

Tobar
An
Léinn

Nasc

The Covid Edition

“Tús
Maith”

Welcome to this very special edition of our Nasc Newsletter. 2020 has proven to be a year none of us will forget. We all have found ourselves having to do things we would have imagined impossible, like not seeing our friends or hugging our grandparents, in order to keep everyone safe. As we head into the summer we can see light at the end of the tunnel and hopefully we can all have an enjoyable summer. Please remember to keep up social distancing, cough or sneeze into your elbow and to wash your hands. Stay Local and Stay Safe.

The Give and Take of the Coronavirus

On that day when we left school in March with our bags full of books, we had a thousand questions on our minds. One of them was, “When will we ever go back to school?” We were all confused about what would come next in the world and we really had no idea what was ahead of us. When I said goodbye to my friends that day my last words were, “Be safe from the Coronavirus and see you soon,” and I thought I *would* see them soon. However, here we are still at home 13 weeks later!!

A lot has happened during the last 3 months. I have recognised things that I hadn't had time to recognise before such as when the traffic stopped I heard the birds so clearly, I felt peaceful when outside with how quiet our countryside was. On the T.V. I saw that, when the industry pollution cleared in cities like New York the buildings could be seen again so I thought that there were some good things about the Coronavirus and that it might be a good idea to slow down the world a little bit even after this is over so that the environment stays happy.



We have heard some very sad stories about the Coronavirus and we think about them a lot too. For us, some very happy things have happened, like, we got to spend more family time together inventing games, learning to bake, going on cycles, playing with our pets, spending less time on screens...except for when our class came on a Zoom call which I loved because I got to see all my friends and I do miss them all. I also miss hugging my family, especially my grandparents and playing with my cousins but as I sit here I appreciate what I have. I am glad that I'm alive and I am grateful for what I have because once you have your family and your health, you have everything and that's all that matters.

We have seen what the Coronavirus can take and what it can give but I know that we will all be back together again soon and then I will be saying “Hi” and not “Bye” to all my friends!

By Áine O' Sullivan (3rd Class)

Debating League

This year Katie Grant, Ava Coleman, Isabella Troy, Emma O' Connor, May Phelan and Maya Donoghue were proud to represent Tobar an Léinn in the Concern Debating League. In our first debate we were up against Educate Together, Portlaoise. We were very nervous as no other debating team in our school had ever made it past the first round. After a strong debate on both sides we progressed to the next round.

Our next debate proved much more difficult but with a lot of effort we came out on top. After this debate we got to practising straight away as we had made it to the semi-final! The semi-final was our toughest debate yet but all our hard work paid off and we finally made it to the final!

We spent the whole morning of the final preparing. We were extremely nervous as we drove to Laois Education Centre with 5th and 6th class. The motion of our debate was 'Social media is a force for good', and we were proposing this motion. Ava was our captain and Katie and Isabella were speakers. We all put 110% into our speeches and rebuts but sadly the results weren't in our favour. Luckily we didn't leave empty handed as we received a plaque each. We were disappointed with the results but we hope to keep up debating in secondary school. We would like to thank Ms Hayes for taking time out of class to help us with our speeches.

By Katie Grant, Ava Coleman and Isabella Troy, 6th Class

Grandparents Day

On the 30th of January 2020, grandparents came to our school celebrate Grandparents Day. Before all of the grandparents arrived, some children wrote down the names of their grandparents that passed away to remember them. Juniors, Seniors, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th all sang songs and the grandparents all gathered round and listened. They loved the songs. Next all the children got pictures with their grandparents. Some people worked together to make a frame for the pictures. It turned out really good. Sometime later all the children went into class and watched a movie while all the grandparents drank tea, coffee and had refreshments. The leftover food was given to all the classes. Some children went home with their grandparents and some stayed at school. Everyone had a great day and 6th class will miss this event as we did this every year in primary school. We were lucky we got to celebrate this special day before the lockdown.

By Chloe Beere and Seána Dunne, 6th Class

Farewell

My years have come to an end
in Tobar an Léinn,
It's time to say goodbye.

I have made some good memories with all my friends,
as we have watched each other learn and grow
and change from day to day.

I would like to thank all my teachers for all they
have taught me.

Tobar an Léinn. Tús Maith.

By Jack Coogan, 6th Class.

We wish all our Sixth Class the very best as they move on from Tobar an Léinn. We know that you are disappointed about the days that you have missed but have no regrets, remember all the fun days that you shared together here in Tobar an Léinn and look forward to all that the future holds for you.

My 10th Birthday in Lockdown

I love birthdays but this year, 2020, was completely different. No one was coming to play. We organised a Zoom party and made a double orange chocolate cake. At 3pm my friends all joined me on the call. They sang Happy Birthday and I blew out the candles. Then I went on the trampoline with my mam's phone, it was really weird being the only one but still having fun with my friends. I can't wait to have a real birthday party for my 11th birthday.

By Beth Phelan, 3rd Class.

Worth the Wait!

