórtas léitheoireachta againn ar scoil,
Is féidir leat a bheith i do mhil-iúnaí.

An clog ag bualadh,
Sceitimíní ar achan duine.
Rithimid taobh amuigh,
chomh saor le héin.

Bíonn dinnéar na scoile iontach blásta
Cuireann an boladh ocraas orm!
Bíonn sé i gcónaí iontach sláintiúil
Agus cuid mhor béiltí eagsúla ann.

Cóineartú: Lá iontach spéisialta a bhí ann,
D'fhoghlaim muid faoin spioraid Naoimh
an spéipeal chomh ciúin le luchóg,
Bhí muid thar barr!

Bíonn obair scoile sultmhar
Cuid mhor abhar ar scoil.
Cuidíonn na múinteoirí go léir linn
Agus bíonn na cúntoirí ranga iontach deas.

Seal s'againn sa Ghaelscoil beag-nach críochnaithe,
D'fhoghlaim muid go leor!
Dearfadh muid slán lenár múinteoir.
Is trua gur tháinig an tsamhradh go gasta.

Slán,slán a Ghaelscoil,go raibh maith agaibh go deo!
Mo chairde, an craic, an sport is níos mó.
Is gaeil anois muid,le cultúr inár

gcroithe
Agus labharfadh muid gaeilge le chéile, coiche.



Ag obair as baile le linn Covid 19



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Ceiliúránn an Príomhoide Michael breithlá 60 bliain



Mr Madine, Principal St Patrick's PS Crossmaglen, celebrating his 60th birthday with Martina McKeever, V.P and Elaine O'Sullivan. NM2126305



MR Madine, Principal St Patrick's PS Crossmaglen, celebrating his 60th birthday with the primary 2 pupils last Friday. NM2126304



MR Madine, Principal St Patrick's PS Crossmaglen, celebrating his 60th birthday with some of the pupils last Friday. NM2126303
Noel Moan



MR Madine, Principal St Patrick's PS Crossmaglen pictured with some of the Rang 7 pupils celebrating his 60th birthday last Friday. NM212637



RECEPTIONISTS Marie Quinn and Deirdra Ogle. NM212636
Noel Moan



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SPÓRT SA GHAELSCOIL

Le Lauren Nic Connidhe agus Ciarán Ó Ceallaigh

Tá ról iontach tabhachtach ag spórt i nGael scoil Phádraig Naofa, agus tá traidisiún maith againn i gcamógaíocht, i reathaíocht tras-tíre agus sa luth-chleasíocht.

Bíonn tréanail peile ann i ndiaidh na scoile le Múinteoir Barra, Múinteoir Micéal agus Mr Madine ar an Mhairt, an Cheadaoín agus Déadaoind'aois-ghrúpa difriúla. Tugann seo seans iontach do gach duine cur lena scileanna peile agus iarracht a dhéanamh áit a fháil ar fhoireann peile na scoile.

Tagann Karol isteach gach Luan le tréanail breise a thabhairt do gach rang agus tagann Micky isteach ar an

Cheadaoín le camógaíocht a dhéanamh le cailíní ó R3 le go R7. I Rang 5, foghlaimíonn gach duine an dóigh le snámh mar is ceart i linn smámha an Iúir! Cuirimid an-bhéim ar an luth-chleasíocht.

Tagann Eoin ó Healthy Kids isteach ar an Mhairt, an Cheadaoín, an Déardaoín agus an Aoine le Corp Oideachais breise a thabhairt do gach duine. Insíonn sé duinn an dóigh le bheith folláin sláintiúil agus cuirimid an-bhéim ar bhia sláintiúil sa scoil fosta.

Cuidíonn Múinteoir Bláithín agus Mrs Bellew linn bheith níos achainí agus níos gasta. Glacaimid páirt i gcuid mhór rásaí agus imeachtaí eile, cosúil le reathaíocht tras-tíre i kilbroney. Bainimid an-sult as an dúshlán sin agus cuidíonn sé linn. Tá muid iontach sásta i scoil s'againn páirt a glacadh i spórt.



Thuas tá griangraf de fhoireann sacar a bhuaigh comórtas i gCnoc an Mhargaidh. Ar dheis tá foireann na gcailíní a bhuaigh comórtas taobh istigh.



