



Scoil Naomh Molaise

Nuachtlitir

2ú Feabhra 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian(s),

I hope that you are keeping well.

We had an exceptionally busy start to 2024 with so many exciting and enjoyable opportunities for our pupils. Please read on for a flavour of all that's happening in Scoil Naomh Molaise.

School Website

Please keep an eye on our new and improved school website for school news, an up-to-date calendar, information for parents etc.

Check out www.molaise.com

New Pupils

A very big welcome to the new children who joined our school this January.

Amir (Junior Infants)

Melaniia (Senior Infants)

Yusuf (1st class)

Kristian (2nd class)

Maksym (3rd class)

Alina (3rd class)

Ivan (3rd class)

Kostiantyn (3rd class)

Esma (4th class)

Elina (4th class)

Ryan (5th class)

We are delighted to have you join our school community and we hope that you will enjoy many wonderful years at Scoil Naomh Molaise.

We currently have 279 children in our school.

Ethos

Catholic Schools Week was celebrated in our school from 21st-28th January. This year's theme was Catholic Schools as Communities of Service.

Catholic schools are animated by gospel values, which are lived through active ministry to one another built on a fundamental respect of all people, from all nations and embracing all differences. Every member of our school community offers their service through the unique gifts and talents they have been given. The service of every person is of value and contributes to the characteristic spirit of the school within the parish. Catholic schools are intrinsically connected with the local parish community, and both are actively at the service of one another. It is important to acknowledge and celebrate the living connection that exists between school and parish during Catholic Schools Week.

Our thanks to Fr Christy for celebrating mass for our 6th class children and their Grandparents on Wednesday 31st January. Thanks also to the children and their families for providing the tasty treats back in the school hall afterwards.

Maths Curriculum

The school was closed on Wednesday 24th January, so that teachers could attend training on the new Primary Maths Curriculum. This was a very informative session for teachers. For the remainder of this school year, we will be familiarising ourselves with the new curriculum and trying out new approaches and strategies. From September 2024, the new Maths Curriculum will be implemented in all primary schools.

For more information on the new Maths Curriculum, click [here](#).

Stay Safe

The Stay Safe programme will be taught in all classes this term. The aim of the Stay Safe programme is to teach children personal safety skills so that they can look after themselves in situations which could be upsetting or dangerous. It deals with situations such as getting lost, disagreements between friends and bullying. It also teaches children the safety skills necessary to protect themselves from physical or sexual abuse and it emphasises the importance of telling a trusted adult about any problems or worries they have.

The Stay Safe programme is part of the Social, Personal and Health Education Curriculum which all primary schools are required to implement. It is important that parents/guardians are aware of the content of the Stay Safe lessons and are able to discuss the lessons with their children. You can familiarise yourself with the content of the Stay Safe lessons [here](#).

Other exciting opportunities...

- All classes began a 5 week programme of workshops with Bricks 4 Kidz this week. Children are exploring the principles of science, technology, engineering and maths using Lego. In addition, the children are developing their fine motor skills, oral language skills, the ability to follow instructions, to work co-operatively, and much more. The instructors were very impressed with the creativity they saw and the perseverance that was demonstrated when the tasks became more challenging. We look forward to another workshop next week. Thank you to the Parents Association for subsidising the cost of these workshops.
- We were successful in our application to be part of the Say Yes to Languages programme this year. Today, 3rd & 4th class pupils received their first lesson in Irish Sign Language from Brigid O'Connor, a parent of children in our school. This programme is fully funded by the DES.
- 3rd & 4th classes began swimming lessons earlier this week as part of the PE Curriculum. The first lesson went very well. Our thanks to the Parents Association again for covering the cost of the swimming lessons and to the parents for funding the bus.
- 5th class children are participating in an 8 week programme of Drama Workshops through the Blast Residency Programme. A drama teacher is visiting the school every Friday to work with the children. This is funded by the Department of Education.
- 6th class are participating in the Junior Entrepreneur Programme again this year. Aably guided by Mr Connolly, the children are busy brainstorming ideas for their business ventures. We look forward to seeing what they come up with.

Sports

The Mini 7's Football Competition takes place next Tuesday 6th February at 10am in Kent Park in Sligo. Our girls' team will play Carraroe N.S. and Gaelscoil, while our boys' team will play Carraroe N.S. and Scoil Ursula. Go n-éirí an t-ádh libh!

Enrolment

We are currently accepting enrolment applications for September 2024.

Please complete an expression of interest form on our website www.molaise.com. Expressions of interest must be received by the school before 1st March 2024.

Open Evening

Parents/Guardians of children starting school in September 2024 are invited to attend an open evening on Wednesday, 7th February 2024, from 5:30-6:30pm. This is an opportunity for you and your child to take a look around our school and meet some of our school staff. Access to the school for the open evening is via the pedestrian gate off the main Sligo/Bundoran road.

Cliffoney Grange Community Games

A Jersey Day will be held on Friday 9th February, in aid of Cliffoney Grange Community Games. Children can wear any jersey they want on the day. If they don't have a jersey, don't worry - any sports top or t-shirt will do. Please do not purchase anything new for this event. Please send €2 into your child's teacher to support this local fundraiser.

Finally, there is no school on Monday as it is a public holiday. I hope you have a wonderful long weekend.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Louise O'Connor

Príomhoide