

Summer Newsletter 2018

Dear Parents,

It has been a memorable year here in school. It seems like no length since we moved in last August. We, the staff, would like to extend a warm thank you to you all for patience and understanding in the settling in period in our new surroundings. Our school is now open a year and it is great to see the students work take centre stage inside and outside. All of our students deserve a lovely Summer and we are very proud of them all. A special mention to; all our junior infants who have grown so much this year, and to our wonderful sixth class students who will be starting first year in September. "Go Néiri an Tadh libh"

(Good Luck to You all)

Here is a flavour of some of the activities going on in the school at the moment.

The children in LETS have had a very busy and fruitful last term. The official school opening not only show cased our fabulous building but also our wonderful children. Whether it was singing, performing with instruments, facilitating guided tours, displaying project work, raising flags or hosting visits to their classrooms, they were fantastic and we, on staff, are very proud of them all. The good weather arrived in time for a celebratory visit from the ice-cream van, a treat they well deserved.

Aine's Pre-school Class made the most of the weather and have gone on frequent playground walks. Ruairí planted a tree in the tiny forest. Butterflies were released in the Butterfly Garden (we'll have no cabbages!) and pupils did a great job of welcoming our Opening Day visitors and teaching them all about caterpillars and butterflies.

Louise's Class have had a great time gardening, planting sunflowers, lupins and releasing more butterflies into our butterfly garden. The class had put up a beautiful summer display and taken part in the Fit Kids walking challenge.

Junior Infants: Rachel's class had a taste of Spanish life with a parent coming in to teach them all about life in Spain. They sampled paella or chorizo, danced the Flamenco and created Spanish flags. They also had a visit from a real life surgeon, dressed in scrubs and learned about working in a hospital.

Both Rachel and Bernie's class had a wonderful time at their school tour experience with the mobile farm and zoo animals.

Bernie's Class have since been viewing life in Dublin Zoo through their live cameras and have also been flying out from Jnr. Infant's National Airport to all manner of destinations.

The Snr. Infant tour to The Old Rectory was a great day out. The children baked their own cookies and pizza, visited farm animals. The Snrs also enjoyed their Fit Kids walk with their reading buddies from older classes.

Ellen's Class have learned all about Eid, completed their Fit Kids Walking Challenge and were lucky to have had a Split the Pot winner, congratulations to Sophia Chaney!

While we were sad to see Lisa go, everyone was delighted to see Gráinne return. Gráinne's class have been learning all about snakes: 'They are not slimey!' and the children have handled a Corn Snake skin brought in by Jake.

First Class: Vickie's class also learned about Eid and then celebrated by sampling traditional sweets from Pakistan (thank you Zara!). They really enjoyed their Australia project, the Anzac cookies were slightly more popular than the Vegemite. The circuits station with Eden's mum Eilin was a big hit during Active Schools Week.

First Class: Maria's Class The children were learning all about turtles and created beautiful clay turtles. Oscar Anderson a past pupil and classmate from Maria's class is visiting for the day next week.

Maria and Vickie's class are looking forward to a Mad Hatter's Tea Party next week and each child will make their own mad hat. The First Class tour to Recipe for Success, followed by a picnic in the park was a lovely day out, enjoyed by all.

Deirdre's Senior infants/First and Second: Deirdre's class also enjoyed the mobile farm and reptile zoo and a hen may have laid an egg on somebody's lap! This class also did a huge amount of work in the garden, keeping all our thirsty plants well watered in the hot weather. The children released yet more butterflies into our garden and provided the school with very willing and able flag raisers on all of our special days.

Anne-Marie's 2nd class tour to Mary I. was well enjoyed with bouncy castles, indoor hockey, dodgeball and their favourite; The Disco Dome. Second Class have recently been researching topics and then delivering lessons to the children in older classes. Topics so far include, 'Interesting Facts, 'Titanic' and 'Extreme Machines'.

Second/Third Class: Fiona's Class also had a great tour in Mary I. They have been baking buns and picnicking in the park this week. The children have been learning all about the Rainforest, its animals and the people who live there. Super gardening was also done by this class, particularly in the polytunnel. Well done to Barry Roche, who along with his classmates, wrote a book of animal reports about animals who live on the Savannah. He will be going on tour of the upstairs classes with this next week.

Third Class: Claire's Class have completed their Leaf Project, creating a nature map of the school and working on a biodiversity project, including a workshop with Niamh from Leaf which focused on the importance of pollinators. The children deserve a big thanks for amount of money they have raised for the school library.

Fourth Class: Siobhan's Class learned a lot during their Planetarium Experience and enjoyed learning about World War 2. There was great work done during science experiments and the class had great weather for their walk in the park

Fifth Class: Brian's Fifth Class had the final part of their Engineer in a Box project, where engineers from Stryker came to work with children over a ten week period. The children in Fifth Class were a really great help running stations for the Junior classes during Active Schools Week. Well done!

Pamela's class Sixth Class had a great day at their graduation. They went on school tour with along with 4th and 5th classes. They enjoyed a Teddy Bear's Picnic in the park with their reading buddies from Snr Infants. This class provided wonderful tour guides for groups of visitors during our opening celebrations, they have completed their Junior Entrepreneurs Project and their Transition to Secondary School project with Shanti Corcoran. Sixth class had a visit from past pupil Rungtawan Touhy who was visiting to make hats for the graduation ceremony. Congratulations to Caoimhe who won a County Final medal playing camogie for Mungret and to Mantas who was awarded a Piano Grade Two with distinction.

All staff would like to thank the parents for all the good work that was done at home and are grateful for your active participation in your child's education.

Policy Development

The following policies are currently under review

- Health and Safety
- Relationships and Sexuality
- Data Protection

Attendance

- School attendance has been excellent with 93% attendance across the school

Curriculum

We hope to make all our curriculum plans available for viewing next year. We are re-engaging with the school self-evaluation process and will contact you all about this next year. We will be evaluating our provision in the areas of:

- Literacy
- Numeracy

Green School

- Congratulations to our hard working Green School Committee. We were awarded the Green Flag for Water this year.

Parents Association

- The Parents Association would like to thank all parents who took time to help out and attend meetings during the year. Next year the Parents association would like to have a rep for each class, each rep will be responsible for contacting the parents in one class and letting them know about events and activities being organized by the PA.

Enjoy the break

Mike and Staff