



Bealtaine 2023

Maidir le: Iarratas chuig gach bunscoil agus iarbhunscoil nóiméad ciúnais a choimeád ina scoileanna ag meán lae ar Aoine, an 19 Bealtaine 2023, i gcuimhne ar na daoine go léir a d'fhulaing le linn an Ghorta Mhóir

I mí na Bealtaine 2008, chinn an Rialtas ar Lá Cuimhneacháin Náisiúnta bliantúil a oirniú don Ghorta Mór, i gcuimhne ar na daoine go léir a fuair bás agus a chuaigh ar imirce le linn an Ghorta Mhóir. Beidh Cuimhneachán Náisiúnta an Ghorta Mhóir, i gcuimhne orthu siúd a d'fhulaing le linn an Ghorta Mhóir, ar siúl i mBaile na nGallglach, Co. Dhún na nGall Dé Domhnaigh 23 Bealtaine 2023 i dteannta Uachtarán na hÉireann, Mícheál D. Ó hUiginn

Níor tharla aon tubaiste eile i stair na hÉireann a raibh a oiread de thionchar aige is a bhí ag an nGorta Mór, ná a d'fhág lorg chomh móir ar an tír. D'fhág an tubaiste sin chomh maith go bhfuil tuiscint níos fearr ag muintir na hÉireann ar cheisteanna a bhaineann leis an soláthar bia a choinneáil slán agus go bhfuil siad tiomanta do chabhair dhaonnúil agus faoiseamh daonnúil a chur ar fáil.

Iarraim ort socrutithe a dhéanamh ionas go gcaithfidh foireann agus daltaí do scoile nóiméad machnaimh faoi thost ar an Aoine, an 19 Bealtaine i gcuimhne orthu siúd ar fad a fuair bás le linn an Ghorta Mhóir, a chaill a ngaolta, ná arbh éigean dóibh a dtithe ná a dtír dhúchais a thréigean lena linn. Ba cheart an nóiméad ciúnais a choimeád ag meán lae, más féidir, ach mura bhfuil an t-am sin oiriúnach, is féidir é a choimeád ag cibé am a oireann don scoil féin. Iarraim freisin go dtabharfaidh an fhoireann agus na daltaí chun cuimhne, le linn an nóiméid ciúnais, na daoine sin atá ag fulaingt de bharr gorta agus ocras sa lá atá inniu ann, go háirithe na leanaí agus na daoine óga atá ina gcónaí in áiteanna ar fud an domhain atá cráite ag cogadh, bochtanas agus galair.

Ócáid ómóis speisialta mhaorga a bheidh ann dóibh siúd a cailleadh le linn an Ghorta Mhóir agus ba mhaith liom mo bhúiochas a ghabháil leis na rannpháirtithe go léir as a gcuid tacaíochta.

Más mian leat tuilleadh plé a dhéanamh ar an ábhar, ná bíodh aon drogall ort dul i dteaghmháil le Ronan Nestor ar 085 800 2899 ná ar faminecommemoration@tcagsm.gov.ie.

Is mise, le meas,

Catherine Martin, T.D.
An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúr, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán
Cathaoirleach Choiste Cuimhneacháin Náisiúnta an Ghorta Mhóir



An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir,
Ealaón, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán
Department of Tourism, Culture,
Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

May 2023

***Re: Invitation to schools to observe a minute of silent reflection
in their schools at midday on Friday, 19th May 2023
in memory of all those who suffered loss during the Great Famine***

Dear Principal,

In May 2008, the Government decided to inaugurate an annual National Famine Commemoration Day in memory of all those who died and emigrated during the Great Famine. This year's National Famine Commemoration will take place in Milford, Co Donegal at 2pm on Sunday 21st May, in the presence of the President of Ireland Michael D. Higgins.

There is no other event in our history that can be likened to the Great Famine either for its immediate impact or its legacy. That legacy includes a strong appreciation among Irish people of issues such as food security and a strong commitment to humanitarian aid and relief.

I invite you to arrange for all staff and pupils at your school to observe a minute of silent reflection on Friday, 19th May in memory of all those who suffered loss during the Famine – loss of life, loss of family, loss of home and loss of country. This minute of silence should take place ideally at midday, but can take place at whatever time suits individual schools on the day. I would ask also during this minute of silence that your staff and pupils also remember those who are suffering famine and hunger today, particularly the children and young people living in parts of the world currently afflicted by chronic hunger, poverty and disease.

It will be a very special and dignified tribute to those who died during the Great Famine and I would like to thank you most sincerely for your support in this regard.

If you would like to discuss the matter further, please feel free to contact Ronan Nestor on 085 800 2899 or at faminecommemoration@tcagsm.gov.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Martin, T.D.
Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
Chair of the National Famine Commemoration Committee