

Summer Newsletter 2024

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

Pre-school: Anne Marie

- All of the children in Little Acorns Preschool have had a wonderful Summer term
- Anne Marie, Jane and Caroline are very proud of the children for all of the wonderful work that they have done this term and all year
- We have read lots of books, learned new songs and poems, painted, done prewriting and gross motor skills development
- We really enjoyed our school tour. We went to a mobile farm where we fed & petted lambs, goats, chickens, pigs and many more animals
- Two sixth class students have been playing with us this week and we are so lucky to have them
- We had 3 graduations for the children who are finishing up in Little Acorns. Our families came in and we played together and got presents to bring home
- Congratulations to our graduates Tara, Sonny and Amelia.

Junior Infants: Aoife's class

- Junior Infants have worked so hard during this final term and we have also had lots of fun!
- We have loved being outdoors more as the weather has improved and we really enjoy our class trips to the playground and the Tiny Forest
- On our school tour day, a mobile farm, circus performer and an ice - cream truck came to our school. We had the best day! We loved petting/feeding all the animals, playing with various toys that circus performers use and eating our delicious ice - cream...YUM!

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- As a class we made and cooked our very own pizzas in our school's pizza oven and they were delicious!
 - We really enjoyed working with Aisling's Junior Infants on our class assembly for the school. We sang and recited lots of different poems and songs and did a really cool dance to the song "Shotgun".
 - Junior Infants had four special visitors come to our class ... four caterpillars! We watched in awe on how these caterpillars formed into chrysalis' and then butterflies! We set our butterflies free in our school garden and they looked so happy to be free amongst the flowers
 - We were very busy for Active Week, we took part in lots of different activities such as basketball with Sandra, dancing with Aisling, yoga and soccer! Huge thanks to Sixth Class who helped us throughout our Sports Day, we enjoyed every minute of it!
 - Junior Infants have settled in so well to their new school and have learnt and experienced many new things this year. More exciting things to come for them in Senior Infants!

Junior Infants: Aisling's Class

- Junior Infants have had a fantastic last term of school!
- We made pizzas in the Tiny Forest and used our pizza oven to bake them! It was a delicious pizza party!
- We had great fun on our school tour learning some circus tricks, seeing farm animals at the mobile farm and we had lovely ice-creams to top it all off!
- We worked hard for our assembly and performed lots of songs and poems with Aoife's class to perform for our school. Our favourite was dancing and singing to Shotgun by George Ezra!
- We also took care of our caterpillars and had such fun watching them grow day by day until they became butterflies! We set them free on a lovely sunny day.
- We have been learning lots about the season of summer and the signs of summer. On some of our sunnier days, we enjoyed the sunshine in the Tiny Forest and in the playground.
- We enjoyed lots of fun activities for Active Week. We had so much fun on Sports Day, despite the rain!
- Junior Infants are now ready for the leap to Senior Infants and should be very proud of themselves for all of their hard work this year! We have had such fun!

