

# The Craggagh Chronicle!

*Balla, Co Mayo/9365177/Principal@CraggaghNS.ie*

## Nine new pupils enroll in 2010



School reopened on August 31st with **nine** new additions to the roll. In Junior Infants we have Anna Boyle, Cara Hession, Sarah Rosney Oisín Cronin, Conor Dwyer and Noah Schlosser. Oscar and Maud Rowland joined Senior Infants and First Class and Fleur Griffin is the newest addition

to Rang a trí.

The new entrants have been made to feel very welcome by all the other children in the school and have settled happily into their new classrooms.

We've also had word from St Louis that Daniel, Jessica, John, Lisa, Rachel and Ryan have taken to 1st year like ducks to water but miss us greatly of course!

### Swimming Moves to Breaffy

Swimming lessons for all children from 1st to 6th classes will commence after the Halloween break, and this year we're moving to The Kingfisher Leisure Centre at Breaffy House Hotel. There are a number of advantages to the new venue, the proximity of the pool means less disruption to the school day, there will be more instructors on duty and the sessions will last 45 minutes rather than the previous 30 minute session.

### Local Poet to Visit School

Killedan based poet Terry McDonnagh will visit Craggagh NS next month to conduct a poetry workshop with the children as part of the annual *Raifteirí Festival*.

### Dates for your

#### Diary:

- **Nov 1st:** School re-opens after Halloween
- **Nov 4th:** Swimming lessons commence
- **Nov 12th:** Poetry workshop with Terry McDonnagh
- **Nov 16th&19th:** Futsal competition for 3rd & 4th classes.
- **Nov 23rd:** 2nd-6th visit Turlough House for storytelling with Niall de Burca
- **Nov 24th:** Parent-Teacher Meetings
- **Dec 8th:** School closure
- **Dec 23rd:** Christmas Holidays (yeay!)

## Book Fair a Great Success

Thank you to all our parents who supported this year's Book Fair so well. A total of €764 was collected which is over €100 up on the 2008 Book Fair. As you may already know, the school then receives 50% of that total in vouchers for

books and other classroom resources, so €382 will go towards "freshening up" the classroom libraries. Your support is greatly appreciated. A big thank-you also to parents Sandra Murphy and Michelle Durkan who assisted

with the running of the event.

The other great advantage of the Book Fair is that it creates a great flurry of enthusiastic reading amongst the children. Let's hope it lasts!



## Blooming Lovely!

The school is greatly indebted to the green fingers of Bernie Begley. I'm sure you'd all agree that the school grounds look fantastic all year round and are the source of great praise and pride.





## Just a little note

Why not email your notes (e.g. absence notes, dentist appointments etc) to the school and save yourself the trouble of looking for a pen & paper at the last minute! It's a convenient and secure way of getting in touch with the teachers.

You can send your notes to: [notes@craggaghns.ie](mailto:notes@craggaghns.ie).

**Of course you can still use the traditional method if you wish**, but at least we can guarantee that emails won't get lost at the bottom of a school-bag!

## Young Engineers

The children of 4th, 5th and 6th classes attended the "Electric Magnetic Engineering Show" in Castlebar this week. Organised by Engineers Ireland the show was aimed at highlighting the importance and relevance of science and engineering for primary school children.

# The Sports Desk



Craggagh/Straide Girls

**W**ith the winter fast approaching, a lot of sporting activities are packed into the first two months of the school year. The children of 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th classes participated in the local cross country races in Swinford on Sept 24th.

Our football teams then sprang

## Junior Room See Sleeping Beauty

The excitement was palpable in Mrs Macken's room this week as the children of Junior Infants, Senior Infants and 1st class travelled to The



Mercy Convent, Claremorris to see a production of Sleeping Beauty. Stunning costumes and beautiful music ensured a great day for all!

## Artistic Outing

The children from 2nd to 6th class spent a morning in the wonderful Linen Hall Arts Centre, Castlebar this month to view the exhibition "Cascade" by Vanessa Daws and participate in a workshop based on the exhibition. The children created a beautiful mobile which is now on display in the school.



## An Focal Dheireanach..... The Last Word.

**I**t's hard to believe mid-term is upon us already. As you can see from this newsletter, it has been a frantic two months in all classrooms so far, and there's no sign if things easing up!

The Christmas season is just around the corner and before we know it our 5th & 6th classes will be making their Confirmation and 2nd class their First Holy Communion.

Plans are currently afoot to begin 6 weeks of Irish Dancing lessons for all children and also a series of Drama Workshops, similar to those run last year by Joan King.

In the meantime, we hope you all enjoy the well earned Halloween break and we look forward to seeing you on November 1st.

*Best Wishes,*

*Danny, Aingeal, Noel & Eimear*

into action in preparation for the Mini 7s competition. This year we amalgamated with another 3 teacher school, Straide NS in order to compete.

Our boys played two friendly games against our neighbors, St Aidan's NS and Bohola NS while the girls also played against Bohola.

The Mini 7s competition then took place on Oct 14th in Swinford. Our boys' team were unlucky to be pitted against eventual winners Midfield NS in the first round. However, our girls overcame the challenge of Midfield and also that of Kiltasser/Culmore to reach the semi-final where they were

eventually beaten by St Aidan's, Kiltimagh.

**S**taying with gaelic games, our weekly training sessions are continuing with GAA coach, Tom Byrne from Kiltimagh. Tom will now be focusing on basic and fundamental skills with the children from 2nd, 3rd and 4th classes.



Craggagh Boys