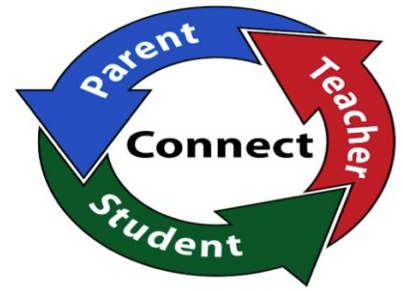


# Scoil Aodh Rua agus Nuala

# NEWS



## Newsletter February 2024

Ah, spring. Winter may have its charms, but there's nothing quite like the moment when the world begins to wake up from its cold weather slumbers.

Wishing our school community all the best as we continue to grow through Spring.

### Nature Heroes Update



After a long winter, there is nothing more exciting than spotting the first signs of spring! We are enjoying the beauty of our bulb blitz around the school grounds. These spring flowers also provide a critical source of pollen and nectar for early pollinators such as bumblebees.

This month students are designing their dream school garden. Some classes are creating micro ponds for our outdoor spaces. A group of senior students are preparing a Composting Project and Presentation for all classes. Mr. Nugent also held an outdoor demonstration on how to make a

wormery. The students are going to maintain and observe this wormery over the coming weeks.

We would love to see new items for our discovery tables from your spring walks.

The students will have the opportunity to “show and tell” at our next assembly.

### Wellbeing Update

An adult wellbeing team has been established in our school with the aim to enable children and staff to experience a sense of belonging, a safe space, feel connected and supported within the school environment. We have many wellbeing activities in the pipeline but to launch our initiative we have set up wellbeing boards in both buildings.

This is an area to showcase the children’s achievements and to reward positive actions, behaviours and contributions to school life.



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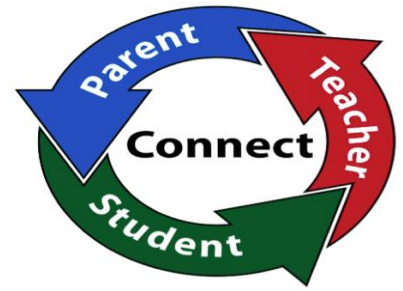
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## Credit Union Quiz: Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March in Letterkenny

Our winning team will now go on to take part in the Credit Union Quiz in Letterkenny on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 3pm. This will take place in the Radisson Hotel. We wish them all the very best as they progress on representing our school. We are very proud of our team!



## Garda Quiz Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

Congratulations to our team who came 3<sup>rd</sup> place and will now proceed to Letterkenny in early March for the next stage. Well done to all involved!

## Parents' Association Updates

Dear Parents/Guardians

Firstly, the Parents' Association would like to thank everyone for turning up and showing such strong support for the bingo night recently. Massively appreciated. We will aim to repeat this event as feedback was very positive.

## St Patrick's Day Parade

This year is the Donegal 550 themed parade. We are well progressed with the design from McCabe Architects who along with FERM Engineering and Parents' Association support, will create an authentic float for our children and us parents and represent the occasion with flair. Our next St Patrick's Day Parade prep meeting is 8pm. 27th Feb in The Nuala

Building

The numbers of people, both students and parents, still need to be established. We need this early on in order to have the required costumes and choreography ready for the day. The school has sent out forms for parents to complete and return so we can determine numbers in attendance. The types of costumes to select have also been issued. If you have any questions surrounding costumes please feel free to ask them in the Parents WhatsApp group:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/I9zTuxuel1HBOzRQA6h9zf>

The above link should allow you to join the group. We only have 72 members to date, but it should be a lot more. Declan McCabe will be visiting the individual classes to go over the details of the

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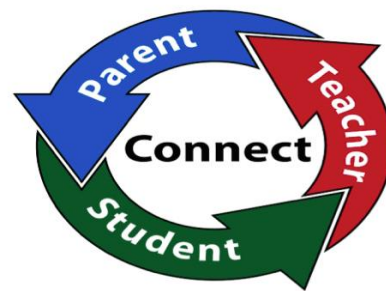
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parade plan and how the roles will be performed on the day. A lot of effort has been put in so far by the Mc Cables (Declan and James) and this is very much appreciated. Many other people have already offered support for the various aspects and we encourage more of you to come forward and get involved. We are asking people to bring any imitation swords or shields they might have lying around to the school; we will be painting these up in the clan colours.