Senior Infants: Yvonne's Class

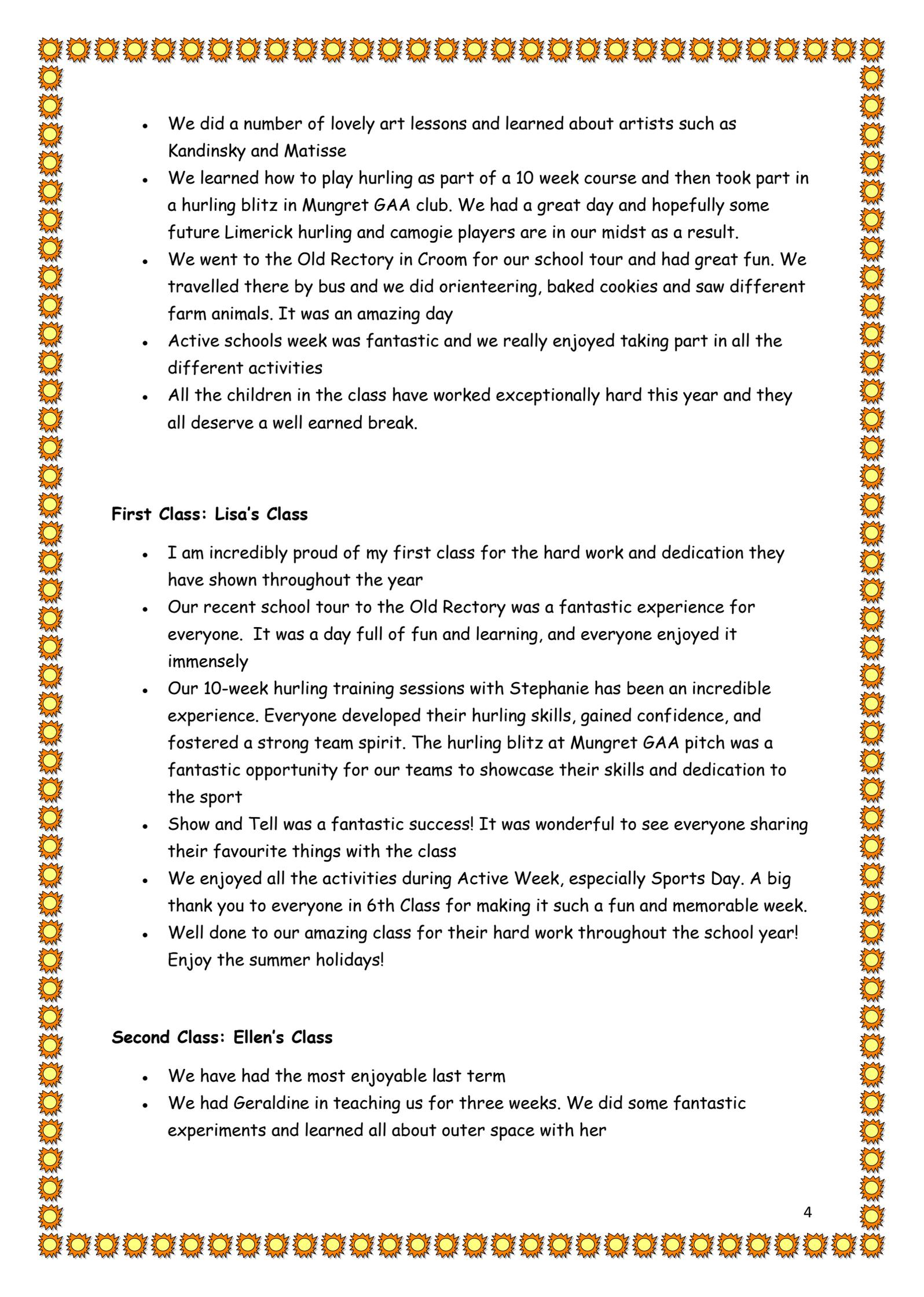
- We had a wonderful school tour. Ger the farmer brought his mobile farm. We loved all the farm animals. It was great fun seeing the animals roaming around our Orchard. Thank you Mike for organizing the ice cream van to come to our tour. It was a lovely treat
- We had a very sporty week during active sports week. We got to try out lots of cool sports. Thank you Aisling for a wonderful dance class
- We picked some Elderflowers from our Choill Bheag and made elderflower cordial using flowers, sugar water lemons, and citric acid. The cordial was delicious
- We had an end of year pizza party on Thursday in the lovely sunshine to celebrate a year of fun, friendships and lots of learning. We made and cooked our own pizzas. They were so tasty. Thank you to all our parent helpers who came in to help with the pizzas
- We are all looking forward to a lovely summer and our move to first class in September.

Senior Infants: Áine's Class

- We have had such a fabulous summer term
- We have been so lucky to have Stephanie in teaching us all about hurling, and the parts of the hurley and lots of hurling skills
- We had an amazing Active week with lots of activities
- We had a great school tour within the grounds of our school. Learning circus skills with Niall, meeting, cuddling and feeding Ger's animals at the mobile farm, Water play, ice cream and Tiny Forest activities
- We learned how to make our own pizzas and Áine cooked them
- We've had trips to the play ground
- We made our own ice cream pops by freezing yoghurts.

First Class: Deirdre's class

- My class has worked so hard this year and the final term was no exception. This term we took part in a number of different activities. We grew lupins and sweet peas as part of the plant sale. We also sowed some cress seeds in class to see how fast they would grow

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- We did a number of lovely art lessons and learned about artists such as Kandinsky and Matisse
 - We learned how to play hurling as part of a 10 week course and then took part in a hurling blitz in Mungret GAA club. We had a great day and hopefully some future Limerick hurling and camogie players are in our midst as a result.
 - We went to the Old Rectory in Croom for our school tour and had great fun. We travelled there by bus and we did orienteering, baked cookies and saw different farm animals. It was an amazing day
 - Active schools week was fantastic and we really enjoyed taking part in all the different activities
 - All the children in the class have worked exceptionally hard this year and they all deserve a well earned break.

