

Tricolour raised proudly across Cork on Proclamation Day 2016

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SCHOOLS across Cork, and indeed the country, marked Proclamation Day on Tuesday as flags were hoisted and there was an abundance of singing and dancing throughout the day to mark the historic occasion.

In schools, the Irish colours of green, white and orange were proudly displayed and students by now could literally sing the Proclamation by heart. The legacy of the Proclamation and, of course, the legacy of 1916 have been fully embraced by hundreds of school children.

While it was very much a national day, each school put their own individual stamp on the occasion, with each school also proclaiming their own 2016 proclamation.

At Ballyclough NS, staff and pupils transformed the school entrance into an impressive replica of the GPO which was complete with three statues fashioned by a local artist and mounted over the three pillars at the schools front door. Life-size paintings of the 1916 Proclamation signatories were drawn on the windows, with an exhibition of old memorabilia held in the school.

Accompanied by a lone piper guest of honour, Cork football star and Ballyclough native Colm O'Neill raised the tricolor in front of the assembled school population.

In nearby Kilbrin, principal Sean O'Gorman got into the swing of things as he turned up to school with an old bicycle and smart suit complete with crisp white shirt. Many children, including Chloe Cantillon

and Nina May Cremin, were dressed to the nines to mark the day.

At Kiskeam NS, the local postman, Martin O'Leary, was given the honour of raising the flag. Pupils at the school danced and sang to mark the day.

At Boherbue NS, pupils read the Proclamation and Laura Foley Tracey and Principal Gerard Linehan raised the flag. At Ballydesmond NS, principal Ger Lucey raised the flag.

At St Colman's Boys NS in Kanturk, teacher Mary Boyce helped Kacper Woloszyn cut the Proclamation cake.

In Millstreet, both the national and secondary school marked the day by hoisting the flag as well as speeches.

At St Mary's in Mallow, the sports hall was packed to mark the day. Transition year art and history projects on the 'Women of 1916.' At Scoil Iosagain, 180 children took part in the celebrations along with their parents and grandparents.

And it was indeed an historic day at St Colman's in Fermoy, where pupil Pierce Kent, a direct descent of Thomas Kent, the only man outside of Dublin to be executed in the aftermath of the 1916 Rising, proudly read the Proclamation from the terrace of the famous Fermoy school.

In 1902, 14-years before he read the Proclamation outside of the GPO, Padraig Pearse visited St Colman's College and would have walked on the same terrace that saw the re-enactment of his brave deed a century later.

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Parents and teachers watch on as students Dara Caulfield, Owen McCarthy and Lydia McDonagh raise the Irish flag with the help of local man Neddy Walsh at Carriganima NS on 'Proclamation Day'.

Photo: John Delea

PROCLAMATION DAY IN NORTH CORK SCHOOLS



Pupils and Staff at Ballydesmond National School assembled after raising their flag on Proclamation Day . Photo by Sheila Fitzgerald.



Proclamation Day Carriganima NS: Students at Carriganima NS, Co Cork, entertaining staff and parents on Tuesday's Proclamation Day with music and song before raising the flag. Picture: John



The students and staff at the Proclamation Day Flag Raising Ceremony at Rockchapel National School. Photo: Eileen O'Connor



Proclamation Day at Carriganima NS: Diverse Times - Students at Carriganima NS, Co Cork, reading their own Proclamation on Tuesday's Proclamation Day before raising the flag. Pic: John Delea.

