

News from Ballybrown N.S.



It's been another busy year in Ballybrown National School. Here are some highlights: In January, following a meeting with Ms Mairead Kelly, Health Promotion Officer for the Limerick area we decided to become a Health Promoting School. Co-ordinated by 5th class teacher Katie Gibbons a committee of parents, staff and pupils met on a regular basis to draw up an action plan. Amongst other events and activities it was decided that we would have an Active Week in the school, from June 15th - 19th. Active Week was launched on Monday morning, with a "Wake up, Shake up" dance event in the school yard and ended with Funday Friday. In between there were obstacle courses, circuit training, active home work, orienteering, maths trails and healthy foods demonstrations hosted by Yvonne Deegan. With the help of parents we "Walked a Mile with a Smile". The junior classes took a stroll to the Breska Rovers pitch, the middle classes ventured to Kilkeedy, and the senior classes climbed to Carrigogunnell Castle. Our Non - Competitive Sports Day, finished on a high with Zumba moves from Darren Nash.

2015 saw the school achieve its third Green Flag. With a Green School team headed by Margaret Hodgins and Mary Conway, and backed up with a Green Schools Committee drawn from all classes from First to Sixth, success was guaranteed. Mary and Margaret along with Barry Toomey and Emer Conroy travelled to Cork for the official awarding of the Green Flag. On June 22nd, Mayor Kevin Sheahan

performed one of his last duties as Mayor of the City and County when he visited the school for the raising of the Green Flag. Entertainment was provided by former pupil Laura Duff and the band 'Little Tents'. An undoubted highlight on a scorching day was the ice cream for everybody provided by the Parents' Association!

This year 4th, 5th & 6th class competed in the 2015 Khan Academy, an online maths competition where pupils can practice maths they have already learnt, and learn something new every day. Aaron Waldron in 4th and Kate Cusack in 6th received medals. The school achieved first place overall in Limerick and also recorded the highest average score per pupil, a marvellous achievement of which we are all rightly proud. Maeve Curtin, a Fifth Class pupil, who also won the Table Toppers competition in the school, qualified for the All-Ireland final which was held in DCU in Dublin.

In January, 5th class started their **Junior Entrepreneur (J.E.P.)** journey. The first stage of J.E.P. was to create individual ideas. All of the ideas were excellent but were slimmed down to six. The next stage was like Dragon's Den. Ms. Hayes, Mr. Lyons and Shirley Coughlan acted as our Dragons. Each group showed their idea to the Dragons. After what seemed like forever, the dragons decided on the Personal Wristbands idea. Next was the build up to the Showcase Day. There was a lot of work to do making

posters and presentations, sending out surveys, and designing the product. Local hurley manufacturer Ed Shanahan was our business advisor. Then came the Showcase Day! It was a great success, a photographer came and take our picture for the newspaper and we made a very large profit! At the end of our J.E.P. experience, we went to the Woodlands House Hotel in Adare for the County Showcase Day. It was a brilliant occasion and everybody was very excited. Each school received a plaque, a flag and a certificate for each student. J.E.P. was an amazing experience and we would like to thank Ms Gibbons and anyone who helped us along the way!

On the sporting front, the girls football team made history when they won the City Cumann an mBunscol title for the first time in the school's history. We also won the Olo Shield in Under 13 A hurling, defeating Patrickswell NS in an exciting final and were finalists in the City boys football and camogie leagues.

On the music front, all the children from 2nd to 6th took part in the Hallelujah Concert in Citywest in Dublin. This was a wonderful experience and enjoyed by all. The school choir also took part in the Limerick Choral Festival and performed with distinction.

These are just some events that are intended to give the reader a flavour of life in Ballybrown NS in 2014-2015. I am sure next year will be just as eventful.

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Ballybrown/Clarina Community Council Newsletter

August 2015

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Keith Coughlan

I would like to start by introducing myself, Keith Coughlan, to you as the new Chairman of the Community Council. I would like to thank our previous Chairman, Derek Perill, for all his work. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Marie Guerin who has joined us representing the Newtown area. We continue to meet on a monthly basis with our focus being on running the Community Resource Centre and looking after our community as a whole. If anyone has any concerns or ideas for the area please do not hesitate to contact me or your local area council member.