Thuas tá foireann iontach eile a bhuaigh comórtas sa pheil gaelach

Féile peile

Gach bliain, bíonn an féile peile ar siúl i nDún na nGall. Comórtas iontach a bhíonn ann agus is iad Gael Linn an chomhlacht a stiúraíonn é.

San fhéile féin, tagann gael scoileanna le chéile ó gach contae i gCúige Uladh le duaiseanna iontacha a bhaint. Tá muid buíoch do Ghael Linn as na deiseanna a thugann siad duinn freastail ar an fheile seo le blianta fada anuas.

Tá páistí Ghaelscoil Phádraig Naofa ag glacadh páirt san fheile peile i nDún na nGall ó bhí 2009 ann. Páistí Rang a 7 amháin a théann ach bíonn páistí Rang a 6 abáltá teacht fosta má bhíonn na uimhreacha íseal in aon rang. Tá an scaith agus an corn ann fosta, agus maireann an fhéile peile dhá lá. Cé nár bhuaigh muid riamh an fhéile, d'éirigh linn a cluiche ceannais a bhaint amach sna bhlianta 2011, 2013 agus 2016. Fuair foireann 2018/19 chuig an bhabhta leath-cheannais. Ní raibh comórtas ann anuraidh ná i mbliana mar gheall ar an choróinvíreas.

Ar an chéad lá, bíonn na grúpaí ann agus ar an dara lá bíonn na babhta ceathrú ceannais ann. Bíonn sé iontach deacair duinn ar an dara lá, mar bíonn na paistí ó Dhún na nGall i gcónaí bliain níos sine ná muid. Ach bíonn craic iontach ann agus buailimid lenár gcairde ó ghaelscoileanna eile. Bíonn céilí agus tráth na gceist ann, agus tugann Réamonn duaiseanna amach do na freagraí is cliste... agus na damhsóirí is fear!

Le cuidiú Dé beidh deis againn dul ar ais chun na gaeltachta ar an bhlaín seo chugainn agus páirt a glacadh sa chomórtas iontach seo!



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Turasanna scoile!

Le Dáithí Rushe

Chuaigh rang s'againn ar chuid mhór turasanna thar an blianta, seo achoimre ar chuid acu:

Tayto park: I rang 4, chuaigh muid go dtí Tayto Park. Bhí me iontach sásta dul go dtí Tayto park. Chuaigh mé ar an rollchóstóir - bhí sé thar barr!

Lisburn: Téann páistí R5 go Lisburn gach bliain. Téann siad go dtí an linn snamha agus ansin go dtí an phicturlann.

Funhouse: Chuaigh muid go dtí an funhouse i rang 2! Bhí gach duine iontach beag.

Páirc an Chrócaigh: Thaistil muid i rang 5 go dtí Airbound agus Croke Park. Bhí an craic maith ag airbound leis an rang agus leis an mhúinteoir.

Chuaigh an rang agus an mhúinteoir ar thuras thart ar Pháirc an Chrócaigh! Bhí se ar fheabhas!

Sliabh gCuillinn: I rang 2, chuaigh muid ansin i ndiadh an funhouse.

Iúir Cinn Trá: thaistil muid go Iúir Cinn Trá leis an dráma agus bhuaigh muid.

Corliss fort: Chuaigh muid go dtí Corliss fort I rang 1, ach ní chuimhim liom mórán faoi sin.

Cén fath go dtéimid ar thuras scoile? Bíonn sé mar ceiliúradh mór ag deireadh na scoil bliana do no páistí. Bainimid an-sult as turasanna scoile.

Beidh turas amháin eile againn mar rang – beidh muid ag dul go dtí 'Lets go hydro!' i mbliana, beidh se iontach maith agus sultmhar!



Bhain leanaí ó Naomh Pádraig taitneamh as go leor turais chuig áiteanna iocónacha in Éirinn lena n-áirítear lá i gcuimhne go Páirc an Chrócaigh



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Oideachas fríd an dianghlasáil

Le Rihanna Nic an tSaoi Ní Mháirtín agus Peadar Mac Dónaill

Thosaigh an dianghlasáil i mí an Mhárta 2020. Ón tús thosaigh muid ag foghlaim ar-líne ag úsáid Edmodo, áit a chur Múinteoir Barra ar n-obair in airde duinn.

Chuir sé cód zúm suas fosta ar Edmodo, agus bhí ceacht againn ar zúm gach lá le Múinteoir Barra.

