



# GAEILGE IORRAIS

<b>Preasráiteas</b> Press Release 17.02.2020	<b>Tuilleadh eolais:</b> <a href="mailto:gaeilgeiorrais@gmail.com">gaeilgeiorrais@gmail.com</a> <b>097-29023</b> <a href="http://www.gaeilgeiorrais.ie">www.gaeilgeiorrais.ie</a>	*Tá leagan Gaeilge den phreasráiteas seo le fáil ar leathanach 4.
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## Good news for the Irish language in the North Mayo Gaeltacht

Gaeilge Iorrais is celebrating their first year since launching the North Mayo Gaeltacht Irish language plan. Gaeilge Iorrais organised a wide variety of events through the medium of Irish during 2019 with the aim of increasing Irish language use in this area and to ensure a positive future for the Irish language in this Gaeltacht.

Highlights from 2019 which showcase their progress so far include;

- For the first time ever the North Mayo Gaeltacht community has a targeted seven-year Irish Language Plan, multiparochial steering committee (Gaeilge Iorrais) and a language planning officer (Dr Laoise Ní Dhúda) to oversee the development of Irish language use and activities in this area.
- A participation and information campaign was launched with the message *'úsáid í agus mairfidh sí* (use it or lose it). An innovative summary booklet which gives a brief overview of this process was sent to the 4,500 households in this area.
- A brand new programme of events for families (*as Gaeilge*) was developed in conjunction with Teaghlaigh Ghlór na nGael, for families of local Gaeltacht schools. 15 new events took place in 7 different locations from September to December 2019. 120 parents and 193 children or 313 in total took part in this programme. Fun events are organised through Irish (e.g. puppet making workshops, surfing workshops, splash days in UISCE, circus skills workshops, first aid workshops) to encourage and support Irish language use in the household. Thanks to the support of Tuismitheoirí na Gaeltachta and Áras Inis Gluaire, we were able to show an Irish language version of the Christmas movie 'The Polar Express' in December.

- A new activity 'Ceol agus Spraoi do Thuistí & Leanaí' commenced in Belmullet Library which combines music, rhymes, stories and more *as Gaeilge* for parents and pre-school children. 70 participants have attended this group so far.
- Ongoing support and collaboration with the seven primary schools and three secondary schools (including Gaelcholáiste Chomáin) participating in the Gaeltacht school recognition scheme. Gaeilge Iorrais organised two fun social gatherings *as Gaeilge* (one in UISCE and the other in Aras Inis Gluaire) for more than 110 primary school children from these 7 schools, in co-operation with school principals.
- Gaeilge Iorrais (in conjunction with Údarás na Gaeltachta, Mayo North-East and 6 other community based organisations) co-ordinated and publicised a new programme of Irish language classes for the area, offering 10 different Irish learning opportunities in 7 different locations throughout the 5 parishes in this Gaeltacht.
- As part of this new programme, two new Irish Diploma classes commenced, accredited by the National University of Ireland, Galway. Gaeilge Iorrais provided scholarships to 34 local people who are attending these third level courses. In total, more than 100 people took part in this new programme of Irish classes, a significant increase from 2018.
- Gaeilge Iorrais launched 'Gaelchara' mentoring scheme that pairs Irish language learners and native Irish speakers and aims to give Irish-language learners living in the North Mayo Gaeltacht an opportunity to practice and speak Irish as a living, every-day language. 7 people took part in this scheme in 2019, including trainee teachers, a local family and a community organisation.
- New regular Irish language piece on 'The Tommy Marren Show' (Midwest Radio) began in August 2019 and continues once a month.
- A workshop for the local Irish language assistants took place in conjunction with Muintearas.

Gaeilge Iorrais is looking forward to building on these successes and aims to create more opportunities to use the Irish language locally in 2020, with the support and participation of the community. Our Gaeltacht status depends on this work.

Some of the new activities which are planned for 2020 include;

- A new sean-nós singing programme for the seven local Gaeltacht primary schools, on foot of €10,000 funding from Ealaín na Gaeltachta.
- Further Irish language events for families.
- A new Irish language sports programme for the Gaeltacht schools in the area, in conjunction with an Cumann Lúthchleas Gael and Roinn na Gaeltachta.
- A new youth leadership programme for young Irish speakers from the area in conjunction with Coláiste UISCE. 6 second level students that study subjects through Irish will be awarded scholarships to attend UISCE's youth leadership training course for Irish speakers (summer 2020).
- Further gatherings for Gaeltacht primary schools (May 2020).
- Scholarships for local families to attend 'Comhluadar 2020' a Tuismitheoirí na Gaeltachta Irish language conference for Gaeltacht families (March 2020).
- Another meet up or 'Pop-Up' in the Gaeltacht will take place March 2020 during Seachtain na Gaeilge.

