**2011/2012 School Newsletter**

Welcome to our annual school newsletter. As we start our summer holidays here are some of the highlights and achievements of this school year.

**September**

* We welcomed our new students Finn & Ethan O’Leary, Darragh O’Leary, Cindy Kruth, Robyn Kelly, Bob Casey and Emily Howard into the school. We hope they will be very happy at Fanore National School.
* We visited Coole Park. A very enjoyable and educational trip for all the students.
* We commenced training for our annual cross country running in Kilnaboy. Children from 1st class up competed and did extremely well.

**October**

* On October 20th , all children attended the Celtic Rathskallions show in Ballyvaughan N.S., organised by Miss Scales. This Canadian musical show was very entertaining.
* On a cold and wet October’s day, the whole school went on a beach cleanup with the Burren Eco Tourism Network. Many black bags were filled despite the bad day!
* The Halloween Party was great evening’s entertainment for children and adults alike. Many thanks to all involved in the organisation of this event.

**November**

* The Readathon which is held every year commenced. This is great for stimulating the children’s interest in reading. An amazing amount of books were read and reports written by the children.
* The Shoe Box Appeal was held. A total of 22 boxes were collected on Nov 9th. Many thanks to all parents for supporting this!

**December**

* The coming of December meant the commencement of practise for our Christmas show. The Annual Christmas Pageant was held in the church with all children having an active part. Music and dance filled the church.
* On Dec 13th, the children in the junior room went to see Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer in Ennis. This was an interactive show with panto like scenes.
* Tracey Kelly was invited into the school to work with the children. The children in the senior classroom created a Gingerbread house while the children in the junior room decorated their gingerbread cookies.

**January**

* The children commenced their annual swimming lessons in Lahinch. The bus costs are paid by the various fundraising activities held during the year to defray the cost on parents.
* The children in the senior room got the chance to go to Doolin Cave on the 18th January compliments of Doolin Cave owners.

**February**

* The pond came alive with frogspawn.
* The Incredible Edibles programme commenced. We planted strawberries, potatoes, carrots, lettuces etc. Keep an eye on the garden over the summer months and help yourselves to any produce that grows.
* Blue Star Programme commenced in February with all children in the school learning about the European Union.
* Cycling commenced for the older children. Many thanks to Noel Walsh for his help with the cycling.
* On Pancake Tuesday, Tracey delighted the children with pancake making lessons! Pancakes were cooked in the school and the children got to choose their own toppings.
* The whole school attended Joseph & his Techni-Coloured Dreamcoat in Lisdoonvarna.
* On February 29th, Miss Scales brought the senior classroom to a Science Show in Ennis. Here the children learned about 4 famous scientists.
* Daniel Kelly came to the school for work experience. His help and assistance over the 2 weeks was a great support to the teachers.

**March**

* We attended the library in Lisdoonvarna for Seachtain Na Gaeilge. In the library, the librarian read 3 stories as Gaeilge for the students.
* This year for St Patrick’s Day we featured in the parade. We were a Chinese Dragon!
* On 20th March, the senior children attended Murder of the Crows in Glor. This was a very worthwhile show.

**May**

* May 13th saw Cindy, Christopher, Grace & Jessica make their First Holy Communion, congratulations to you all your special day.
* Confirmation was held in New Quay on May 23rd with children from the senior room attending to sing in the choir.
* May 14th The Heritage in Schools workshop was held in the school. Zachary Silke came to speak to the children about the Stone Age.
* On May 16th, the children in the senior classroom went to an exhibition in the Burren College of Art.
* Surfing lessons commenced! Many thanks to Peter Hynes and his staff at Aloha Surf School.
* The Discover Primary Science logbook was completed and sent off. The Award has been received for the 8th year in a row. The children carried out science experiments in many categories and prepared their submission in the form of black box!
* Basketball: All children received 2 sessions of basketball with Vincent Leigh. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all children.
* Local Shellmidden: on Friday 25th May the whole school went down to the beach to look at the Shellmidden. All children got the opportunity to try digging, brushing and sieving!
* May 29th, we held our “Taste of Europe” in the school. This was a great success! Many thanks to all parents for taking time to bake European dishes! Thanks to Tracey for co-ordinating this event.
* The children in the senior classroom went on their school tour to Delphi for a 2night break. This was a wonderful experience for the children.

**June**

* On June 5th, Miss Scales brought her classes to Turoe Pet Farm. A great day out despite the rain!
* On June 8th, we held a sports day in our own school.

**General:**

Gardening

Many thanks to Sarah Casey for her help throughout the year with gardening. The children have learned a great deal from Sarah!

Football

5 football sessions were held this year with John Enright from the Clare Sports Partnership.

Hurling

Many thanks to Peter Casey who came to the school at various times throughout the school year to teach the children various hurling skills.

Website

Don’t forget to check out our website [www.fanorens.com](http://www.fanorens.com)

German Classes

German classes will cease at the end of June with Veerle Claeys. This is due to the Government’s decision to terminate the Modern Language Programme. We would like to thank Veerle for her work over the years and wish her well in with her future endeavours.

Fundraisers:

Bake Sale: €515

Shamrocks: €240

Clothes Collection: €221.30

Total: €976.30

We would like to wish Owen Kelly farewell and we wish him well for his years ahead in secondary school. We would like to say a special thanks to Tracey & John Kelly for all their work over the years with the school. Many thanks to Tracey for her hard work and dedication to the Board and fundraising activities, for her work in teaching the children about cooking/baking etc. Many thanks to John for his work with Miss Scales on the Science areas. Both John & Tracey drove us to numerous events/outings, for which we are extremely grateful!

Finally, we would like to thank all parents and members of the community for their help and assistance over the course of the school year i.e., parents driving, cake sales etc. Without this assistance many of our outings, activities would not be possible.

We wish everyone an enjoyable and happy summer and look forward to seeing you all again in August.

**Board of Management**

Anne Pilkington Fr. Richard Flanagan

Bríd Queally Carol Scales

Paudge Casey Paul Connole

Christina O’Connor

*Note: Please find attached Holidays for school year 2012-2013.*

**October 2012 mid-term break**

All schools will close from **Monday 29th October 2012 to Friday 2nd November 2012** inclusive.

**Christmas 2012**

All schools will close on **Friday 21st December 2012**, which will be the final day of the school term.
All schools will re-open on **Monday 7th January 2013**.

**February 2013 mid-term break**

All primary schools will close on **Thursday 14th February 2013 and Friday 15th February 2013.**

**Easter 2013**

All schools will close on **Friday 22nd March 2013**, which will be the final day of the school term,

All schools will re-open on **Monday 8th April 2013**.