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**Reading Recovery, Maths Recovery and Literacy Hour** continue in our school with children in Senior Infants and First Class. This year we introduced **Accelerated Reader** to children in Third and Fourth Class.

Children in 5th class were introduced to **Lego** building in association with Stem Solutions and Lego Education. This Lego programme combines Lego building and computer programming. 6th class participated in **The Junior Entrepreneur Programme**

**Friends for Life** a programme which aims to give children the strategies to become more confident and brave when dealing with stressful situations was also introduced to the children in 4th Class. The school was awarded **The Amber Flag** as a result of all the work done promoting positive mental health in the school community.

**Green Schools** is very progressive in the school with many initiatives during the year to enhance the school environment. These include window boxes, each child planted flowers in a welly, insect hotel etc. For more information on these programmes and initiatives log on to our website

Children from 4th, 5th and 6th class took part in the **Credit Union Quiz and the Kidney Association Quiz**

5th / 6th class took part in the **Junior Bake Off and Spelling Bee**

6th class came runners up in the **Clare Debating competition**

Thank you to all the children for their enthusiasm and commitment throughout the year.

## Sport:

The sporting year began with **Athletics** in September. The children trained on our very own running track and retained the title of winners of the West Clare Schools Cross Country Running Competition for a third year in a row! Following their success our athletes continued their achievements by retaining their title of champions of the North v West Clare Schools Competition in Lee's Rd. on Wednesday 21st October. Finally 12 of our athletes proudly represented the school at Lee's Road in the North v West v East Clare Schools.

In the second and third term the school continued to be very active on the sports' field and we were well represented by both boys and girls teams in the Annual Marian Keane **Basketball** Tournament, The Clare Schools **Soccer** Blitz and The **Gaelic Football** tournaments. During the year the children received coaching in the skills of Gaelic Football and Hurling.

**Swimming** this year was enjoyed by the children in 1st, 3rd, 5th, MDS class and A.S.D. Class. Congratulations to the 5th class boys who came 1st and to the 3rd class girls who came 3rd in the Ennis Swimming Gala. Well done to all the swimmers.

Congratulations to all the children who participated in the various sporting activities during the year.

**Zara Kelly and Dylan O'Brien** represented our school in the Clare Primary Game held during the Clare v Kerry game.

**Summer** has arrived and its time to look back and reflect on another busy year in St. Senan's Primary School. Once again it was a most successful, exciting, fulfilling and rewarding year in our school. Everybody worked hard while also finding the time to participate in various projects during the year. Our annual newsletter is a snapshot of some of those activities.

## 1916 Commemoration

One of the highlights of this year was the celebration of the 1916 centenary. The first official event was the presentation of the National Flag and a copy of the Proclamation to the school by members of the Defence Forces. Each class learned about the history of the event and wrote their own class proclamation. These were compiled into a School Proclamation which was read on March 15th when the National Flag was raised at the school. Sixth class went on a 1916 historical tour of Dublin and also visited Glasnevin Cemetery.

## JEP Project

The Junior Entrepreneur Programme (JEP) aims to help children recognise enterprise and entrepreneurship therefore empowering the child to start to think and act with initiative, creativity, independence and ideas that are invaluable in the modern world.

6th class had an amazing journey in their involvement in the JEP Project. They made badges, painted rocks, crocheted and knitted items, and sold all these items to commemorate the 1916 Rising. The money raised went towards their historical trip to Dublin.

**The 35th School Walk** by children from 5th and 6th classes to raise funds for The Sick Children to Lourdes fund took place in June. This included a musical recital in the Vandeleur Walled Gardens.

**The Shoe Box Appeal** was extremely well supported once again this year by the families at St. Senan's. These shoeboxes are donated to Team Hope and bring Christmas to children not as lucky as we are.

To finish off the year **Active School Week** was held from June 20th to 24th during which we had our annual **Sports Day**.

## A Thought for Summer

You cannot do a kindness too soon, for you never know how soon it will be too late. *Ralph Waldo Emerson*



School Reopens  
Thursday Sept. 1st  
2016



### Rainbows

St. Senan's Primary School is a centre for Rainbows. Rainbows is a peer support group for children coping with loss through separation or death. This year 19 children from West Clare benefitted from Rainbows.

Further information contact no. 089 4616491

### News from the Parents' Room 2015/2016

This was another busy year in the Parents' Room. The Home School Community Liaison Co-ordinator continued to foster links between Home, School and Community. We had many exciting activities ongoing throughout the year, including -

Coffee Mornings, Share a Story, Jolly Phonics, Fun Science, Mental Health Awareness, Maths Week, Window Painting for Halloween and Christmas, Halloween & Christmas Flower Arrangements, Christmas Card Making, Fun Maths, Grandparents' Day, Seachtain na Gaeilge, Intergenerational Knitting, Gardening Group, Kid's Talk, 5<sup>th</sup> Class Book Club, Cookery Classes. Carmel T. Madigan in association with Clare Co. Council's Artist in Residence worked with children from 3rd, 4th and 5th class. They decorated sea stones and painted a fabulous wall display. The following courses were run in conjunction with Jenny from Clare VEC. Story Sacks, Knitting and crochet. The involvement of you, the parents, has contributed greatly to making each of the above activities a huge success. I greatly appreciate the giving of your time and talent over the past 5 years.

Míle Buíochas ,

Gráinne

### Parent Association

This has been our second year as St. Senan's Parent Association. Through the Christmas Cards fundraiser we were able to give special bookmarks to The First Holy Communion Class and to Sixth Class. The Parent Association will also contribute towards ice-creams for the whole school on Sports Day. The Parent Association helped out with The Christmas Concert, school photographs, St. Patrick's Day Parade, Junior Infant Introductory Morning, painting Buddy Benches, planting wellies, Sports Day and the Graduation Mass. In October we hosted Dr. Maureen Griffin who spoke to the parents, staff and children about mobile and internet safety. We would like to thank all the parents who helped out with these events and we would like to invite all parents to contact us if interested in helping out in the future. If any parents would like to hear particular speakers or have any ideas, then we can be contacted at [stsenankilrushpa@gmail.com](mailto:stsenankilrushpa@gmail.com). We wish you a happy and safe summer holiday. See you in September.

### Junior Infants 2016



### Sixth Class 2016



### Write A Book Award

Well done to all the children who took part in this competition. Congratulations to the prize-winners Isabelle Blake, Wiktorina Abram, Rita McMahon & Aoife Crowley .

**Theatre:** All the children participated in The Christmas Concert and Seachtain na Gaeilge where the concert performances were of an excellent standard and enjoyed by all. Two drama productions - 'Deirdre of the Sorrows' and 'The Apprentice Sorcerer' were enjoyed by our students during the year.

Our **Holy Communion** and **Confirmation** children were very generous again this year, donating to West Clare Cancer and to the African Missions. Congratulations and thank you to them all.

The **MDSClass and ASD** Class enjoyed horse riding, swimming, and cookery among many other activities during the year

### The Easter Egg Hunt and Bake Sale

were once again very popular with all the children. Thank you to all the parents and children in third and fourth class.

### Attendance Awards

Congratulations to all the children who had full attendance for the year.

### Principal's Awards

Each month one child in each class received the Principal's award. Congratulations to all.

### Banna Cheoil Sheanáin Naofa

is still very active in our school practising every Monday, entertaining the school and visiting the local hospitals and retirement homes.

This year a number of children have been learning concertina and guitar every Monday evening through **Music Generation**.

**Wishing you all a very happy and safe Summer**