Ar zúm, bhí muid abálta ceisteanna a chur ar an mhúinteoir agus bhí sé deas ár gcairde uilig a fheiceáil gach lá.

Cheartaigh muid an obair gach lá ar zúm fosta. Gach seachtain, rinne muid tráth na gceist ar Kahoot! le Mr Madine-bhí sé an-sultmhar!

De ghnáth bhí suas le 80 páiste in iomaíocht ar a chéile! Bhí sé iontach aisteach bheith ag foghlaim ar líne, agus ag caitheamh masc agus muid taobh amuigh.

Rinne muid uilig an-iarracht gan an víreas a scaipeadh, ag glanadh ar lamha níos minice agus ag caitheadh masc.

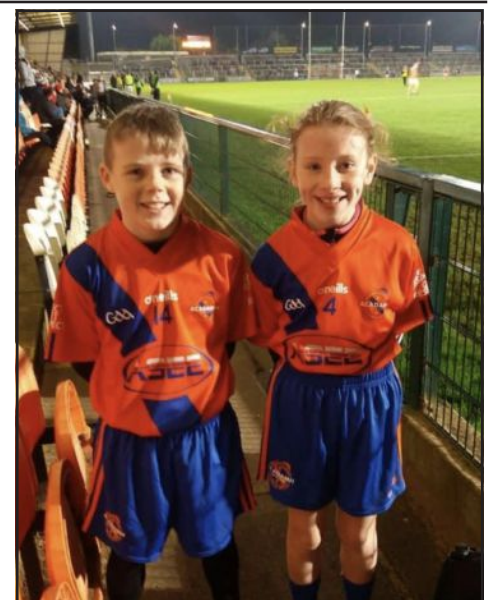
Cé gur bhain muid uilig an-sult as foghlaim ar líne, bhí muid thar a bheith sásta bheith ar ais ar scoil agus ár gcairde a fheiceáil!



Ealaíontóirí óga ó Naomh Pádraig



Labhraíonn imreoirí Crossmaglen leis an gcéad ghlúin eile d'imreoirí Ranger



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Imeachtaí seach-Churaclaim

Le Séadna & Erin

Bíonn cuid mhór rudaí le déanamh againn taobh amuigh den churaclaim anseo i nGaelscoil Phádraig Naofa. Téann cuid páistí chuig ceachtanna spóirt, cuid eile chuig ranganna ceoil agus bíonn mindfulness ag ranganna eile gach seachtain.

Bíonn aireachas (mindfulness) ag páistí R7 ar a 11rn gach Céadaoin.

Bíonn iománaíocht ag páistí Rang 6 i Halla Spóirt Bhéal Átha an Airgid.

Beidh lunch- time league ag toiseacht i Mí an Mheithimh chomh maith le ceachtanna peile gach Céadaoin i ndiaidh na scoile 2:30in go 3:30in.

Bíonn camógaíocht ann do chailíní ar an Chéadaoin agus i Rang 5 bíonn Strings ann gach Céadaoin ag 11:30am.

Gach bliain bíonn Cross Country ann le Ms. Bellew agus i Rang 5, bíonn snamh ann gach Luan.

Níl peil i ndiaidh na scoile ann go fóill, mar gheall ar Chovid-19. Níl Cross Country ann ach an oiread. Ach le cuidiu Dé, osclóidh gach rud suas arís gan mhoill.

Is breá linn na himeachtaí seach-churaclaim a dhéanamid agus tá muid an-bhuíoch go mbíonn na deiseanna iontacha seo againn.



Tá curaclam leathan éagsúil ar fáil ag Naomh Pádraig.

Stair na nGaelscoile

Le Finn Mac Eachartaigh agus Aoife Ní Cathasaigh

Bunaíodh Gaelscoil Phádraig Naofa sa bhliain 2003. Thosaigh Múinteoir Proinseas mar mhúinteoir ranga ag an chéad grúpa a tháinig isteach go rang1 agus bhí Rosie mar chúntóir ranga.

Thosaigh Muinteoir Aisling ag obair leis an rang sin nuair a bhog siad go rang a 2 sa bhliain 2004.

Thosaigh Múinteoir Barra ag obair sa bhliain 2006 nuair a bhí rang a 4 Ann. Sa scoilbhliana céanna, 2007, rinne páistí na Gaelscoil a gCéad Comaoineach ach sa samhradh sin fuair Múinteoir Proinseas bas... bhí sí 37 bliain d'aois. Cailliúint ollmhór a bhí ann ní amháin do phobal na nGaelscoile, ach don earnail iomlán.