First Class: Lisa's Class

- I am incredibly proud of my first class for the hard work and dedication they have shown throughout the year
- Our recent school tour to the Old Rectory was a fantastic experience for everyone. It was a day full of fun and learning, and everyone enjoyed it immensely
- Our 10-week hurling training sessions with Stephanie has been an incredible experience. Everyone developed their hurling skills, gained confidence, and fostered a strong team spirit. The hurling blitz at Mungret GAA pitch was a fantastic opportunity for our teams to showcase their skills and dedication to the sport
- Show and Tell was a fantastic success! It was wonderful to see everyone sharing their favourite things with the class
- We enjoyed all the activities during Active Week, especially Sports Day. A big thank you to everyone in 6th Class for making it such a fun and memorable week.
- Well done to our amazing class for their hard work throughout the school year! Enjoy the summer holidays!

Second Class: Ellen's Class

- We have had the most enjoyable last term
- We had Geraldine in teaching us for three weeks. We did some fantastic experiments and learned all about outer space with her

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- This last term has been filled with many special days including World Book Day, International Women's Day and Be a Hero for Laura Lynn. We loved learning about and celebrating them all
 - The highlight of this term was our Sports Day facilitated by 6th Class, Maggie and Paula. The sun was shining all day and we had such fun. On Thursday June 13th, we went to UL on our school tour. Some of the highlights were swimming, prison break, button game, obstacle course and the outdoor water slide. Our teacher was so proud of how respectful and well-behaved we were
 - Seeing the new sculptures by Donnacha the artist was also one of the year's highlights. We think we are so lucky that he has made such wonderful pieces for us
 - We will enjoy a well-earned break this summer and look forward to being back together again in September!

Second class: Bernie's Class

- Second class, what a great term we have had again. The school tour in UL was a big success and it was great to see how kind and respectful you were to each other and your group leaders. The swimming pool and the button game proved popular as they were mentioned over and over again
- Thank you to my class for their supportive chants in the teachers' vs pupils soccer matches. It was great to celebrate wins and near wins with the class and Lara. Lara was a great addition to both our soccer team and our school team this year
- Another thank you to 6th Class, Maggie and Paula for active week and Sports Day, it was so well organised, fun and we were so lucky to have a nice sunny day for it
- More recently we were excited to meet sculptor Donnacha Cahill once again as well as getting a look at the latest sculpture installation of an Emu on a Blériot XI plane before it was set into the ground. The class had an opportunity to create their own wonderful clay sculptures during the year. Their clay tiles carved with pasta turned out especially well
- There were lots of memories built around our art time, board games, chit chats, in class games and soccer sessions with James. The soccer sessions and golden time were a weekly highlight after all their hard work. Thank you to second class for making it such a great year. Have a great relaxing break, enjoy the fun of the summer

Catherine's/Emily's Class

- We have had a stimulating and fun term together. It began as we wished Catherine well on her maternity leave and celebrated the arrival of her beautiful baby
- We explored themes like the Olympics, transport and travel and learned about places the students will visit in the future- New Zealand, Spain, Italy, Australia, Germany and France!
- We loved participating in different sports day activities like yoga and dance!
- We really enjoyed our trips to Jump Lanes and horse riding
- Some memorable moments from the term include releasing our class butterflies, paddling in the sensory garden on a hot summer's day, blowing giant bubbles in the classroom, baking delicious food and creating our 'under the sea' window display
- Thank you to our classmates and staff and everyone at home who has supported our growth and learning!

Third Class: Peter's Class

- We have had a busy final term, completing the third class programme and enjoying fun activities
- The class finished our cross-term film making project which had so many challenging elements: auditions, casting, historical research, script writing and translating, costume design, song performance and dance, line learning, performance, camera work, post production editing, green screening and IT management
- Our school tour to Kilfinane Outdoor Education Centre was a wonderful day. We have some very talented archers and climbers in our ranks
- Both 3rd classes took part in the Ficheall chess programme, with some of our pupils going on to represent the school in chess competitions
- We enjoyed the run off heats for Primary City Sports and some of our 3rd class runners went on to represent the school in U.L.
- Active week saw our class take part in tennis, soccer, hockey, dodgeball, tag rugby and Tae Kwon Do amongst other activities
- We lit the pizza oven last Thursday and had a lovely morning with Yvonne's Snr Infants making and cooking our own pizzas.

