

SCOIL NAOMH BARRA NEWSLETTER

19TH JUNE 2018 JAMES MINNOCK (PRINCIPAL) JACQUELINE MCCARTHY (DEPUTY PRINCIPAL)



School closes on Friday 22nd June at 12 noon for our summer holidays and will re-open on Wednesday 29th August.

Ba mhaith linn ár mbuíochas a ghabháil libh as an tacaíocht i rith an scoilbhliana.

Thanks to all the children, teachers and parents for all their hard work over the past school year. We hope everyone has a happy and safe summer holiday.

Class allocation for 2018/2019

Junior & Senior Infants – Annmarie Smith

Junior & Senior Infants – Shauna Daly

1st Class – Elaine O'Donoghue

2nd Class – Eileen Farrelly

3rd Class – Jennifer Duffy & Caoimhe Gartlan

4th/5th Class – Rachel Owens

5th/6th Class – Róisín McCabe

SET– Jacqueline McCarthy & Úna Finn

Sport

Active Week: Active Week took place from Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June. A variety of activities including tennis, Gaelic games, zumba and The Brickx Club were enjoyed throughout the school. Many thanks to Kathryn Leonard for her continued support during this week.

Cycling/Walk: A 10K organized cycle took place for children from 4th, 5th & 6th classes on Thursday 31st May. All of the children involved had completed the 6 week Cycling Safety Programme. Children from 1st- 3rd took part in a walk of the same route. Many thanks to all the teachers, parents, stewards, the Garda Mounted Unit and of course the children themselves who helped to make this a thoroughly enjoyable and unique event for our school.

Sports Day was held on Friday 1st June and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

School Tours: Active School Tours were enjoyed in recent weeks by all class groupings.

Be Active ASAP: The Be Active After School Activity Programme was a weekly event held in May and was enjoyed by 1st & 2nd class children. Particular thanks to Ms Daly and the voluntary group of parents, namely Lorraine Breslin, Sharon Lynch, Nives Caplice, Sandra Dodson, Michelle Connolly, Abby Power, Eimear Smith-Doughty, Bernie Callaghan, Deirdre Donohoe, Aoife Sheridan & Dorothy McKeever for making this all possible.

Gaelic Training: Children from 1st – 5th class participated in Gaelic training with Pauraic Burke from Meath GAA/ Wolfe Tones every Tuesday. **Festival of Football** took place on Monday 18th June with Oristown and Gibstown schools to round off their Gaelic training sessions.

Soccer: The boys' and girls' soccer teams played in the finals. Our girls' team achieved 2nd place in Meath. Well done to all the children who participated.

Claremont Athletics: A selection of pupils took part in the Meath Primary Schools Track & Field Finals in Claremont Stadium on 12th of June. Well done to Anna Farrell, Emma McKeever, Paddy Bellew, Scott Corrigan and Fiachra Lynch who won medals in their respective groups.

Cumann na mBunscol: Well done to our boys GAA team who are the Division 3 champions of 2018! Many thanks to all our sponsors who provided the team with a meal, polo shirts and personalised zip tops: Michael Kearney Medical Furniture, DMK Electrical, Alan Fox Plumbing, Lilyphils Foods, Jimmy's Dry Cleaning, Joe Matthews Landscaping, Wolfe Tones, Jimmy & Bernie Shankey, The Parents' Association, The Board of Management & James Minnock.

School Environment

We have been awarded our 4th **Green Flag**. The theme of this flag is Travel. We were presented with our flag in a ceremony in Gormanstown on the 17th of May.

We were awarded with level 2 in the **Pride of Place** for Schools competition. Well done to Ms O'Donoghue, our caretaker Ossie and all the children and parents involved with these initiatives.

Special Events

Sacramental Occasions: Congratulations to all the children of 2nd Class who celebrated their First Holy Communion on Sunday 29th April and the children of 6th who celebrated their Confirmation on Friday 9th February. Thanks to all involved in making both occasions so memorable.

Junior Infant Induction: The new Junior Infant class for September came to visit the school on Friday 8th June. We look forward to the children joining our school community.

Graduation Mass: Graduation Mass for 6th class will be held in St Catherine's Church, Oristown on June 20th at 7pm. Afterwards there will be refreshments and individual presentations will be made to each child in the school hall. We would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of them the very best of luck as they embark on this new phase in their young lives.

Seán Boylan visited our school on Sports Day, which was held on Friday 1st June. He presented the Boys' team with their Cumann na mBunscol medals and raised our new Green Flag. He also spoke to the children about the importance of being active.

Zookeeper Gerry Crane paid a visit to our school and gave a talk to all the children about the elephants and their habitat in Dublin Zoo. Thank you to Ryan McQuaid for making this happen.

Wolfe Tones GAA team visited our school on Tuesday 5th June. They spoke to the children about their victory against An Cheathrú Rua of Galway in the Cómortas Peile na Gaeltachta SF final.

Ice-cream Fundraising Party: An ice-cream party will be held on Wednesday June 20th for all classes in the school. All proceeds from this fundraiser will go to Downs Syndrome Ireland. Many thanks to everyone who helped support this event.

Teddy Bear's Picnic: Junior & Senior Infants will have their Teddy Bear's Picnic on 20th June.

Curriculum Links

Eason Spelling Bee: Well done to Scott Corrigan from 6th class who achieved joint 2nd place in the finals of the Eason Spelling Bee on Monday 23rd April.

Fís Film Project: 6th class completed a film using our new iPads. J.P. Owens from 5th class also helped with the production. Their short film is called 'The Gaol' and will be entered into the Fís Filming Project competition this month.

Central Bank Coin Competition: Congratulations to Charlie Olwill, who achieved 2nd place in the Central Bank's national art competition. Charlie attended a special awards event on 22nd May 2018 at the Central Bank's headquarters in Dublin.

Heritage in Schools Scheme: Goska Wilkowska visited our school to teach the children about biodiversity in our school environment. Children from 1st to 4th class searched for mini-beasts around the school, while children from 5th and 6th class explored the nearby railway track.

Discover Science & Maths Award: We received the Science Foundation Ireland Discover Science & Maths Plaque of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) Excellence for 2017/18. Work carried out by the whole school included hands on investigations, designing and making, using ICT, maths trails, workshops and a Science showcase. Well done to Ms Farrelly in particular for leading this initiative.

Performance: 5th class performed their play 'Snow White and the Seven Twerps' today. It was a wonderful performance and was enjoyed by all classes and by the parents of 5th class children.

Reminders

Reports: Your child's report can be accessed through the Aladdin app. If you do not have access to this app please come to the office on/before Friday 22nd June to receive a copy.

School Contribution: Parents can pay the school contribution of €40 using the Aladdin app from Wednesday the 20th June until September 30th. This contribution can be paid in instalments or as a once-off payment.

Book Scheme: The school will be open in August for the collection of school books. Please note that payments will not be accepted on the collection dates. A notification will be sent out via Aladdin with further details closer to the time. Please label your child's books clearly before returning to school.

School Development

Extension: The extension for our new classroom and special education room is due to commence in the coming weeks and all going well, it will be ready for October.

New Books: This Summer, the Parents' Association will be spending over €7,000 euros on new Irish books (3rd-6th class), new Starlight English books (Juniors-2nd class), Religion books (5th and 6th) and graded readers. These are separate from the school booklists and will be funded from book rental money which parents have paid over the last few years.

Once again we wish all our pupils and parents a safe and enjoyable holiday.