These developments signal that the implementation of the Irish language plan is well underway in the North Mayo Gaeltacht. Irish language use is guaranteed when one person decides to use it. You can make a huge difference and together we have the power to secure a positive future for the Irish language in our Gaeltacht. *Má úsáideann muid í, mairfidh sí.*

Gaeilge Iorrais would like to thank everyone that has taken part and supported this work to date, and we are looking forward to even more participation in 2020.

Any further suggestions and/or recommendations from the North Mayo Gaeltacht community are most welcome. If you would like to hear more about this process or get involved, call us on 097-29023, email us at [gaeilgeiorrais@gmail.com](mailto:gaeilgeiorrais@gmail.com), check out our website [www.gaeilgeiorrais.ie](http://www.gaeilgeiorrais.ie) or follow our Facebook page.

# **Dea-scéala do Ghaeltacht Mhaigh Eo Thuaidh:**

## **Buaicphointí na Gaeilge i 2019**

Tá ceiliúradh á dhéanamh ag Gaeilge Iorrais ar bhliain d'fheidhmiú a phlean teanga. Reáchtáil Gaeilge Iorrais raon leathan imeachtaí trí Ghaeilge le linn 2019 agus mar sprioc acu borradh a chur faoi úsáid na Gaeilge i nGaeltacht Mhaigh Eo Thuaidh chun todhchaí dearfach a chinntiú don Ghaeilge sa Ghaeltacht seo.

I measc na mbuaicphointí ó 2019 a léiríonn an dul chun cinn go dtí seo tá;

- Oifig nua curtha ar bun go sonrach don phleanáil teanga sa limistéar chomh maith le hoifigeach pleanála teanga agus coiste stiúrtha ilpharóisteach ag plé go hiomlán le cur chun cinn na Gaeilge sa limistéar.
- Feachtas eolais agus rannpháirtíochta seolta i measc phobal an limistéir leis an teachtaireacht 'úsáid í agus mairfidh sí.' Cuireadh bileog eolais snasta agus tarraingteach chuig an 4,500 teaghlach sa limistéar.
- Clár úrnua imeachtaí trí Ghaeilge do theaghlaigh seolta agus dírithe go sonrach ar theaghlaigh sna scoileanna Gaeltachta, i gcomhar le Teaghlaigh Ghlór na nGael. Reachtáladh 15 imeacht nua i 7 n-ionad difriúil ó Mheán Fómhair go Nollaig 2019. Ghlac 120 tuiste agus 193 páiste nó 313 duine san iomlán páirt sa chlár go dtí seo. Eagraíodh imeachtaí spráíúla trí Ghaeilge (m.sh. ceardlanna cruthú puipeád, ceardlanna tonnmharcaíochta, laethanta splais in UISCE, ceardlanna i scileanna sorcais, ceardlanna sa gharchabhair) chun spreagadh agus tacaíocht a thabhairt d'úsáid na Gaeilge ag leibhéal an teaghlaigh. A bhuíochas le tacaíocht ó Thuismitheoirí na Gaeltachta agus Áras Inis Gluaire, d'éirigh linn leagan Gaeilge den scannán Nollag 'The Polar Express' a thaispeáint roimh Nollaig.
- Grúpa nua 'Ceol agus Spraio do Thuistí agus Leanaí' curtha ar bun i gcomhar le Leabharlann Bhéal an Mhuirthead. Bhí 70 rannpháirtí (tuistí agus leanaí réamhscoile) páirteach ann i 2019.
- Comhoibriú agus tacú leis na seacht mbunscoil Ghaeltachta agus na trí iarbhunscoil Ghaeltachta sa LPT (Gaelcholáiste Chomáin san áireamh). D'éagraigh Gaeilge Iorrais dhá theacht le chéile i gcomhar le príomhoidí na mbunscoileanna Gaeltachta agus ghlac breis agus 110 páiste bunscoile ón seacht mbunscoil Ghaeltachta páirt sna himeachtaí sóisialaithe sin trí Ghaeilge.
- Comhordú ar chlár nua ranganna Gaeilge don limistéar, ranganna Dioplóma sa Ghaeilge de chuid Ollscoil na hÉireann Gaillimh san áireamh, i gcomhar le

hÚdarás na Gaeltachta, Oirthuaisceart Mhaigh Eo agus 6 eagraíocht pobalbhunaithe eile chun 10 ndeis foghlama Gaeilge a chur ar fáil i 7 n-ionad éagsúil fud fad an limistéir. Tá dhá rang nua Dioplóma sa Ghaeilge ar bun, i gcomhar le hOllscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh. Chuir Gaeilge Iorrais scéim scoláireachtaí ar fáil chun tacaíocht bhreise a thabhairt do 34 duine áitiúil atá ag tabhairt faoin gcáilíocht tríú leibhéal seo a bhaint amach. San iomlán, ghlac breis agus 100 duine páirt sa chlár nua do ranganna Gaeilge, méadú mór ó 2018, gan trácht ar an gciotal comhrá nua a bhíonn ar siúl go seachtainiúil in oifig Leader Bhéal an Mhuirthead.