### Easter Raffle

We are seeking sponsorship for 11 large Easter eggs to do this year's Easter Raffle in each class. If you can donate an Easter Egg, please contact the office on 0749722661 or email [scoilaodhrua@gmail.com](mailto:scoilaodhrua@gmail.com)

Please note: We will not be collecting any money for the Easter Raffle this year. It will be for fun only!

Many Thanks for all your support,

Parents Association Committee

### Active Schools/ Sports Activities

As part of our Active Schools initiative, all the pupils in Scoil Aodh Rua agus Nuala are participating in the Run Around Europe challenge. Each class in the school has chosen a capital city and now, over the course of four weeks, the children will run, jog or walk a few kilometres a day until the class total of kilometres is equal to the distance to their chosen city.

Not an easy challenge!!!!

To encourage the children to keep travelling until they reach their destination, we have decided to issue each child with a sponsorship card. Family members, friends and neighbours are invited to sponsor the children to complete their journey. The money raised will be used to help pay for buses for school tours and some new sports equipment.

Looking forward to your support and a happy and enjoyable trip to the lovely capitals of Europe.

Let the journey begin!!!

Sixth Class attended a soccer blitz in Letterkenny on Thursday last 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

We are delighted to congratulate our hurling team who had success. They will now progress to the county final. Well done!

### Music Lessons

These are continuing this term in our school.

### Health and Safety

Children are not permitted to play in the school shelter areas or behind the school in yard spaces after school hours. Children must be collected promptly at the end of instruction times. This is due to health and safety as there is no supervision in yards at these times.

### Mobile Phones/ Internet Access

I wish to encourage families to monitor student activity online if it applies to your child/ Children, particularly conversations/posts on phones and devices and websites/ apps your child might be accessing.

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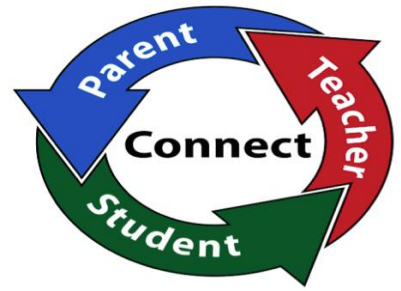
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# Scoil Aodh Rua agus Nuala

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Under no circumstances are pupils to have mobile phones, cameras, iPods, or any other devices at school. Because of the dangers involved, this will be considered Gross Misbehaviour.

Thank you for your continued support on these important matters.

### Pupils' Absences

When a pupil is absent due to illness or for other reasons parents must inform the class teacher in writing stating the reason for absence, otherwise it will be documented as unexplained.

The school Principal is obliged to notify TUSLA (Child and Family Agency) when a pupil is absent from school for 20 days on aggregate. Unexplained absences will be investigated by TUSLA.

### Lá Glas

We will hold our annual Lá Glas on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March. Children can wear their green colours or colourful clothing of choice.

### Dates to Remember

**First Penance Ceremony** 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024 (for pupils making their First Holy Communion)

**First Holy Communion** 4<sup>th</sup> May 2024 in St. Patrick's Church @ 11.00am.

**Service of Light Ceremony for Confirmation students:** Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 7pm in St. Agatha's Church, Clar

**Sacrament of Confirmation** – 13<sup>th</sup> April 2024 in St. Agatha's Church, Clar @ 2.30pm.

**Bank Holiday Closure for St. Patrick's Day:** Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March. School closed.

**Easter Closure:** School will close on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

School will re-open on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April.

Stand  
**TALL**  
and be  
**PROUD.**  
Be  
**YOURSELF**  
you are  
**AMAZING.**

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