

# St. Conaire's Newsletter

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021

[www.conaires.ie](http://www.conaires.ie)

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

**May Bank Holiday 2021:** St. Conaire's NS will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. School will reopen on Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

**Return to School Declarations:** All pupils are required to complete Return to School Declarations for any absence. This should be done on Aladdin Connect before the child returns to school.

**Summer Literacy and Numeracy Assessments:** All pupils from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> classes will be taking the annual Literacy and Numeracy Assessments in May. These assessments are part of normal school procedures to provide us with information to support teaching and learning. The results will be reported to parents in late June on the end-of-year reports.

**School Photographs 2021:** The school photographer, Eamonn Andrews, will be in the school on May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021 to take school photographs in a safe, socially distanced way. A consent form will be sent home with your child. If you wish to have photos taken, please return the signed consent form to your child's teacher. No payment is due until you receive the proof picture directly from the photographer.

**Helmet Order 2021:** Clare Cumann na mBunscol is selling helmets at the very competitive price of €40. Please see your Aladdin Connect noticeboard for further information. The closing date for payments is 1pm on Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Payments will only be taken through Aladdin Connect. For the size guide see at the bottom of this newsletter or [www.mycro.ie](http://www.mycro.ie)

**Sacramental Classes:** Bishop Fintan Monahan has requested all parishes and schools to postpone arranging dates for the 2021 Sacramental classes in light of the current public health situation. We will keep you updated when public health advice permits church events.

**Covid-19 and school:** As you will know we have had one positive case in school this week. So far, it appears to be an isolated case. Thanks to all parents and staff who co-operated fully with the alternative arrangements.

**Agreed Report of the Board of Management Meeting, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020:** The following items were considered at the regular Board of Management meeting which was held remotely on April 6<sup>th</sup>:

- The Board expressed its gratitude to staff, pupils and parents for their co-operation in keeping the school open during these difficult times.

- The Board acknowledged the challenges in preparing pupils for the Sacraments and affirmed its intention to work closely with Shannon Parish to hold the Sacramental Ceremonies safely in line with public health advice. Once Bishop Fintan Monahan issues more information we will let parents and children know.
- The Board welcomed the intention to open a temporary ASD class in September 2021 in the school subject to Department of Education funding for interim accommodation. Work in relation to the new building to the west of the school is at preparation stage.
- The Board has agreed to distribute flyers and information to promote pupil involvement in GAA activities with Wolfe Tones na Sionna GAA Club.

**Pollinator Sites in Shannon:** Clare County Council have created five new pollinator sites around Shannon. This is part of the Council's grassland management initiative. One of the new sites is next to our school. More information is available at this link if you are interested:

[Shannon Pollinator Site Information](#)

**Guidance on when to keep your child at home:** Please see the illustration on the second page of this Newsletter for guidance on when to keep your child at home. We ask that all parents and guardians follow this advice fully.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Walsh

Principal



# ST. CONAIRE'S NATIONAL SCHOOL

**DO NOT SEND YOUR  
CHILD TO SCHOOL IF:**



He/she is coughing



He/she has a temperature of 38° Celsius or higher



He/she has a change of taste or smell



He/she is short of breath



Anyone in the family is Covid-positive



Anyone in the family is being tested for Covid



He/she is sick in any way

Keep your child at home if they are sick and phone your doctor.

Call St. Conaire's NS on (061) 364694 when your child is sick.

***If one person with Covid comes into the school then it puts everyone at risk!***

# SHANNON POLLINATOR INFORMATION

## Where would we BEE without pollinators?

**1. What is Pollination?**  
Pollination happens when pollen is moved from one flower to another.

**What is Pollen?**  
Pollen is the tiny particles that carry the male genetic material from one flower to another flower. It is made of two parts: a head and a tail. The head is the part that sticks to the stigma of another flower. The tail is the part that grows into a tube that goes down to the ovary of another flower.


**What is Pollination?**  
Pollination is the process of moving pollen from one flower to another. It can happen in many ways, including by wind, water, and animals.

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Pollination is the process of moving pollen from one flower to another. It can happen in many ways, including by wind, water, and animals.



**2. An insect is called a pollinator if they move pollen from flower to flower helping the plant to reproduce.**

**Pollen**



**3. Transfer of pollen from one flower to another**

**Pollination → Seed → New plant**



**4. But What is Pollinator?**

It is for some most pollinators is carried out by insects, especially bees.