Yesterday I finally got to see my Granny and Granddad. I had not seen them in 11 weeks. They came to my house and we sat outside and had a chat. They watched us jump in the pool. We had lots of fun with Granny and Granddad.

By Jessica Farrell, Senior Infants

Coronavirus Heroes



SOCIAL DISTANCING

CORONAVIRUS

THANK YOU

Covid 19

(A Rap Song)

It's here it's there
Covid 19 is everywhere.

Wash your hands and sanitize,
Keep your distance to save lives.

It's hot these days so have some fun,
Now you can even cycle or run.

If you want to go for an ice cream cone,
Stay within the 5k zone.

Give a clap for our frontline heroes,
they cured the cases from 100 to zero!

It's here it's there,
Covid 19 is everywhere.

But we can stop it bit by bit,
And remember, keep healthy and fit!!

Stay safe!!

By Aaliyah Troy, 4th Class

Busy Bakers

During Covid 19 I did lots of baking. One of my favourite recipes is for oat cookies. Why don't you make them at home!!

Ingredients – makes 24 cookies

50g of plain flour
50g of wholemeal flour
130g of oats
80g of raisins\chocolate chips
50g of flaked almonds
120g of soft butter
120g of light or dark brown sugar
1 egg
Half a teaspoon of baking soda
1 teaspoon of cinnamon

Method

Cream the butter and sugar until it is soft.
Mix in the dry ingredients.
Add in your egg and your chocolate chips.
Shape your dough into cookies and put it on a tray lined with greaseproof paper.
Pop it in the oven at 180 degrees for 10-15 minutes.
Eat and Enjoy!

by Lillian Troy (2nd Class)

I have been keeping busy during lockdown and trying to make it as positive an experience as I can.

I have been baking with my mammy, she says I have mastered the art of cracking eggs!
I have made scones, Lemon Drizzle Cake, Queen Cakes, Rice Krispie Buns, Guinness brown bread, Quiche and Pasta. I have had great fun baking with my mammy.
My favourite one to bake was pasta because I love eating it with melted cheese. Yum!
I am glad I started baking and if you have not tried it I can tell you it is great fun. I think I would like to bake doughnuts next.
I hope you enjoyed reading about my baking experience at home.

Patrick Doogue, 4th class.

I read The Cat and The King book by Nick Sharratt. It was about a king and a cat who had to find a new home after a dragon burned down their castle. Can the cat and the king find a dragon proof home?

At the end of this story there was a recipe for shortbread dipped in chocolate which I made with my mam and it was delicious.

By Molly Donoghue, 1st Class.

Coronavirus.

Covid 19....., the worst we have ever seen.
We had no school,

At first I thought this was cool,
But then I missed my friends and my teachers too.

This coronavirus is worse than the FLU,
Lots of people sadly died,
Lots of families cried and cried.

We had to do our homework on the Seesaw App,
Mam our teacher at home wouldn't take any crap!

By: Cian Conroy, 2nd class



Learning from Home

Although this time has been challenging, it has also given us opportunities to spend time together and to learn in a new way. It has been great to hear about all the fun things that you have all been up to.

Today 29th May, Pauric and I helped with the sheep shearing in our farm shed. We had to jump on the wool in the bag to flatten it. We watched the man shearing the ewes because it was too warm for them. They weighed the lambs to see if they were ready to be sold. We walked behind the sheep to show them how to get back in a field. I felt tired but it was a fun job.

By Seosamh Lalor, 1st Class.



Design a boat to float - First we made a boat with tin foil. It held many coins weighing less than 1kg. Then we made a stronger boat with mesh wire and stronger tin foil and reinforcing wire and covered it with tin foil. When we tested the boat, it carried many of daddy's tools which weighed about 5kg.



By Julia Butler, 2nd Class.

The quarantine allowed me to spend educational opportunities with...

MINECRAFT! Surprisingly, it has developed my maths, science, construction skills, coding, typing, spelling and creativity. The possibilities are infinite!

If you play Minecraft you would probably recognize the names of the following stones: andesite, gravel, diorite, granite, quartz, obsidian, lapis lazuli, emerald, diamond, and gold.

Did you ever think a 10-year-old could design an 11-storey wooden house or a castle that is just enormous and even an entire village only made out of snow, fire and ice?

When mining or building, the player uses a multiplication table such as 2x2, 3x3, 4x4 and so on and the numbers don't have to be the same; for example you can do 7x200!

Minecraft is fun and good for your brain!

By Pauric Lalor, 3rd Class.



My Lockdown Life

I don't know how the virus got here. Since it's been here I've had to stay at home. I do lots of things to keep me fit and healthy and busy. I love to eat healthy food like strawberries. I love treats too like ice cream in the sunny weather.

I helped Daddy to plant veggies and flowers. I wrote cards to my friends. I watch telly. I love doing art. We have been doing our daily mile too. The weather has been hot so we were playing in our pool and having barbeques.

I am having fun but I miss everyone and can't wait to go back to school.

By Muireann Keegan, Junior Infants.

