



# Corridor Echoes

Volume 13

Issue 1

September / October 2018

## Canon Crotty Retires

Canon James B. Crotty has retired as Parish Priest of Ferrybank. He officially retired on Saturday 29th September after serving the community of Ferrybank as PP since 1993. He was a member of our school's Board of Management for all those years and was Chairperson until 2003. He was ordained a priest in 1966.

A retirement is the end of one life in exchange for another. We want to thank Canon Crotty for his years of dedication and hard work. We acknowledge how generous he was with his time for our school. When he came to Ferrybank, our school was a small village school with 5 teachers. During Canon Crotty's tenure it grew into the big multicultural school it is now.

Canon Crotty embraced everyone in all their joys and sorrows. He gave us the gift of his time. For all his wise counsel and words of encouragement we will be forever grateful. He embraced and could relate to all age groups. He celebrated our liturgies with us. We will miss his wisdom and experience but most of all we will miss the encouragement he has been to us. His spirit and energy will always guide us to move forward.

For his dedication and hard work he deserves the best retirement and we wish that for him.

Mid-term break begins on Thursday  
25th October at 12.00

## Fr. Kieran O'Shea P.P.

We extend a céad míle fáilte to our new Parish Priest, Fr. Kieran O'Shea. We wish him well in all his work in the years ahead in Ferrybank, especially in his dealings with our school.

We also send our best wishes and congratulations to Fr. Raymond Dempsey who has taken up his new position as Parish Priest of Inistioge.

### Important Dates in 2019

Confirmation: Saturday 9th March

First Communion: Saturday 11th May



## Mayor's Visit

The Mayor of Waterford will pay his annual visit to the school on Monday next, 22nd October, at 9.30am, to present certificates to the 14 boys who had full attendance last school year. This year's Mayor of the Metropolitan District of Waterford is Councillor Joe Kelly. Parents are very welcome to join us on Monday morning.

Back To  
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## Parents Association

All parents are welcome and encouraged to join the Parents Association Committee.

Ideally each class should have representation. We would encourage parents from all classes to join the committee.

The Parent Association will work together with the Principal, Staff, Board of Management and all parents to build effective partnership between home, school and the local community to ensure the best possible education for their children. We aim to offer all parents the opportunity to contribute towards enhancing their children's education through various activities within the community throughout the school year.

The purpose of our Parent Association is to provide a structure through which the parents/guardians of the boys in our school can work together for the best interest of their children. Our association works in co-operation with the Board of Management, principal, teachers and pupils of St. Mary's BNS to build an effective partnership between home and school.

Our Aims are:

1. To promote general interest in the welfare of the school.
2. To run functions of educational & social value for parents/guardians and pupils
3. To run functions that will provide finance to improve school facilities and resources.
4. To organise and facilitate extracurricular activities

All parents or legal guardians of students attending the school have a right to be a member of the Association. If you are interested in being part of the Parents Association Committee please contact the Principal, Jackie in the office or your son's class teacher. Our new parents' Association will be ready soon. Sincere thanks to the parents who have already agreed to be members of the committee. There's still time to join them.....

## Contact Details

Please ensure that any change of address or phone numbers are given to the office. It is vital that we have correct phone numbers for all parents/guardians. You wouldn't believe how many wrong numbers we get so please make sure that we have your correct details.

## Meeting the Class Teacher

If you wish to discuss anything regarding school with either the class teacher or myself please make an appointment with Jackie in the office. It isn't fair to try to discuss any issues when the teacher has a class to teach. Neither is it fair on yourself. Please arrange a convenient time for meetings.

## Gaelic Football

Our Under 13 gaelic football team played the semi final today against Glór na Mara in Tramore. In the group stages our team had great victories over St. Paul's and Butlerstown. Unfortunately it was a defeat against Killea but we still qualified for the semi final as group runners up.

We also played in the Mini 7s competition but didn't qualify for the final stages.

Our Under 10s have played in two blitzes and these young players thoroughly enjoyed their days out.

John Quinn, the GAA coach, has been in the school for gaelic football coaching the last two Wednesday and will be with us next Wednesday also. That's the reason for the gum shields.