Third Class: Fiona's/Karen's Class

- Third Class have been kept very busy over the past while, with lots of trips, activities and special events
- Active Schools Week was a very enjoyable week and the class came in really excited each morning to see what they would be doing that day. We had sessions of rugby, tennis, taekwondo, hockey, dodgeball and athletics, which meant there was something for everyone! The Sports Day on Wednesday was definitely a highlight, with so many brilliant games organised and run by 6th class
- We had our school tour in the middle of a busy Active Schools Week! Our school tour was to Kilfinane Outdoor Education Centre. It started off with rock climbing, which the pupils really excelled at. Everyone gave it a go and loved this session. We then had a try at archery, which was challenging but enjoyable. After lunch, it was time for bushcraft - this included learning about survival in the wild and ended with boys versus girls shelter making competition. Finally, we got to try orienteering, which was great fun
- We have been learning all about New Zealand in SESE. We created some Koru symbol artworks, researched New Zealand and created tourist booklets for people visiting the country
- We have been reading and studying the novel *Grimwood* for the past few months. We are nearly coming to the end of the book and can't wait to see what happens in the last few chapters!

Fourth Class: Sarah's Class

- We had a fantastic final term in Rang 4. We went to UL for our school tour. We had great fun on the waterslide and all the other activities
- Active Week was a blast. We got to play lots of sports - hockey, football, rugby, tennis, badminton.
- The fourth class Book Launch was held in May and the book contains our own stories. Author Alan Nolan did a fantastic workshop with both classes
- Our summer art was beautiful and was displayed for all to see outside our classroom
- We learned all about Peru and learned how to weave and make beautiful colourful llamas
- We made fabulous 3D motte and bailey castles after learning all about the Normans
- Well known coach, Declan Considine came in and did a few soccer sessions with 4th class

- We finished off 4th class with a lovely picnic and a well-deserved trip to the park. Well done rang 4 for all your fantastic work throughout the year.

Fourth Class: Pamela's Class

- We had a fantastic last term in Fourth class filled with lots of learning and fun, it only feels like yesterday we began and now they are ready to move on to fifth class. We ended the year with a fantastic Active School week hosted by 6th class. The children engaged in Rugby, tennis, badminton, Gaelic football, hockey and basketball during this week as well as having a full sports day. A huge thanks to all involved in making this such a fantastic week. Our school tour this year was to Basecamp Adventure Centre in Shanagolden. The children took part in Splat ball and forest archery on the day, a great day was had by all. We also took part in the Road to Paris initiative which encouraged us to get a minimum of one hour exercise every day as we travelled around Ireland learning about our wonderful Olympians getting prepared for their road to Paris. Keep up the hour of exercise daily over the summer and maybe someday you will be an Olympian too. I hope you get a chance to see some of our Olympians in action in the olympic games this summer
- This term we were super fortunate to have Lara, a German student, in the school. Lara worked with us every Tuesday Afternoon teaching us all about Germany and also teaching us German as language it would be wonderful if the kids continued this over the summer by using Duolingo or other online platforms
- The biggest success of the year was our Book Launch, a Massive well done to everyone on your fantastic stories and illustrations that made up our class book titled: Big Stories for Small People. We celebrated by having a fantastic workshop with Author Alan Nolan, a day filled with fun and treats. We also took part in a Dooradoyle reading initiative at the end of the year which culminated in a visit to Dooradoyle library for another author visit and even more treats and certificates
- During term 3 we began learning how to knit, crochet and weave with the help of Azim's mum Lorraine. A huge thank you to Lorraine for her Friday visits and to Farrah, Linda and Ella May for sharing their knowledge with the class, knitting is a wonderful skill to have and I hope you keep it up going forward as you are a very talented bunch
- We continued our fantastic year as scientists by studying the Brain and Heart, we made brain hats to help us understand the parts of the brain and how important each part is to us in our daily life. We were treated to a wonderful Science fair hosted by 6th class. In History the kids made some fantastic 3D models of Norman Motte and Baileys following on from a unit learning all about the Normans,

they also took charge of assessment by creating Kahoots, board games and Blookets to test their fellow classmates on learned knowledge.