Bees are the most common pollinators. They are the only insects that can fly. They are also the only insects that can see the colour blue. They are also the only insects that can see the colour yellow. They are also the only insects that can see the colour red. They are also the only insects that can see the colour green. They are also the only insects that can see the colour purple. They are also the only insects that can see the colour pink. They are also the only insects that can see the colour orange. They are also the only insects that can see the colour brown. They are also the only insects that can see the colour grey. They are also the only insects that can see the colour black. They are also the only insects that can see the colour white.



**5. Nectar..**  
Nectar is the sweet, sticky liquid made by flowers.

Bees are crazy about nectar!

At a rate 200 times faster than most, they collect nectar and pollen. It is like a natural delivery system, bringing the pollen from one flower to the next. And once a flower has pollen from another flower it can make seeds. The seeds are the part of the plant that eventually grows into new plants.

So the plants are pollinated and so the bees bring pollen home to feed the babies. Everyone wins!



**6. What's So Important About Pollination?**

So pollination occurs when pollen is moved from flower to flower, and that means the plant can make seeds. These little seeds will grow into new plants. We eat a lot of plants so it's very important that there are always enough to feed the people in the world. The plants we eat are called crops.


**7.**

Lots of bees carrying pollen

More plants

More seeds

More healthy food



**Joke:**  
How do bees get to school?  
In the school bus!

**Fun Fact:**  
Other areas of the world have different pollinators. Did you know that many bananas are pollinated by bats? Chocolate comes from Cacao trees. They are pollinated by tiny flies called midges that are only 1mm long! In Ireland our main pollinators are bees and hoverflies.

**8. Animals and Birds**

Lots of our animals and birds feed on nectar and seeds from wild plants that grow in the countryside. Without bees and other insects pollinating these wild plants, they wouldn't produce the fruit and seed that animals and birds need to eat. Fruits are the part of the plant that store energy and protect the seed.



**9. Are Pollinators In Danger? Yes!**

A lot of our hard-working pollinators are in danger of disappearing forever (becoming extinct).

Each of flowers to provide food, changes to their homes, and the world that they live in our eggs and heads for bees and bumblebees.

We need to work to protect them as they may not be a sound for much longer.

**Did you know?**  
Honeybees talk to each other by dancing! When a bee wants to let its friends know where the best food is, it does a figure-of-eight dance called the waggle dance!


**10. A Bit About Bees**

In Ireland we have 21 bumblebee species, 77 solitary bees species and one honeybee.

**21 + 77 = 98** wild bees

**1** honeybee

Bumblebee species: 21  
Solitary bees species: 77



**11. There's No Need To Be Afraid**

The most important thing to know is that you shouldn't be scared of bees. To them we're just big boring plants who walk around their world. Unless you threaten them, bees will not attack humans.

They won't chase after you if you leave them alone. If a bee comes close to you, attracted by your bright colours (a shirt or nose snail from your Shannon, just as well) it will fly off when it realises you're not a flower!



**12. Other Pollinators Doing Their Bit**

It's easy to think that bees and hoverflies are doing all the pollinating work, but did you know that butterflies, moths, beetles, wasps and ants like to feed on flowers and do their bit for pollination too! In fact, an Irish flower called the Bumblebee Orchid is only pollinated by moths that fly around at night. Wonder why it's not called the Moth Orchid then, huh?



**Did you know?**  
Bees favourite colour is purple.

SHANNON Tidy Towns

COMRAHILL, CONTRLE AN CHAIR CURRIG COUNTY COUNCIL



# HELMET SIZE GUIDE



## Helmet Order April 2021

Name of School: ST. CONAIRE'S NS

MycroXtralite Helmets				
Size	No. Required		Price	Total
Extra Small		@	€40.00 each	
Small		@	€40.00 each	
Medium		@	€40.00 each	
Large		@	€40.00 each	
Extra Large		@	€40.00 each	

Faded style is a combination of 2 colours. Yellow Purple Pink Maroon White Red Blue Skyblue Black See [www.mycro.ie](http://www.mycro.ie) for guidance in this regard.

Size	Style	Specify Colour or Colours	Quantity	Total
Extra Small	Standard Plain (One Colour)			
Extra Small	Faded (Two Colours)			
Small	Standard Plain (One Colour)			
Small	Faded (Two Colours)			
Medium	Standard Plain (One Colour)			
Medium	Faded (Two Colours)			
Large	Standard Plain (One Colour)			
Large	Faded (Two Colours)			
Extra Large	Standard Plain (One Colour)			
Extra Large	Faded (Two Colours)			