- D'fhógair Gaeilge Iorrais scéim nua 'Gaelchara' nó scéim meantóireachta chun foghlaimoirí Gaeilge agus cainteoirí dúchais a chur ag obair ar an teanga lena chéile. Ghlac 7 duine páirt sa scéim seo i 2019, ábhar múinteoirí, teaghlach áitiúil agus comhlacht ón gceantar ina measc.
- Mír nua raidió maidir le húsáid Gaeilge ar an bhfód ó mhí Lúnasa 2019 mar chuid de 'The Tommy Marren Show' (Midwest Radio) agus ag leanúint ar aghaidh go rialta uair sa mhí.
- An chéad cheardlann do chúntóirí teanga an limistéir ar bun i gcomhar le Muintearas.

Tá an-bhorradh faoi chúrsaí Gaeilge sa limistéar seo anois, sna sála ar an dul chun cinn suntasach a rinneadh i mbliain 1. Tá an ré úr seo don Ghaeilge le tabhairt faoi deara ar an talamh i nGaeltacht Thuaisceart Mhaigh Eo freisin. Tá d'aidhm ag Gaeilge Iorrais tógáil ar obair na bliana seo caite, deiseanna eile úsáide Gaeilge a chruthú, nósanna nua labhartha Gaeilge a bhunú agus a bhuanú sna blianta atá amach romhainn, le tacaíocht agus rannpháirtíocht an phobail. Tá ár stádas Gaeltachta ag brath ar an obair seo.

I measc na n-imeachtaí úra atá ar na bacáin ag Gaeilge Iorrais do 2020 tá;

- Clár úrnua 'amhránaíocht ar an sean-nós' a bhunú sa seacht mbunscoil Gaeltachta go háitiúil, a bhuíochas le maoiniú de €10,000 ó Ealaín na Gaeltachta.
- Breis imeachtaí trí Ghaeilge a shocrú do theaghlaigh.
- Clár spóirt trí Ghaeilge a thosú i scoileanna Gaeltachta an limistéir, i gcomhar leis an gCumann Lúthchleas Gael agus Roinn na Gaeltachta.
- Córas cinnireachta a fhorbairt do chainteoirí óga Gaeilge na háite i gcomhar le Coláiste UISCE; sé dhearbhan le bronnadh ar sheisear scoláire iarbhunscoile atá

ag tabhairt faoi ábhar trí Ghaeilge ar scoil, chun freastal ar an gcúrsa ceannródaíoch 'cúrsa cinnireachta do dhéagóirí na Gaeltachta' (samhradh 2020).

- Teacht le chéile eile a eagrú do bhunscoileanna Gaeltachta (Bealtaine 2020).
- Scoláireachtaí do theaghlach an limistéir chun freastal ar 'Chomhluadar 2020' de chuid Tuismitheoirí na Gaeltachta (Márta 2020).
- Teacht le chéile eile a eagrú don phobal ('Pop-Up' sa Ghaeltacht, Márta 2020).

Léiríonn na forbairtí seo go bhfuil feidhmiú an phlean teanga faoi lán seoil i dtuaisceart Mhaigh Eo. *Úsáid í agus mairfidh sí* an mana atá ag Gaeilge Iorrais. Is é sin le rá, má úsáideann muid an Ghaeilge, aon bhealach ar féidir linn, mairfidh sí. Is féidir labhairt na Gaeilge a chinntiú nuair a dhéanann duine amháin cinneadh go labhróidh sé/sí í. Mar sin, is féidir leatsa difríocht mhór a dhéanamh agus is féidir linne, le chéile, an t-uafás a bhaint amach má sheasann muid le chéile ar son na Gaeilge. *Má úsáideann muid í, mairfidh sí.*

Ba mhaith le Gaeilge Iorrais buíochas ó chroí a ghabháil le gach duine a ghlac páirt agus a thug tacaíocht dúinn go dtí seo, agus muid ag súil le níos mó rannpháirtíochta fós i 2020.

Bí i dteagmháil linn ag [gaeilgeiorrais@gmail.com](mailto:gaeilgeiorrais@gmail.com) nó (097) 29023 más mian leat níos mó eolais a fháil faoin obair seo, chun spéis a chlárú linn nó chun moltaí ábhartha a roinnt linn. Ba mhór againn cloisteáil uait. Coinnigh súil ar ár leathanach Facebook 'Gaeilge Iorrais' agus ar [www.gaeilgeiorrais.ie](http://www.gaeilgeiorrais.ie) don nuacht is déanaí.

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