## School Calendar for 2018/2019

- \* Friday 26th Oct. - Friday 2nd Nov.: School closed for Mid-term Break  
(the mid-term break will begin at 12.00 on Thursday 25th)
- \* Friday 21st December: School closes for Christmas holidays
- \* Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2018: School re-opens
- \* Thursday 21st & Friday 22nd February: School closed for Mid-term Break
- \* Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March: School closed—Public Holiday
- \* Friday 12th April: School closes for Easter holidays
- \* Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April: School re-opens
- \* Monday 6th May: School closed - Public Holiday
- \* Friday 31st May, Monday 3rd & Tuesday 4th June: School closed
- \* Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June: End of school year; school closes for summer holidays

### School Day

The school day begins at 9.20 for all pupils. It is important that pupils are in school on time. The school day finishes at 3.00 for 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> classes and at 2.00 for the Infants' classes. The playground is supervised each morning from 9.00. Boys shouldn't be in the playground before this time unless it is absolutely necessary. On wet mornings the boys will be allowed into their classrooms from 9.10 by the Principal. If any children (or parents) are in before that time they should wait in the shed in the senior playground or the sheltered area outside the Infants' classroom. When the school day is finished for the boys the teachers will bring them to the playground where they can be collected by you, the parents.

### Athletics - Cross Country

46 boys qualified to represent the school in the annual cross country athletics competition in the RSC in September. We finished second in best boys' school category which was excellent. Congratulations to all the boys who won medals and well done to all who made the team.

### Mid-Term Break

Please note that the mid-term break will be longer this year. Friday 26th October will be Presidential Election day. The school will close with the traditional half day on Thursday 25th at 12.00.

### Summer Reading Challenge

Congratulations to the 24 boys who completed the summer reading challenge organised by Ferrybank library. Karyn, the manager of the library, came over to the school to present certificates to the boys. Well done to all 24 boys.

### Scoot.....Walk.....Cycle.....

Well done and thank you to all who cycled, walked or scooted to school this morning, Thursday 18th October. Wednesday was a 'zero waste' day with no bins available. This was organised by Ms Quillinan and the Green Schools Committee as part of Climate Action Week. The Green Schools Committee will continue to work on and lead the way with these and other activities during the year.

## Dressing Up for Halloween

As usual, the boys will be allowed to dress up for Halloween next week. However, parents and guardians are asked to take particular note of the following points:-

- ♦ costumes depicting any character from games/programmes/films that are not suitable for children, that are for over 12s are **not allowed**.
- ♦ sharp, dangerous weapons or gadgets are not allowed.

We have always allowed and have encouraged the boys to dress up for Halloween **but under no circumstances will we allow costumes that are not suitable for children or costumes that might frighten some children.**

### Emmet Bailey

In Corridor Echoes, 11th May, we congratulated Emmet Bailey on finishing second in the National kickboxing championships and qualifying for the World Championships. The World Championships were held in Jesolo, Italy in July. Emmet finished in second place - 2nd place in the World! Fantastic Emmet, very well done. We're all very proud of you. Emmet's older sister, Aoife, won 2 bronze medals in her category. Wow! Congratulations.

(We will have more in the next edition of 'Corridor Echoes')

### Congratulations to:-

the Ferrybank Under 14 hurling team who were crowned County Champions recently. To win a county title is special so well done to the boys on the panel and to their mentors of course.

### Maths Week

This week (really 13th to 21st October) is 'Maths Week'. This is a celebration of mathematics and is organised throughout Ireland by the Calmast Outreach Centre at Waterford Institute of Technology (WIT). Lots of various Maths activities take place during this week and more information is available on [www.mathsweek.ie/2018/](http://www.mathsweek.ie/2018/)

### Important Notice

Parents, please note that:-

1. the €30 fee must be paid by Thursday 25th October. This is a fee that covers some of the cost of Art and photocopying. It is not a voluntary contribution (we don't ask for a voluntary contribution) - it is a legitimate charge and amounts to less than €1 per child, per week for the school year. Please arrange to pay any outstanding amount now.

(This charge can also be paid in instalments. Please contact the office for details.)

2. The book rental charge has now closed for this school year. Thanks to all parents for their co-operation.

**We shouldn't have to deal with these issues two months into the school year.**

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the Ferrybank Under 14 hurling team who were crowned County Champions recently. To win a county title is special so well done to the boys on the panel and to their mentors of course.

### Christmas Shoebox Appeal

It's that time of year again. We hope to have loads of shoeboxes this year. More in the next edition of 'Corridor Echoes'.