

Tobar  
An  
Léinn

# Nasc

“Tús  
Maith”

Issue 12/13. 2

## ON OUR BIKES!! - (Cycling Safety Course a Huge Success)

Girls and boys from 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th classes all went through a cycling safety course that cost only €3 per pupil. The course lasted six weeks with one session per week. All the bikes and helmets were supplied by our instructor, Ruairi Tansey from The Cycling Safety and Skills School in Kildare. The first session we stayed inside the classroom and Mr. Tansey showed us some tips about the bike and how to use it, such as which brake to pull first, how to prove that your bike belongs to you and many other things that would help us for our next session, which was actually cycling the bike.

Our next session took place in the school yard. Mr Tansey arrived in a van full of bikes and had a bag full of helmets. We had to be able to put on our helmets, adjust the seat and be able to

use the braking technique that we were shown in the first session. We had to be able to stop dead at a certain point in the playground. The session after that, he showed us how to do a left hand turn, when to look over our shoulder and to signal when making a turn.



Our next session

focused on making a right hand turn, and believe it or not, there was a few things extra to do when making a right hand turn and a left hand turn. We also had to cycle in a line and stop on a line at the same time. The next session was a bit

more complicated. Mr Tansey showed us how the rules of the road apply to cyclists and what cyclists must do at certain signs.

Our last session took place inside the classroom. Mr. Tansey showed us a D.V.D. that had tons of tips about cycling, bike checks and how cyclists can stay safe. At the end of the D.V.D, Mr. Tansey gave us a cycling quiz to do which was great fun!!

All in all we had a great time and learnt loads on cycling that many of us didn't know. I would like to say a special thanks to Mr. Tansey for doing such a great job. I would love to do it all again!!

**By:- Eoin O' Sullivan—  
6th Class**

### Congratulations

We congratulate  
Miss Kirwan on her  
recent marriage.  
She is now  
Mrs. Griffin  
and we are  
trying our best to  
get used to it!  
Best wishes to the  
happy couple.



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### Lá 'le Pádraig – St. Patrick's Day.

This week is one of our special Irish weeks in school. Many events are taking place around the country. Use any words/phrases you may have and encourage your kids to use the Irish language. Hope everybody had a “Lá 'le Pádraig iontach”

### The “Gooch” Drops In

Colm “Gooch” Cooper visited our school on the 20th of March 2013. Colm who is widely regarded as being the greatest Kerry footballer of all times spent the afternoon talking about his football career, answering questions and demonstrating some vital football skills. Everybody had a very enjoyable and memorable experience.





## Swimming

Swimming lessons for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> classes are back in full swing every Tuesday in Portlaoise Leisure Centre. The 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes will commence their lessons in May. Each group will have 6 weeks of lessons. We look forward to another enjoyable term of swimming lessons.

## Our School Choir

We are very proud of our wonderful school choir. The children from 1st to 6th class practise every Wednesday with the expert guidance of John Hosey—the school choir sings hymns and songs to help us celebrate special occasions..

## Competition Time

Tráth na gCeist do rang a 3, 4, 5 agus 6.

1. Cé mhéid seachtain i mbliain?
2. Cén abhainn ar a bhfuil Baile Átha Cliath suite?
3. Cén cluiche a imríonn Colm Cooper?
4. Cé mhéid imreoir a bhíonn ar fhoireann sacair?
5. Suimigh  $12 + 10 + 8$ ?

Tabhair do chuid freagraí ar phíosa páipéir le d'ainm agus do rang do do mhúinteoir roimh an Aoine an 22ú de mhí Márta chun duais a bhuachan.

## Chocolate Easter Bunny

Chocolate Easter bunny  
in a jelly bean nest  
I'm saving you for very last  
because I love you best.

I'll only take a nibble  
from your ear and your cheek  
And put you in the press  
to keep you for next week.

Yum, you're delicious!  
I didn't mean to eat  
Your chocolate tail till Tuesday  
Ooops! There go your feet!

I wonder how your back tastes  
with all that chocolate hair.  
I never thought your tummy  
was only filled with air!

Chocolate Easter bunny  
in a jelly bean nest.  
I'm saving you for very last  
because I love you best.

By:- Leah Moffitt—5th Class

We would like to wish all the Parents,  
Guardians and Families of Tobar an  
Léinn a very Happy Easter.

Infants, 1st and 2nd: How many Easter Eggs can you find? Give your answer to your teacher on a piece of paper with your name before Friday the 22nd March.



## Transition Years

In January four transition year students came to Tobar

an Léinn School for work experience from Heywood School. They were Tanya Grant, Sarah Bergin, Ian Whelan and Dearbhla Mulhall. They did singing, dancing, French and drama. Second class did a communion booklet. Dearbhla did Zumba with the Infants.

