



Life at Croí na Coille

where the adventure begins



Croí na Coille



A Steiner inspired school on Buttercup Farm in Croom

Irish for Heart of the Forest; Pronounced: [kri na kwilla]

The school is still up and coming, therefore private, and consists of containers with a field behind them.

They have water, electricity, heating, bathrooms and everything a class could need.

One container is split between the two classrooms, another is for the assembly and office and there is another being used as storage for now but will be renovated to be a new classroom.

The younger class consists of junior and senior infants, first and second class. (4-8 years)

The older class consists of third till sixth class. (9-12 years)

School starts at 9am and ends at 2:40pm (1:40pm for the infants)

We also helped in the afterschool; there always have to be two people

Staff

Since the school is private, it is registered as a company and therefore, has three directors who make decisions on how the school needs to run. They usually change every couple of years.

There is no principal.

Pamela: Head teacher and teacher of the older class. Contact for us students coming from abroad.

Martina: SNA and alternative contact for us students.

Jack: He takes care of the after school program, organising supplies for the school, and offers theater and creative projects for the children.

Steiner (Waldorf)

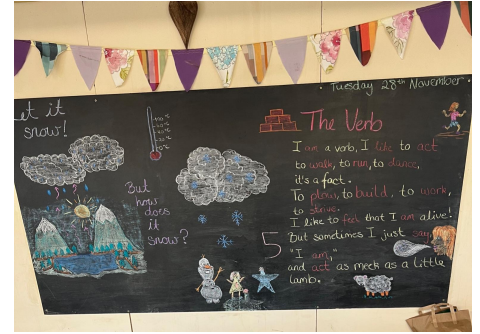
All Waldorf schools are known as Steiner schools in Ireland.

It is a very common and well liked school system in Ireland.

Steiner believes in a more individualistic way of teaching. This means they try to teach according to the needs of the students.

The goal is that the children should have the freedom to be creative and imaginative while learning.

The elements of nature are focused on as it should help the children become more connected to the earth and themselves.



Interesting things in the classroom because of Steiner

There should be no perpendicular corners within a Steiner school because there are none in nature. Therefore, they round off the corners of their pages.

When painting they should only use the primary colours. If the children want to have other colours they should experiment by mixing the colours on the page.

Technology is first introduced in year 10 because Steiner believes, children cannot comprehend the full aspects of technology to the full.

All games are supposed to be made out of natural elements.

Forest Day

Every Thursday is forest day

Starts at 10am outside (both classrooms together)

First they play one small game all together, short free-play

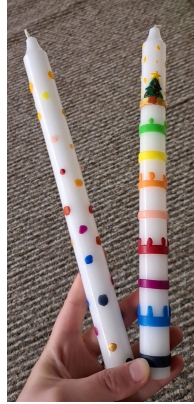
Different activities every week with both classes together (no lessons then), the weather does not matter (waiters, hair ties and wellies needed)

Ends at 1:40am (infants go home), normal lessons for the others until 2:40

Some examples:

- *Learning Gaelic football*
- *Baking ((barmbrack-)bread, apple-turnovers, cookies for Christmas, pumpkin seeds, playdough, decorations)*
- *Plant trees, vegetables,...*
- *Dyeing clothes with natural resources (turmeric, calendula/marigold and blackberries)*
- *Carve pumpkins, build objects, spirals,etc. with natural elements (mud, wood, stones, leafs...)*





Things to pack for especially for Fall/Winter/Spring

- Waders (Rain trousers)
- Wellies/Boots (Rain boots)
- Waterproof jacket
- clothes that can get dirty
- sport shoes
- layers (Can be cold in the mornings and warmer in the afternoon)

Tips for getting around

Leap card (Bus card):

can apply for it online <https://about.leapcard.ie/young-adult-and-student-card-launch>

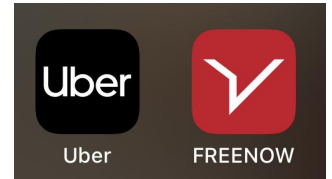
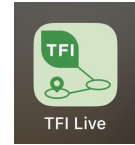
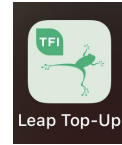
with it you can take the bus for a cheaper price

Freenow/Uber as a taxi option

Flightlink (bus from Adare to Dublin) or Citylink (bus from Limerick to Dublin)

Car rental: sunny cars/enterprise

Often times the people from school can help you out by giving you a ride.



Sights to see in/near Limerick

Wickham Way

Arts & Craft Market with different food trucks (many vegan/vegetarian options)

Milk Market

A general farmer's market every Saturday

Lucky Lane

A second hand shop which has a very cool flair

Hunters Sports Bar

An arcade pub in Limerick. Has many cool vintage and newer games to play.

Dolan's Pub

An older pub in Limerick with different events

King John's Castle and old part of town

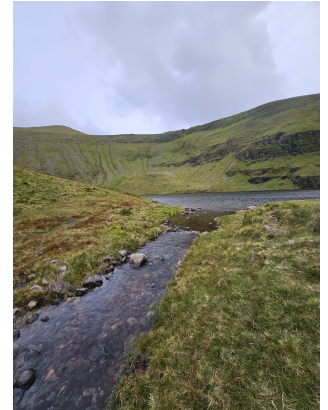
There are multiple old pubs there and some breweries

Bunratty Castle

A refurbished castle and little village with many cute shops

Galtee Mountain (45 min drive from Croom)

a nice hiking trail leading up into the mountains, passing sheep. At the end you'll find a water source.



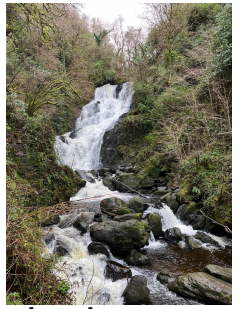
Sights to see in Ireland

Killarney National Park, easily combined with the Ring of Kerry
=> little off road adventure is the Gap of Dunloe. Beautiful drive through the mountains

Cliffs of Moher

Galway, easily combined with Connemara National Park

Northern Ireland (Giant's Causeway, Game of Thrones tour, Titanic Museum)



Hope you have a wonderful time there!