Fifth class: Clíodhna's class

- We really enjoyed Active Week trying sports such as badminton, rugby, tennis & taekwondo. We also thoroughly enjoyed Sports Day
- We really enjoyed having Ken from Munster Rugby in our school in April teaching us how to play rugby. Some members of our class participated in a rugby blitz in Garryowen RFC and they did so well playing as a team
- Well done to some of our class who did amazingly at the City Sports in UL
- We went to Ballyhass Adventure for our school tour and we had an incredible time! We did the high ropes and archery but our favourite activity above anything else was the aqua park! Clíodhna even got in the water with us but she wasn't very good on the inflatables! We were absolutely exhausted when we got back after our long day
- We really enjoyed completing some science experiments and learning about the Digestive System and Teeth. We looked at the function of Bile and what happens when it comes in contact with fats and we also experimented about how different liquids can decay & stain our teeth
- We worked really well together researching Tectonic plates and presenting reports which we read aloud to our classmates
- Thank you to Paudie who came to our class in May to complete the Junior Achievement Ireland Programme with us. We worked together to design recyclable pens, design apps and also to build a bridge using just paper and sellotape. The bridges we designed had to hold a bottle of water! We worked really well together and enjoyed our engineering experience
- We had a super last term in 5th class and I am so sad to be saying goodbye to such fantastic young people! Thank you to you all for an amazing year! I wish you all the very best of luck next year and I am looking forward to seeing how you all mature and grow in your last year in LETS!

Fifth class: Siobhan's class

- We have had an amazing last term in 5th class and have really enjoyed all the different activities and learning experiences we have taken part in in the last few months
- We had great fun with Ken from Munster Rugby teaching us how to play rugby and some of our class got to attend a rugby blitz in Garryowen rugby club and they had a great day playing matches against different schools

- Congratulations to everyone who took part in the City Sports in U.L. this year, we had many wonderful athletes take part and they had a great day
- Well done to all those who take part in chess tournaments and outings throughout the year. A massive congratulations goes to Devah who took part in the European School Chess Championship in U.L. He got to play with people from many different European countries such as Spain, Iceland, Wales and more. He really enjoyed his experience and got to learn lots of new techniques and moves
- We went to Ballyhaas in Co. Cork for our school tour. It was a thrillingly, exciting, brilliant day. We got to do archery, an aqua park with inflatables and climb the high ropes. We loved the water park the most even if it was super cold!!! Well done to all the brave children who climbed up the high pole and took the "Leap of Faith". We had the best day!!
- We learned a lot this term including all about First Aid thanks to the Care Aware team and project. Rhys's dad Kevin also came in to talk to us about the emergency services, what to do if you have to ring 999 and gave us a tour of an ambulance from the Red Cross
- Naoise's mom came into our class and she taught us how to animate. We created a video which you can see on the School's X account
- Our class were very lucky to visit Stryker and talk to Joe Harney about bees. We learned all about the honeybee; how important they are in our environment and how important it is to protect these creatures. We also got to visit their "Tiny Forest" and got our picture taken for the paper
- We had an amazing Active School week. We got to do loads of fun activities like Badminton, Tennis, Taekwondo, Rugby and loads more. Sports Day was the best day and we had so much fun!!
- We were also very lucky to have Stephen from Dell come in to us to complete the Junior Achievement programme "Our World" with our class. They learned about a circular economy, how to create sustainable and environmentally friendly products, creating apps, building bridges and how to budget for and present a new idea
- We have loved all of the new experiences and activities that we have taken part in in 5th class this year and are looking forward to everything that will come in 6th next year. Happy Summer Holidays to all!!!!

Miriam's Senior Garden Class

- What a wonderful term of learning and activities we have had. One of this term's highlights was the fundraiser we organised in aid of Liskennett Equine Centre. Our class has enjoyed several trips to Liskennett this school year and

was delighted to have the opportunity to contribute to the charity during Autism Acceptance Week in our school. We raised €500. We want to thank all the Parents, students and staff who participated and donated

- It was an emotional farewell to some of the students in our class as they embark on their new venture to secondary school. As the school year comes to a close, we want to take a moment to congratulate each and every one of you on reaching this significant milestone in your lives. Graduation is a time for celebration, reflection, and looking towards the future with excitement and anticipation. Throughout your time here, we have watched you grow and flourish into the incredible individuals you are today. Your dedication, hard work, and perseverance have not gone unnoticed, and we are so proud of all that you have accomplished during your time at LETS. As you prepare to embark on the next chapter of your lives, remember to hold onto the memories and friendships you have made here. Cherish the lessons you have learned, both inside and outside the classroom, and carry them with you as you step into the world beyond these walls. Congratulations, Class of 2024 - go forth and continue to shine brightly!