Sa bhliain 2008, d'oscail muid gáirdín Mhúinteoir Proinsias.

Sa bhliain 2009/10, rinne páistí Ghaelscoile a gCéad Ceartú (don chéad uair riamh as Gaeilge sa cheantair).

Sa bhliain 2010, d'imigh an chéad grúpa ón

Gaelscoil agus bhuaigh Megan O'Callaghan Corn Mhúinteoir Proinseas.

Sa Bhliain 2020 chuaigh muid isteach sa dianghlaisíl agus bhí ceachtanna zoom againn gach lá. Chuaigh muid ar ais ar scoil i mí Aibreáin 2021.

2021 Rinne páistí na nGaelscoile an coineartú don dara uair déag. Tá sè 18 Blian ó thosaigh múinteoir Proinseas an Gaelscoil agus tá gach rud ag dul ó neart go neart.

Tá anois níos mó na 180 páiste sa Ghaelscoil, ag foghlaim tri mheán na Gaeilge.

Gach bliain faigheann duine amháin an chorn Mhúinteoir Proinseas, agus an chorn don Ghaeilgeoir is fear, de ghnáth duine as rang 7 a bhíonn ann.

Gach bliain go dtí 2020 chuaigh páistí na nGaelscoile go Dún na nGall mar bíonn an féile peile ann... ach ní raibh sé ann i mbliana mar gheall ar an Coróin Víreas. Tá suil agam go mbeidh an Ghaelscoil go fóill ar fheabhas nuair a théann an chéad glúin eile do Ghaeil an cheantair seo fríd earnail na nGaelscol-aíochta.

Scéim Sparánachta na Gaeilge 2021/2022

Más mian leat féin cúrsa Gaeilge a dhéanamh ná déan dearmad go bhfuil Scéim Sparánachta na Gaeilge 2021/2022 ar oscailt go fóill. Tá iarratais á lorg ag Comhairle Ceantair an Iúir, Mhúrn agus an Dúin do sparánacht chun cuidiú le costais ar chúrsaí Gaeilge mar atá breactha thíos:

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Crossmaglen Rangers Club President-My Granda Gene Duffy

By Gene Duffy Jnr

My Granda is the Honorary President of Crossmaglen Rangers GAA Club.

What were your school days like Granda?

They were very enjoyable. I went to school in Cross. I stayed there until I was about 11 or 12 and then I attended the Technical school or the 'Tech' in Cross which would be the equivalent of St. Joseph's today. There was only a very small class for teaching English and Maths and another room for wood-work. I left the Tech when I was about 14 and I started working from then on.

What did you work as?

I worked as an apprentice carpenter. I served my time training to be a full time carpenter and then I went to a firm and worked for them as a carpenter. I then became a foreman and then a general foreman on building sites until 1973. I then set up my own contracting firm until I retired a few years ago.

What are your earliest memories?

Growing up in Crossmaglen, I have plenty of memories. I lived on the Cullaville Road behind the Rangers football pitch and every day when we came home from school we would kick ball in the pitch.

I also remember playing underage football for Crossmaglen. There were no Ipads or social media so most of our spare time was spent outside with a football and using it to play versions of other games. We went into the fields to play football and hurling and rounders and came in to do a 'wee' bit of home-work.

Who were your close friends at that time?

I still have close friends, the ones that I grew up with on the Cullaville Road. My friend group from back then is still strong today. The friends you make in school tend to be your friends for the

rest of your life, not always your close ones as everyone goes in different ways as they get older.

I chose the building trade and some of my friends went to university and got jobs as teachers, in the banking trade etc. but we would always meet up through the football. That was the big thing for us and it always brought us together but we'd still go back to our different jobs come Monday morning. The GAA and in my case the football kept my friends together and the same can still be said today.

Had you any hobbies other than football?

I retired from playing football at 32 years of age after picking up several injuries which I felt were holding me back so I took up golf. It became a great hobby of mine and still is.

I now also enjoy walking and a few of my friends and I have a little walking group set up. We walk about three times a week and climb a lot of mountains. I really enjoy walking.



Gene Duffy, Crossmaglen Rangers Club President.

Crossmaglen Rangers G.A.C Club



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