

SCOIL NAOMH BARRA NEWSLETTER

28TH JUNE 2023



School closes on Wednesday 28th June for our Summer Holidays and will re-open on Thursday 31st August.

We hope everyone has a happy and safe summer holiday.

Principal	James Minnock	Deputy Principal	Jacqueline McCarthy
Class allocation for 2023/2024			
Junior Infants:	Mandy Dowd	4 th Class (b):	Christopher Sheridan
Senior Infants:	To Be Appointed	5 th Class:	Jennifer Duffy/Eileen Farrelly
1 st Class:	Una Finn	6 th Class:	Julianna Martyn
2 nd Class:	Jack Harte	Junior ASD Class:	Kerri Brosnan
3 rd Class:	Shauna Daly	Senior ASD Class:	John Rehill
4 th Class (a):	Ann-Marie Smith		
SET/Learning Support:	Jacqueline McCarthy, Róisín McCabe, Gormlaith Maynes		

Ms. McGivern and Ms Gartlan:

We would like to offer two fond farewells to Ms. McGivern and Ms. Gartlan. They have been brilliant teachers and colleagues and we wish them both the very best for the future.

Twenty Years in the School

Congratulations to our colleague Margaret Dunne who recently reached the landmark of twenty years working in Scoil Naomh Barra. A presentation was made to Margaret on 29th May in recognition of this achievement.

Condolences:

All of us in Scoil Naomh Barra wish to express our deepest condolences to the McAteer family on the untimely passing of David last week in a farm accident. In particular, we think of David's wife Zoe, daughter Alannah (Junior Infants), sons Dáithí (Senior Infants) and Tadhg as well as all his extended family and friends. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

Building Work:

The building work for the new school extension (see picture) remains on track and all going well, the new classrooms will be ready for the start of the next school year. It is expected that external works will conclude in September/October.



Reminders:

Instagram/Twitter Accounts: We opened school Instagram/Twitter accounts this year and are sharing regular updated photos of the new building project, tours of our school, events, etc. If you would like to follow our accounts, you can search for:

"Scoil Naomh Barra"

or click on <https://instagram.com/scoilnaomhbarra?igshid=ZDdkNTZiNTM=>

https://twitter.com/wilkinstownns?s=11&t=b34mkejZmu_KtLBDHKK5eQ

Reminders (Continued):

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 30th June to receive a copy.

Book Scheme: Collection dates for books will be confirmed by the Parents Association at a later date. A notification will be sent out on Aladdin with further details.

Special Events/Trips

Graduation took place on Tuesday evening last. There were refreshments and individual presentations 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 the next phase in their young lives. Thanks to the Parents Association for organising the event.

First Holy Communion took place on 14th May in St. John the Baptist Church, Kilberry. The Parents Association organised refreshments for families in the school hall afterwards. Congratulations to all the children who received the sacrament.

Induction: Parents of new students attended induction on Wednesday 31st May. We look forward to September when we can welcome all these children into our school community.

School Tours: Kells Play Centre (Mr. Rehill's Class/Ms Brosnan's Class), Newgrange Farm (Junior Infants), Let's Go Kids Camp (Senior Infants to 2nd Class), Croke Park (3rd Class) and Go Quest Adventure Centre (4th and 5th Classes) were the venues visited. Carlingford Adventure Centre was the location for the 6th class's tour which involved an overnight stay.

Third Class in Croke Park



Newgrange Farm



Let's Go Kids Camp



Magic Show: Thanks to the donations received from non-uniform days, we were able to provide the children with an end of year treat in the form of a magic show. Joe the Magician (star of "AbraKIDabra" on RTE Junior) visited the school on Tuesday 6th June and treated all the students to some great entertainment. We are grateful to the Parents Association for organising Joe's visit.

Active Schools

Camogie: Thanks to Lorna McKenna for training students in 3rd-6th class over the course of the last term. The girls took part in the Meath Camogie Developing School Shield. This was the school's first time ever competing in a camogie competition.

Rugby: Thanks to our coach Jack from Navan RFC for facilitating some coaching sessions during this past term.

Rounders/Basketball/GAA Blitz: Well done to the students who represented the school in the primary school rounders and basketball competitions as well as the Meath schools GAA blitz in Simonstown.

Active Week: Our annual Active Week took place from 19th- 23rd of June. Thanks to those who helped out over the course of the week. Thankfully, the weather was good throughout. The children participated in a number of activities including novelty races, cycling, tennis, badminton and Zumba.

Active Week 2023 – Cycle/Walk along the Greenway



Active Week 2023 – Tug of War in the Amenity Park



Athletics: Our athletes visited Claremont Stadium in Navan on Thursday the 15th June to compete in the Meath Primary Athletics Competition. Well done to all the children involved especially Jack Matthews who came second in the Boys (Under 12) 800 metre race and Katherine McKenna who came third in the Girls Under 12 Long Jump competition.

Jack Matthews



Katherine McKenna



Soccer: During the months of May and June, students from 5th and 6th class participated in Scoil Naomh Barra's World Cup competition with the Qatar team coming out on top in the final this past week.

Summer Camp: The school will be hosting a summer camp from 3rd until 6th July. For more information, see Aladdin

New School Journal

There were some great entries in our 2023-2024 School Journal Design Competition. Sadly, we could only pick two. Thank-you to Rian Gibney (front cover) and Lottie Olwill (back cover) for providing us with two brilliant designs. Both (along with the winners from each class) will be presented with prizes by Mr. Minnock in September.

Creative Schools/Creative Clusters

The school celebrated Creative Week (8th-12th May) although it could definitely be said that the school was a creative hub well beyond that one week. Well done to the sixth class students who worked with their contemporaries in two other schools to record a version of the Harry Styles song "Treat People with Kindness" ahead of his concert in Slane. Second class were also busy participating in a number of drama workshops with local actress Ciara Cassoni.

"Oliver! Jr"

The school's production of "Oliver! Jr" (13th/14th June) in the Solstice Theatre was a massive success. A lot of time and effort went into preparing the children for the shows. Between sponsors, staff and parents, there are too many people to thank for making it all possible. We're sure it's something that the children will remember fondly in the years to come.

The Cast of Oliver



Extra-Curricular Activities

French Lessons: During this past term, 3rd to 6th class received French lessons every Monday for 8 weeks. The children enjoyed speaking a new language and thanks to Claire Camazon for all her work.

Autism Awareness: Artwork from our students was on display in the Community Centre during the World Autism Acceptance Day fundraiser on 2nd April. On foot of this, a generous donation was made to the school's ASD classes. We are grateful to the community for their continuing support and especially Shirley O'Neill for all her hard work in organising the event/donation. During the month of April, all classes participated in activities designed to promote acceptance and understanding of neurodiversity.

Curriculum Links

Primary Language Staff Training: our PDST advisor Suzie Manton returned to the school in May to further explore CLIL (teaching another curriculum subject through Gaeilge) with the staff.

Parent's Association:

Fundraisers: The Parents Association held a quiz night on Friday 21st April in The Kilberry Pub & Kitchen. On Tuesday 2nd May, the Community Centre hosted a "Cash for Clothes" collection. Thanks to everyone who helped organise those events and to all in the Parents Association for their hard work throughout the year.

***We would like to wish all of our school community
and their families a very enjoyable summer.***