

MEP calls into Carriganima NS

FORMER GAA PRESIDENT AND IRELAND SOUTH MEP SEAN KELLY RAISED THE GREEN FLAG AT CARRIGANIMA NS LAST WEEK

AMY REIDY

STUDENTS of Carriganima National School were treated to a very special guest last Friday as MEP Seán Kelly arrived to help celebrate the school's Green Flag award.

Both students and staff of the school had much to celebrate as they are currently taking part in the international Blue Star Programme which has gained the school several ties with the European Parliament including Seán Kelly.

The former GAA President spoke to students about the work that he does in the European Parliament and also acknowledged the efforts and work put in by Primary schools across Ireland and said that "it was an honour to be able to host members of the Blue Star initiative".

Assistant Secretary of the Parents Association, Kay McDonagh has played an active part

in the school's participation in the Blue Star Programme and was honoured to represent Carriganima at the European Parliament in Brussels last April.

"As we have a large cultural diversity in the school, it was great to showcase our strengths with representatives from other schools in Brussels," she said.

The youngsters prepared a variety of performances from countries all over the world for their guest speaker on such a momentous occasion.

The school previously hosted a food fair which allowed students to make a connection between different European countries and the impact of food on culture.

The Blue Star Programme is an education initiative for primary school students across Ireland. The idea of the programme is to foster better understanding of the European Union and

how it affects the lives of Irish citizens among Irish primary pupils through classroom projects and activities.

Some 15,000 students take part in the initiative every year and all schools that successfully complete the programme are awarded an EU

Flag and a certificate signed by the Minister for European Affairs.

Carriganima NS is proud of its reputation of welcoming children from all cultures and encourage learning about the European Parliament and other traditions, according to Ms McDonagh.



Seán Kelly MEP raising the Green Flag and chatting in the classroom on his visit to Carriganima School as part of their Blue Star Programme. Picture: John Delea.

