

SCOIL NAOMH BARRA NEWSLETTER

25TH JUNE 2021



School closes on Friday 25th June for our Summer Holidays and will re-open on Friday 27th August

Thanks to all the children, teachers and parents for all their cooperation with the school's Covid-19 procedures/protocols during the past school year.

We hope everyone has a happy and safe summer holiday.

Class allocation for 2021/2022

Junior Infants:	Mandy Dowd	4 th Class:	Ann Marie Smith
Senior Infants:	Róisín McCabe	5 th Class:	Shauna Daly
1 st Class:	Una Finn	6 th Class:	To Be Confirmed
2 nd Class:	Eileen Farrelly	Special Class 1:	John Rehill
3 rd Class:	Christopher Sheridan	Special Class 2:	Kerri Brosnan

SET/Learning Support: Jacqueline McCarthy, Jennifer Duffy and Caoimhe Gartlan

Special Events/Trips

Confirmation and Graduation: Best wishes to all the children of 6th class who will celebrate their Confirmation on 13th July. We would also like to congratulate our 2nd class students who made their First Confession on Thursday 10th June in St. Catherine's Church Oristown in preparation for their celebration of First Holy Communion in September.

Induction: Parents of new students attended a Zoom induction on Wednesday 9th June. We look forward to September when we can welcome all these children into our school community.

A Zoom Graduation Mass for 6th class took place in the school on June 16th. Afterwards 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 this new phase in their young lives.

School Tours: It was nice to take a step closer to normality with the return of our annual school tours. The Crystal Maze (Ms. Smith's/Ms. Dowd's Infant Classes), Navan Adventure Centre (1st to 5th Class), Lobinstown playground (Mr. Rehill's Class) and Carlingford Adventure Centre (Ms. Farrelly's 6th Class) were the venues visited.

Active Schools

Active Schools: Active Week took place from 14th- 18th of June. A variety of activities including tennis, GAA, gymnastics and dance were enjoyed throughout the school. The week culminated with the raising our Active Flag by our special guest, former Meath All-Ireland winner Tommy Dowd. Following the ceremony, we were delighted that Tommy was able to take the children of 5th/6th Class for a training session. To take a look at some of the action, please click on this link within the next five days and enter the password; (Vimeo link: <https://vimeo.com/566337973> Password: active)

Whole School Fun Event: An organised cycle took place for children from 4th, 5th and 6th classes on Thursday 17th June. Children from Junior Infants – 3rd Class took part in a 2Km walk. Many thanks to all the teachers, parents, stewards, The Garda Mounted Unit, The Civil Defence and of course the children themselves who helped make this a thoroughly enjoyable event.

GAA Training: Unfortunately, we had to bid a fond farewell to Pauric Burke who has done an excellent job coaching the children over the past few years. We wish Pauric all the best in his future endeavours. Our new coach, Diarmuid Byrne has been working with the children in recent weeks and we would like to extend to him a warm welcome.

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Events/Activities

School Mural: As part of the Creative Schools initiative, all classes in the school started work on our special mural project under the guidance of artist Christien van Bussel. We hope to have the mural erected in the Junior Yard in time for the school's birthday celebrations during the new school year. A special thanks to our creative consultant Aoibheann McCaul for all her hard work and support in organising a number of creative experiences for the children over the past two years.

Flash Mob Dance: On Thursday 17th June, the TV cameras of RTE's "News2day" programme were on hand to capture a flash mob dance performance involving all classes in the school. We are particularly thankful to Áine Farrelly for all her help in terms of preparing the children for their performances.

ESB Science Blast: Third Class recently took part in ESB Science Blast 2021. The aim of their project was to discover the most absorbent paper towel brand, comparing three major retailers, namely, Aldi, Supervalu and Tesco. The children got very positive feedback from their judge via Zoom and were presented with an ESB Science Blast trophy. Well done to Mr. Lynch and everyone in 3rd Class who worked exceptionally hard as a team to put the project together!

Special Thanks: We are very grateful to Ms. Rogers for all the hard work she has put into recording and editing various videos for the school. We are also thankful to Barry Cronin and the Meath Chronicle for their photography during the year.

New School Journal

There were some great entries in our 2021 School Journal Design Competition. Unfortunately, we could only pick two. Thank-you to Lily Ryan (4th Class) for providing us with a brilliant front cover and Cara Breslin (5th Class) for her wonderfully designed back cover. All class winners were presented with prizes by Mr. Minnock.

New Facilities

School Development: Phase 3 of our building project will hopefully commence in September. This will include three mainstream classrooms, a classroom for children with autism and a multi-purpose room that may be used for small assemblies and cooking demonstrations.

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 25th June to receive a copy.

School Contribution: Parents can pay the school contribution of €50 using the Aladdin app from Friday 25th June until Thursday September 30th. This contribution can be paid in instalments or as a once-off payment.

Book Scheme: If you would like to avail of the book scheme, please pay by Friday 6th of August. 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.

Parents Association

Sensory Garden/Playground: Well done to everyone who contributed to the "Walk in April" fundraising efforts for our playground/sensory garden. Together with other donations, the overall total raised was a magnificent €11,187. As a result, we have been able to add new balance beams and a trampoline to this area.

Photos: The Parents Association are hoping to put together a book to celebrate 50 years of Scoil Naomh Barra. If you have any pictures from that time period and would like to contribute them to the book, please make contact at scoilnaomhbarrapa@gmail.com

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