Marie Guerin

FUNDRAISING: One of the main aims of the current committee is to reduce the debt on the centre. Thanks to the fundraising committee and everyone who helped out and contributed over the past year a total of €17,000 was raised. This has brought the outstanding loan down to €62,000. We have events planned over the next few months. With your help the debt will be reduced further.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 30th Aug. - Tues. 1st September: Display of local Art, Craft and Paintings

Tuesday 1st September: Back to School Coffee Morning 9am - 12noon

Thursday 3rd September: Open Night and Enrolment for classes and courses 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Thursday 17th September: 45 Drive resumes 8.45pm

Sunday 1st November: Autumn Fair after Mass 10.45am

Friday 20th November: Family Fun Quiz

Sunday 13th December: Christmas Fair after Mass 10.45am

GRIDS FOR SALE: Celebrate a special occasion, commemorate a loved one or just add your name to the hundreds who have already supported the Centre. There are a few grids left. The subscription is €250 which will go directly to reduce our debt. To buy one of the remaining grids contact the centre at 086 0795308 / 061 353140 or talk to your local representative.

BACK TO SCHOOL COFFEE MORNING - Tuesday 1st September 9am - 12 noon. Wave the kids goodbye and join us for a coffee, cake, chat, raffle. They'll be home again before you have time to miss them!

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR OPEN NIGHT AND ENROLMENT EVENT. Thursday 3rd September 7.30pm - 9.00pm

- Sign up and get information about the classes available this autumn
- Meet your neighbours for a chat
- The kettle will be boiling, bring a few buns and you'll be really popular ☺

MAILING LIST - Join our mailing list to keep up to date with news/events/classes. Subscribe at www.clarinavillage.com

ROOMS AVAILABLE FOR HIRE: classes, meetings, family celebrations, birthday parties etc
Very reasonable rates. For bookings contact 086 0795308 / 061 353140

TRACTOR RUN IN AID OF COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATOR FUND

On Saturday September 12th a Tractor and Car run will take place in Ballybrown. The run is being held to raise funds towards the purchase of a defibrillator for the community centre. All makes and models of cars and tractors from old to new are welcome to participate in the event.

Registration will take place in the community centre at 2pm, if you would like to come and view the selection of vehicles participating departure will take place from the community centre at 2.30. Cars and tractors will travel on separate routes with both run's ending on the grounds of cement farm, where we will host a BBQ for all involved. For anyone interested in further information or in participating in the event, please contact John: 085 8632200 or Maurice: 087 2473948



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BALLYBROWN/CLARINA COMMUNITY GAMES encourages both boys and girls from age 5 to 16 to take part in different activities. At present we take part in Draughts, Art, Handwriting, all forms of Talent, Skittles, Gaelic Football, Rounder's, Athletics, Cross Country, Photography, Cycling on Grass & Swimming. Activities will resume in October with draughts training and Handwriting, Art and Quiz competitions. We post regular updates on the notice board in the Resource Centre and our Facebook page. We welcome all children in the parish and love to see new faces coming each year. If you are new to the area it is a great way for the children and parents to get to know one another. If you would like further details please contact Pauline Lowe via our Facebook page or on 087 8365545.

BRESKA ROVERS A.F.C.

was founded in 1977. It currently consists of schoolboys teams from under 8s to under 14s and a junior ladies and men's teams. Schoolboys, ladies and underage seasons are due to start back in August so training will start soon. We are also hoping to enter an under 16 team this year. If you require any information please contact:

John White, Chairman: 087 2885696
James Kennedy, Secretary: 087 9213902
David Fitzgerald: Ladies Manager: 087 9333978



IRISH GIRL GUIDES welcome you for FUN, ADVENTURE and FRIENDSHIP!



In this area we have Ladybirds age 5-7yrs, Brownies 7-10yrs and Guides 10-15yrs (depending on leaders availability). Apart from our weekly meetings our upcoming events including a Regional Fun Day in Patrickswell Racecourse and of course our annual Christmas Craft Event. We are grateful for all the hard work and commitment from past and present leaders. We always welcome, and need new leaders and invite YOU to be part of our future. Joining us as an adult or young leader is not only an opportunity to help local girls grow in confidence but also allows you to develop new skills and make new friends. For more info contact Marguerite Ronan 087 907 5288



BALLYBROWN G.A.A. CLUB

celebrates its 125th anniversary this year having been formed in 1890. The club caters for over twenty-five teams between our Senior, Juvenile and Camogie clubs. General information on the club can be found

on our club Facebook page or our website, www.ballybrown.limerick.gaa.ie/. The club while having many fine players and mentors is always welcoming of new members young or old and if you feel you would like to get involved then contact Mike Mulqueen, PRO at 087 1304280 or Gerry Griffin, Secretary at 085 1388028 or any other member of the committee.