Sixth Class: Maggie, Laura & Noreen

- We are thrilled to congratulate the 6th class on their incredibly successful end of the year. Their dedication to our school community has been truly inspiring, exemplified by their leadership in running junior and senior sports days, assisting in classrooms, and moving around the school safely and respectfully. Their actions demonstrated what it means to be responsible, creative, and kind individuals, showcasing attributes of well-rounded and balanced human beings
- The effort and practice they put into graduation preparation were exemplary, shining through the quality of their performances, speeches, snacks, and decorations. Their creativity, thoughtfulness, and teamwork were evident in every detail. A huge congratulations to our Class of 2024! They will be missed, but have filled our school with beautiful memories. Best of luck in the future!

Lunchtime Soccer League

- The Lunchtime Soccer League was a great success this year. Our last final was on Tuesday the 18th of June, where the children's team Squeazy Lemonade FC will took on LETS Staff United in the Champions League Respect Shield Final!
- Every year Teacher James does a video of the main finals and other footage and compiles them into one video. An email was sent out about the completed video

from last season, which was 2022 to 2023, so if you would like to download the video please email James at letsprimaryjames@gmail.com .

- Thanks again to all the children that took part in the soccer league this season, thanks to all the staff at LETS who played and assisted James, and a special thanks to all the parents who encouraged their children to take part in the league. Thanks again and see you all next season! Teacher James

School Choir

- The choir had a great year this year and it is so lovely to have lots of the same children participating for the past 2 years. We really enjoyed singing together every Monday and we had a great time at our two performances during the year. Huge thank you to parents and guardians for your cooperation throughout the year
- We are already looking forward to seeing how we can develop even more next year. New members from 2nd to 6th class are always welcome. Thank you to Aisling & Miriam who were an amazing help this year with the running and administration of the choir.

