

Nuachtlitir Mí Belataine:

May Newsletter

Pastoral:

Congratulations to the boys and girls from Second Class who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday 20th May and to their teacher Ms. Galavan. Thanks to Fr. Andrew for all his work with the children and to the Church Sacristan, Ann Anderson. Special thanks to the parents who were involved through the year in organising the "Do this in Memory" Masses.

Where would we be without our Parents Association? Thank you so much to them and to the parents from 1st and 3rd classes especially, who took care of all the arrangements in the school, from setting up the classrooms for the different groupings to setting up the hall, -not to mention the magnificent array of food. They even had a special poster printed for their noticeboard! Thanks to our own Ms. Gibson for her wonderful artwork on the noticeboards in the hall and to the class teacher Ms. Galavan.

Heartfelt thanks to one and all.

New Parents:

On Monday 15th May the parents of the incoming infants had their induction meeting. We will be having quite a few new families and I know you will welcome them all and assist them in becoming involved in the daily life of the school. Indeed we encourage everyone to become involved with our school.

New Primary Language Curriculum:

The teachers went on an inservice day on Mon. 22nd May for the new Primary Language curriculum. The area being covered initially is Oral Language up to 2nd class.

Standardised Tests:

The standardised tests have been administered this month so it has been a very busy time.

Trips and Tours:

This is the Season for trips and tours.

6th class went to Baltinglass

4th and 5th went to Let's Go at UCD

Junior Entrepreneur Award:

Ms Donnelly's class went to Tayto Park as a result of their participation in the Junior Entrepreneur programme. They all had a great day. Look out for our new flag and plaque in recognition of this!

Great News:

We have again received our Stem of Excellence award for Science and Maths. Thank you to all the teachers for their work on this and to Mrs. Gannon for collating the work and submitting it on our behalf.

More Good News:

Summer works will be taking place and our heating system will be upgraded during the holidays. This will be a major work project but will enhance the comfort of our school.

Sport:

Gymnastics:

This month the children have benefitted from a session of gymnastics lessons courtesy of the School Development Fund. These have been very enjoyable for the children.

Camogie Semi Final:

Well done to the girls who played in the camogie semi-final in Chapelizod. Unfortunately it wasn't to be their day but as usual they did us proud. Thanks to Ms Gibson and Ms. Galavan for all their work with them.



Hurling League Final:

Congratulations also to the boys who played in the hurling league final, and thanks to Mr. Kenna for his work with them.

Santry Sports:

Congratulations to all the boys and girls who participated in the Santry Sports this year. **Every team reached a final!** What an achievement! Congratulations to the teams who went on to win medals. The following are the results:

U10 Girls: bronze medal

U10 Boys: bronze medal

U11 Boys: bronze medal

U12 Girls: silver medal

Well done also to Louisa Greene who won bronze in the sprint, to Dimitri Chrysostomou who came second in the long jump with a jump of 3m 60 cm and also to Rebecca Carthy who had a personal best jump of 3m 71 cms and came 4th

I wish to pay special tribute to Ms. Galavan and Ms. Dunne who have given up their lunch times over the past few weeks to train all these boys and girls and to congratulate them on a job very well done. Also thanks to Mrs. Carty for her input.

Staffing:

As in all schools at this time of year we are preparing to recruit new staff to accommodate changes taking place. There will be a number of changes this year due to maternity leaves, retirement, career breaks and job share arrangements.

We will be very sorry to see Mr. Kenna retire after a long and very distinguished career. We wish him well in his retirement.

We wish Ms. O Doherty and Ms. Lyster well on their maternity leaves and also good wishes to Ms. Galavan and Mrs. Gannon who will be leaving us for the year and to Ms. Mulvihill will move on to pastures new. As a result of these changes class allocations will be made as early as possible during the Summer holidays when these appointments have been made, and will be notified to you.

We have an outstanding group of teachers in Our Lady of the Wayside N.S. who are extremely committed to the children and to raising the quality of education, and we will be recruiting replacements of the same calibre over the Summer for our team. It's great to welcome new staff with fresh ideas and approaches and we look forward to another great year.

Parking:

Again we ask you to be considerate when parking. Please do not block entrances to homes or driveways or access to the bus stop.

Walk a Mile in the Martin's Shoes

We ran a fundraising event to support the Martin Family's charity. For the event, children and staff wore fun and wacky shoes and hair to school. Every class walked a mile around the school grounds too. The confirmation classes also made donations to the charity from their confirmation gifts. We raised a staggering total of **€1856.33**. The communion class will also be making a donation to the charity later this month. Thank you very much for your generous support.

By Rebecca, Gretta, Chloe and Katie 4th class



Sports Day:

Our annual Sports Day is scheduled for Wednesday 14th June, weather permitting. You are all very welcome to attend.

Le gach dea-mhéin,

Brenda Carson.