

SONA'S STORY

In March of 2024 a stray male chihuahua entered our school premises in the early hours of the morning. Despite various attempts to locate any previous owners we were unsuccessful. A member of our team (SNA Abbie) took this little chihuahua home with her and eventually took legal ownership of him.

With the help of many students at Coláiste Chilliain it was decided that a name best fitting the dog should be decided. Of course we chose a name as Gaeilge, Sona. Since the day he first entered our school students have been consistently querying Sona's wellbeing and seeking updates.

Since Abbie brought Sona home he has displayed nothing but the best temperament and patience as well as a quick learning ability (he even knows some tricks as Gaeilge!). Abbie wholeheartedly believes Sona's calm nature and popularity among the school community would make him a most exceptional addition to our school as a Therapy Dog.

In February 2025, just under one year after Abbie brought him home, Sona passed his Therapy Dog Assessment with Peata Pet Therapy. Peata is an Irish charity whose main activity is their "dog visiting scheme", in which qualified volunteers and their dogs visit caring facilities on a regular basis. They provide information to health care professionals about the advantages of pet therapy and work with schools and education facilities on promoting animal welfare.



March 2024 (the day he was rescued)



February 2025



SCÉAL SONA

I mí an Mhárta 2024, tháinig chihuahua fireann a bhí ar strae isteach ar áitreabh na scoile againn go luath ar maidin. In ainneoin iarrachtaí éagsúla chun a úinéirí a aimsiú níor éirigh linn. Thug ball dár bhfoireann (CRS Abbie) an chihuahua beag seo abhaile léi agus sa deireadh ghlac sí úinéireacht air go dleathach.

Le cabhair ó go leor scoláirí i gColáiste Chilllain socraíodh go ndéanfaí cinneadh ar an ainm is fearr a d'oirfeadh don mhadra. Ar ndóigh, roghnaigh muid ainm as Gaeilge, "Sona". Ón lá ar tháinig Sona isteach den chéad uair bhí ár ndaltaí ag cur a thuairisce.

Ó thug Abbie Sona abhaile bhí sé soiléir go raibh meon iontach aige. Chomh maith le foighne agus an cumas chun foghlaim go tapa (tá cleasanna Gaeilge ar eolas aige fiú!). Creideann Abbie go croíúil go gcuirfeadh nádúr socair Shona, agus an tóir atá air i measc phobal na scoile, go mór leis an scoil mar Mhadra Teiripe.

I mí Feabhra 2025, beagnach bliain tar éis do Abbie é a thabhairt abhaile, d'éirigh le Sona sa Mheasúnú Madra Teiripe le Peata Pet Therapy. Is carthanacht Éireannach é Peata Pet Therapy agus is í an scéim "cuairt mhadra" an príomhghníomhaíocht a bhíonn idir láimhe acu. Mar chuid den scéim sin, téann oibrithe deonacha, atá cáilithe, agus a gcuid madraí ar chuairteanna chuig ionaid chúraim ar bhonn rialta. Tugann siad eolas do ghairmí cúraim sláinte faoi na buntáistí a bhaineann le teiripe peataí. Oibríonn siad freisin le scoileanna agus le hionaid oideachais chun leasa ainmhithe a chur chun cinn.



Mí Márta 2024



Mí Feabhra 2025