Chess Club

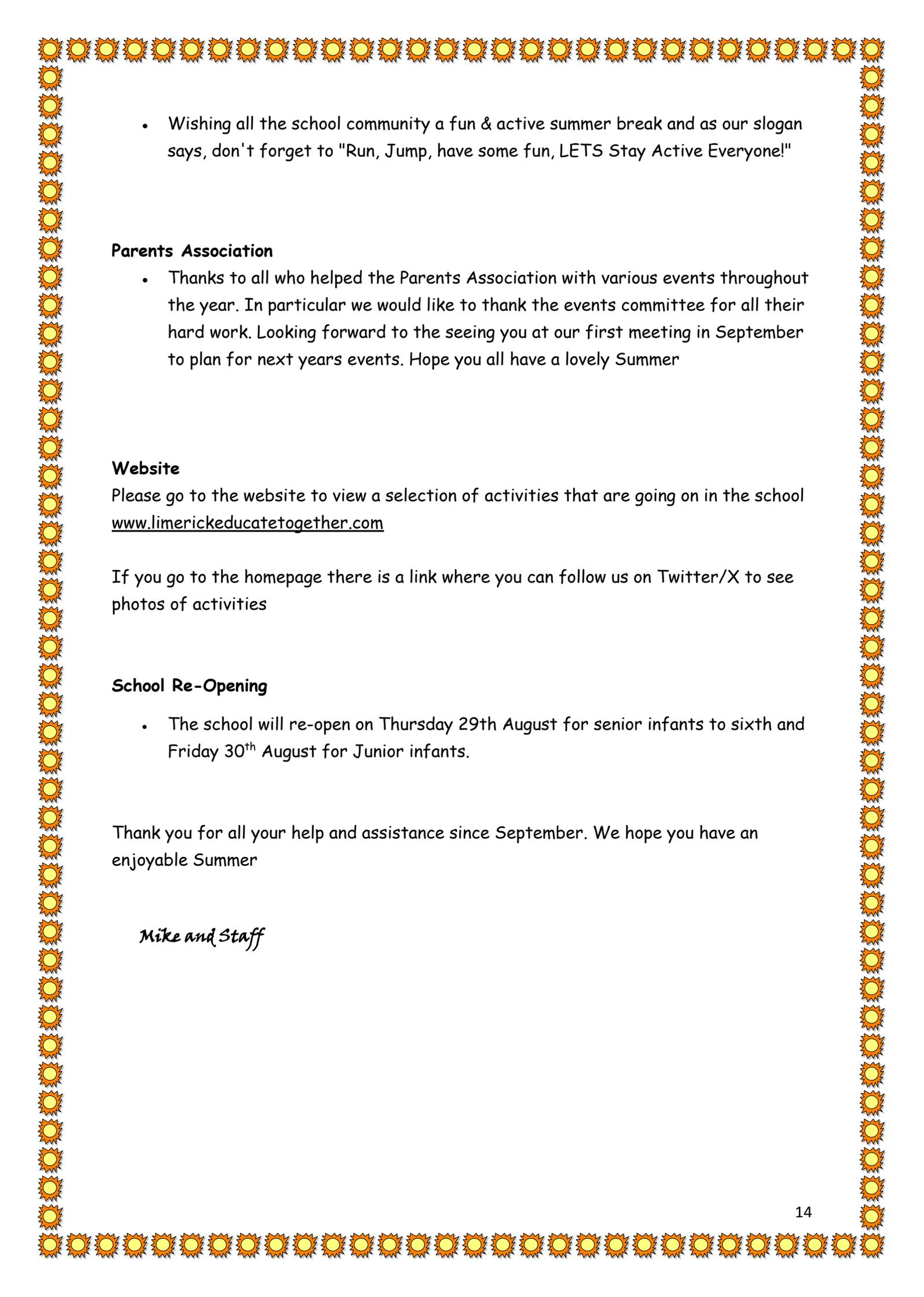
- What a remarkable year the Chess Club has had! We began by competing in the national online Ficheall tournament, followed by exciting chess blitzes around Limerick City
- Our players excelled in the Féile and Comórtas Ficheall, showcasing their impressive skills and dedication. We concluded the year with a visit to the University of Limerick to observe the setup for the European Primary School Chess Championships and, of course, our delightful pizza party (special thanks to the Board of Management).
- Huge congratulations to Devah and Lira for their participation in the European Primary School Chess Championships. They represented not only themselves and their families but also served as outstanding ambassadors for our school, city, and country
- It was a jam-packed and riveting year, and we are immensely proud of all our Chess Club members.

School Garden

- In the first and second term, we planted onions, garlic and potatoes and set strawberry runners into pots which we then sold at our plant sale in June. Downstairs classes planted herbs and flower seeds after Easter and these were also sold at our plant sale. This sale raised approx 300 euro which we will spend on seeds, compost and other garden equipment for next year.
- In our orchard, our apple trees were pruned this year and we are expecting a bumper harvest
- We hope the children who got to bring home garlic and onions before the holidays enjoyed trying them
- Any parents who are gardening-inclined would be very welcome to help us mind our garden in September - just indicate this on the volunteer form or let Deirdre know.

Active Flag

- You may have noticed the new flag flying outside of our school. This is the Active School Flag and it is awarded to schools who commit to high standards in Physical Education, physical activity and school sport
- If you want to find out more about this initiative go to <https://activeschoolflag.ie/>
- As part of the initiative we have an annual active school week in June each year. This gives us an opportunity to celebrate physical activity and allows the children to sample a wide variety of activities. The activities this year included:
 - Dance
 - Taekwondo
 - Badminton
 - Tennis
 - Gymnastics
 - hockey
 - Yoga
 - Sports days
 - orienteering
- Thanks to our sixth classes who ran two very successful sports days
- Thanks to all the staff and parents who volunteered to help with activities during the week

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- Wishing all the school community a fun & active summer break and as our slogan says, don't forget to "Run, Jump, have some fun, LETS Stay Active Everyone!"

Parents Association

- Thanks to all who helped the Parents Association with various events throughout the year. In particular we would like to thank the events committee for all their hard work. Looking forward to the seeing you at our first meeting in September to plan for next years events. Hope you all have a lovely Summer

Website

Please go to the website to view a selection of activities that are going on in the school
www.limerickeducate.together.com

If you go to the homepage there is a link where you can follow us on Twitter/X to see photos of activities

School Re-Opening

- The school will re-open on Thursday 29th August for senior infants to sixth and Friday 30th August for Junior infants.

Thank you for all your help and assistance since September. We hope you have an enjoyable Summer

Mike and Staff