At the end we did a performance in front of the whole school. We sang "Somebody to Love" and the girls did a dance called "Oh my God" and the boys did "Gangnam Style".

We were all excellent!!!

We would like to say thank you to the four transition year students who came.

We had a great time.

By:- Ellen Donoghue and  
Jennifer Holland 3rd Class

## Reading is Fun!

We got new library books.

We bring three of them home every week. Our parents help us to read. Some of the books are about Apple Tree Farm. The stories are very funny. Other books help us to learn. We are good at reading and we love our library books. By:- Leah Bergin, Ally McDonald, Jack Farrell and Christopher Phelan, - Senior Infants.

## Some Irish phrases for Parents

Dia Duit. Hello Dia is Muire duit.  
Tá fáilte romhat. You are welcome.  
Conas atá tú? How are you?  
Tá mé go maith. I am well/fine.  
Slán. Slán go fóill. Goodbye.  
Más é do thoil é. Please.

Go raibh maith agat. Thank you.

Cad is ainm duit? What is your name?

Seán is ainm dom. My name is Seán.

Lá Fhéile Pádraig. St. Patrick's Day.

Bréithlá sona duit. Happy birthday.

Go n-éirí leat. Best of luck.

## Green Schools 2012\2013



This year the Green School Class Representatives are Eoin O'Sullivan, Leah Moffitt, Séamus Ó Cinnéide, Catherine Butler, Sarah Haide and Emily Goode. Ms. Ni Leathlobhair and Timmy Keegan are our Staff Representatives and Aileen Donovan is our Parents Rep. We are working for our fourth green flag and the theme is Travel. We are currently holding a competition to design a new character for our notice board.

By:- Sarah Haide 2nd Class  
and Emily Goode - 4th Class



## WEEE Ireland



On Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> of February Jim Nelson from WEEE Ireland came to our school.

WEEE stands for Waste

## Electrical Electronic Equipment.

He came into 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes. He showed us some things that you can recycle that are good for the environment.

These include battery powered and electrical equipment like an Xbox360. He gave everybody in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> class a battery box to bring home. With your recycling boxes make sure you recycle your wasted batteries. You can give them to WEEE Ireland and they will turn them into other types of objects.

He also reminded us that larger electrical appliances like washing machines and dish washers can be taken to electrical suppliers for recycling.

By Jack Callaghan and Séamus Ó Cinnéide 3rd Class.

[www.tobaranleinn.ie](http://www.tobaranleinn.ie)  
for latest School news





## Letter to the Editor

### “Too Much Homework”

**Dear Editor,**

*I'm writing to you in connection with the issue of teachers giving too much homework to students in schools around Ireland. In my opinion teachers give too much homework to children. They are in school roughly six hours every day. Most of that time is spent working in a classroom and doing lots of work. After school is the only time they can relax. If they have loads upon loads of homework where are they going to get their chance to relax? Depending on the time of year, there is only a few hours of daylight after school and the children are forced to waste those daylight hours by doing homework. I know that doing homework improves their vocabulary and writing skills, but I also know that they are very tired after a school day and just want to relax.*

**Yours Faithfully,  
Emma Hennessy, 6th Class.**

Tobar an Léinn Girls & Boys will begin their hurling & camogie competitions immediately after our Easter break. Over the past few weeks they have brushed up on their skills with Laois County hurling star Christopher Murray. All fixtures can be found on [www.cnambunlaoise.ie](http://www.cnambunlaoise.ie).



**Please note these fixtures are subject to change.**

**Tobar an Léinn—”Tús Maith”**

## Give

*Our Lenten challenge is to give our time to others this Lent –*

*We hope that everyone continues this after Lent.*

## Book Report

The title of the book was Enchanted Wood.

The author was Enid Blyton.

This book was fiction.

The main characters were Joe, Beth and Frannie.

Joe, Beth and Frannie lived in the town but their Father got a job in the country so they have to move too. They were very excited to move to the country. When they were at their house at the country, they had a picnic in the wood but they did not know it was enchanted.

This book was exciting.

This book was easy to read.

I like this book because it was enchanting.

I give this book a score of 9 out of 10.

I would recommend this book to people that like Enid Blyton.

**By:- Caitlyn O' Connor  
3rd Class**



## **First Penance**

We celebrated the Sacrament of First Penance on Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> of March in our School in the “Seomra Teach Le Chéile”. It was a special occasion for us. Well done to all.

Now we are preparing for our First Holy Communion. Yay!!

**By:- 2nd Class**



## **Date to Remember**

**Sunday, May 19th 2013**

**Sacrament of First Holy Communion**