CLARINA TIDY TOWNS is in its sixth year. Our aim is to improve the appearance of our village. To achieve this we need support from our local community. We currently have approximately ten volunteers. New members would be very welcome. Contact Tim Toomey 086 3702950



BALLYBROWN PIONEER ASSOCIATION

is very active locally and always available to help out in our Parish. There are different categories of membership: Lifelong, Juvenile, Young Person and Limited Period. If you are interested in any of the above please contact Fr. Michael Cussen P.P. or any member of the Pioneer Committee. Our main annual event is the publishing of the Ballybrown Parish Journal now in its fifteenth year. which covers all the happenings in our parish and is always a very welcome Christmas present to our exiles living abroad. The 2015 edition is now being prepared and we are asking all organizations or persons who wish to have items or photographs included to contact our editor Tom Donovan or any of the committee. Spiritual Director, Fr. Michael Cussen P.P., President, Pat Gallagher, Secretary, Willie Ryan, Treasurer, Lena McCarthy. Committee : John Michael Cosgrave, Ann O'Brien, Kieran McCarthy, Donie Burke, Tom Donovan, Jimmy Hartigan.



MPCC CREDIT UNION allows people in the community to come together to save and lend to each other at reasonable rates of interest. It is operated on a not-for-profit basis and is owned and controlled by its members, with every member entitled to a say in its running. Services offered to members include loans, savings, free loan protection & life savings insurance, foreign exchange, bill Paypoint, general insurances incl. travel, home & motor, online access to accounts, payments by standing order, online or debit card, and repayment protection insurance. We have offices at four locations, Ballybrown/Clarina Community Resource Centre (Friday, 7 to 8pm), Dooradoyle, Mungret & Patrickswell. Full details on our website www.mpccccreditunion.ie



CLARINA WHEELERS

are a local cycling club organised and run by a small group of friends who want to get together with other like minded people to train. The mission of Clarina Wheelers Cycling Club is to bring the local cycling community together so that they can learn, ride and train in a safe environment.

We are currently planning our events for 2015/16 and are looking forward to what we hope will be another successful and enjoyable year.

Keep up to date on our website <http://clarinawheelerscc.com/>

CLARINA SCOUT GROUP encourages the development of children through Social, Physical, Intellectual, Character, Emotional and Spiritual activities. We will be reopening this September, with a number of new children joining from our waiting lists for the Beavers (6 - 8) and Cubs (9 - 11).



We would also love to start facilitating scouts (12- 16) but we would need volunteering adults and expressions of interest from interested children. To give the children the best experience we also need volunteering adults for all age groups, so if you or your child would like to join with the team in Clarina please contact Mary Nolan Murphy, Beavers (6 - 8) 086-0316244
Gwen O'Connell, Cubs (9 - 11) 087-6396704
Mary Sheehan, Leaders (18+) 087-7478263



THURSDAY CLUB ARI (ACTIVE RETIREMENT IRELAND)

meet every Thursday at the Resource Centre from 11.00am until 2.15pm. We have a membership in excess of 55 including the Art Class on Monday at 2.00pm under the instruction of a Paul Quane and Bowls on Wednesday

2.00pm to 4.00pm. Recent club outings include visits to Fota Island, Garrykennedy and Mount Mellary Abbey. A.R.I. are running a National Bowls and Activity break in the Great Northern Hotel in Bundoran in late September for a four night stay where they have a National Bowls Competition. We plan to enjoy the many activities there. Thursday club resumes on 10th September. Don't be lonely or feel isolated, please come along and join us. You can play a game of 45 or Bingo or just chat over a cup of tea and a scone with entertainment from PJ Carroll each Thursday.

COMMUNITY ALERT

There are over one hundred people signed up to our text alert.

This is the procedure to follow to ensure the system is successful

1. If you wish to report anything suspicious you must ring Roxboro Garda Station at (061) 214340
2. **You must ask for the sergeant on duty.**
3. Inform him that you are a member of Clarina Community alert and give him details of your sighting.
4. He will consider your report and decide if it warrants further investigation.
5. If it does, he will notify Grapevine Communications, our servers, who will send out the Text Alert to all our members

You are requested to comply with the above particularly No. 2

For more info contact Timmy Toomey 086 3702950

