

Rathfeigh National School

Seamus Tansley

Meta (Facebook) Grant

Back in March we found out that we were successful in our Meta (Facebook) Grant application. We thank Meta for looking favourably on our application. With the grant we have purchased Promethean interactive whiteboards for all the classrooms, 25 chromebooks, laptops for the teachers and an i-pad for use in the Learning Support room. This will undoubtedly benefit the children in Rathfeigh for many, many years to come. Below are pictures of the children enjoying the new technology in school.

Enrolment for 2023/24

We started accepting applications for the 2023/24 school year on October 1st. Our Admissions Statement is on the school website. We will be ceasing accepting applications on March 1st 2023. If you would like to visit the school to see our excellent facilities please make an appointment by phone or e-mail (041-9825156 or rathfeighns@outlook.com). Please check out the school website rathfeighns.org.

Swimming

The children in 1st-4th class have just finished six weeks of swimming lessons in Navan Swimming Pool. We thank all the staff at the pool for their dedication in ensuring that the children progressed well. The children's progress has been exceptional despite the lessons only lasting for six weeks. We thank the staff for allowing the children use the slides on their final visit and we look forward to returning there for lessons next year.

Mindfulness

The children in all classes have really enjoyed the Wednesday Mindfulness lessons in the school with Una Curran. They really look forward each week to the lessons as it gives them extra time to relax and be more in tune with their bodies. Parents/guardians can find out more about the benefits of mindfulness for themselves and their children by checking out Una's website "Finding your Wings".

Computer Classes

We had adult computer classes in the school as part of our Meta application and we hope to have more of these classes at a future date. The following is the positive feedback from one of the participants. ***"What an amazing few weeks! I started the course with no knowledge whatsoever of the computer/laptop world. In the four weeks I learned a variety of skills like printing, desktop management, calendar schedule and lots more! I felt very at ease and my "fear" of computers has faded. Colm made me feel very relaxed and reminded me that "there is no such thing as a silly question!". I'd like to thank Colm, Mr Tansley and Rathfeigh National School on giving me the opportunity to making my leap into the computer universe. I will look forward to another venture of computer classes"***.

The children also had four weeks of computer classes with Colm. We thank Colm for his great work with the adult and children computer classes, for sourcing the chromebooks

and for all his expertise in solving our IT issues when they arise from time to time.

Tin Whistle

Covid-19 put a temporary halt to our school's tradition of teaching tin whistle. The children in First to Sixth class are delighted to be back playing the instrument and are enthusiastic practising at home. We thank Mrs Vaughan for teaching the tin whistle to the pupils and we hope to have a "performance" for parents/guardians towards the end of the year.

Halloween Fancy Dress/Pumpkin Competition

On Friday the 28th of October the children came to school dressed up in their Halloween costumes. We had an assembly in the school hall where the children talked about their costumes which was very entertaining. The children also brought in their pumpkins which they designed at home. The standard was sky high and we had the almost impossible task of picking the top three pumpkins from each class. Well done to all the winners.

Halloween Disco

A big thanks to the Rathfeigh and Skryne Parents' Associations for organising the Halloween Disco in Skryne School Hall on Friday night. The talk all week amongst the children was about going to the disco. So, hopefully, everyone had great fun last night. Thanks to Tom and the Skryne Board of Management for hosting the event in their school.

Gaelic Football

Our Girls' Football team lost out narrowly on a semi-final spot after losing by just a goal to a very good Ballinacree team. The performances this year from all the girls was exceptional and we hope they'll get over the disappointment soon. Thanks to Ms Reynolds for training the girls this year.

At the time of writing this article our Boys' Football Team are due to play Castlejordan in the Quarter Finals also and we wish them luck.

A big congratulations to the Skryne Ladies Football team on winning their Intermediate Final recently. We look forward to them visiting the school with the cup and I am confident that some of the girls presently in Rathfeigh will be playing for the Skryne Ladies' Teams in years to come.

Meath Book Festival

As part of the excellently organised Meath Book Festival our classes went to local libraries and theatres where they met a variety of Irish authors. First and Second class went to Dunboyne library where they had words of wisdom from author Alan Nolan. Third to Sixth class visited the Solstice in Navan for a very entertaining and lively performance from authors Dave Rudden and Graham Tugwell. The children left both performances with smiles on their faces after being thoroughly entertained by the various authors. Hopefully it will

encourage a few pupils with creative writing skills to follow their dreams of becoming budding authors in a few years.

Rathfeigh Nursing Home

We have been liaising with Rathfeigh Nursing Home with the hope that we can work closely with them over the course of the year. We hope the children in Rathfeigh can help the residents in a small way by creating videos that can be sent to the residents that may bring a smile to their faces e.g. singing performances, tin whistle, welcome messages etc etc. Hopefully, Covid permitting, the children may be able to visit the Nursing Home before the year is out to perform for the residents.

Recount Writing

Over the last few weeks we have been focusing on Recount Writing as part of the writing genres in the English Curriculum. The children in 5th and 6th class wrote about their favourite "Myths and Legends". Their written work and drawings were of a very high standard and they enjoyed reading their stories to the children in other classes. It was lovely to hear these "Myths and Legends" which we, as teachers, learned when

we were in Primary School many, many years ago e.g. The Salmon of Knowledge, The Children of Lir, Cú Chulainn etc.

The children in 3rd/4th class wrote about their favourite fables e.g. The Three Little Pigs, Little Red Riding Hood, Goldilocks and The Three Bears etc. They, also, enjoyed reading these stories particularly to the Junior and Senior Infants.

Well done to all the children for their excellent stories over the last few weeks.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Our Parent/Teacher meetings will take place on the 24th/25th of November. At these meetings we will be giving feedback to parents/guardians on the academic and social development of the children.

We wish everyone in the Rathfeigh School community an enjoyable and safe Halloween. School re-opens after the Halloween break on Monday November 7th.

