

ST. COLMCILLE'S N.S.



St. Colmcille's National School,

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June 2017 Newsletter

Board of Management: We would like to welcome Mr. Denis Rohan as the new Chairman of our Board of Management. We would like to extend our Thanks to Mrs. Constance Hanniffy who served as Chairperson for the last 2 Years. We would like to thank Connie for her time, energy and commitment to our school.

Parent Nominees: Following a recent meeting of the Board of Management it was agreed that the elections to replace the Parent Nominees will take place in September at the start of the new school year.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Giselle Foley & Mr. Tommy Parker for their contribution and work over the last two years with the Board of Management. In September we will circulate a list of Parents who are eligible to become Parent Nominees. If you do not wish your name to be included on this list, please inform the school Principal.

James O'Brien Memorial Tractor Run: We would like to take this opportunity to thank most sincerely the organisers of the James O'Brien Memorial Tractor Run for their kindness & generosity in donating a cheque of €3600 to the school. It is hoped to complete the renovation of the school courtyard with the money & make it a place of fun & learning for the children. James was a great friend of the school, who was always available to help out in any way he could. We hope this project will be a reminder to all who see it & to the children who use it, of the fun & laughter that James brought to us all.

First Holy Communion: Congratulations to the children from St. Colmcille's N.S. & Rashina N.S. who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday 27th May in Ballinahorn Church. Congratulations to Ellen, Killian, Liane, Sophie and Tadhg. Please keep them in your thoughts & prayers at this special time.

DPSM Award: Congratulations are due again to all staff & children in the school who have been awarded the 'Discover Primary Science & Maths' Award for 2016 / 2017 school year. This award acknowledges the work throughout the school being done in the area of Science & Maths. It also acknowledges work carried out using ICT & Engineering. As part of the Award this year we are also receiving a Digital Badge which we can pin on our school website. This award has been co - ordinated by Mrs. Daly.



Summer Works Scheme: We have been fortunate to be selected as recipient for a Grant in the 2017 Summer Works Scheme funded by the Department of Education & Skills. This work will see a refurbishment of the Boiler & associated works, which we hope will lead to savings & a more efficient system of heating for the school.

Outdoor Classroom: The paths have been finished in our 'Outdoor Classroom' now and we would like to extend very big 'Thank you' to Tommy Parker, Helen Conneely & the Development Committee for their work in creating the pathway around the carved trees. The children have compiled a log pile for 'Mini Beasts' & a 'Bug Mansion'. This outdoor area is between ourselves & the Sports Park & will be conserved as a 'wildlife' area for the children. It is also where the tree sculptures are located. We would like to add other features to this area & are currently looking at ideas to further enhance it as a learning environment.

Music evening: The current year's work is drawing to a close & we hope to have another evening of Music & song similar to last year. This will take place on Wednesday 21st June in the GP Room at 6.30 p.m. The evening will start with a Prayer Service which will be held instead of the End of Year Mass. All Parents, family & friends are invited to attend & enjoy the work of the children.

Presentation: We hope to make a presentation to Mrs. Mary Boland who retired as school cleaner at Christmas. Mary has worked for almost 18 years in the school & we would like to acknowledge & thank Mary for her contribution to the school over this time.

Art: The 3rd to 6th Classes have been involved in an Art project for the last few weeks with local Artist Ms Rosemary Langtry. Rosemary & the children have been designing & constructing an outdoor Art installation which will be available to view by Parents on Music evening. We would like to thank Rosemary for her interest, enthusiasm & time in sharing her Art with the children.

Library Books: Nationalbooktokens.com are currently running a competition to win €5000 worth of books for your school library. You can access the link to nominate our school by going to www.caboodle.nationalbooktokens.com/caboodle-competitions to nominate St. Colmcille's N.S., Ballinahown. This would be a very welcome prize to win if we were lucky enough. Please encourage your friends, family etc. to support the effort.

Also if you have school books or coloring books etc. that are in good condition we would also appreciate donations of these as well. These books are being collected by a Parent who has a contact working with Goal in Africa. All old school workbooks/ coloring books etc. can be left into the school.

Uniforms: We would appeal to Parents to make sure that all items of uniform have a name on them. Some children are missing jumpers which may have made their way home with your child & we would ask you to check the labels for names. Also there are some unclaimed jumpers in the school at the moment so if you're missing a jumper please have a look at what we have.

Clothes Collection: Thank you to all the parents & members of the community who have donated clothes for the clothes collection. We hope to have a final pick up on Monday 19th June, so if you have clothes that you want to get rid of or you are doing a clear out, then bags can be left in the school before Friday 16th.

Tours: The 1st, 2nd & 3rd School tour is on Friday 23rd June. The Infant Tour will be to visit the Village, the Church Garden, the Butterfly Garden & finishing with a 'Teddy Bear's Picnic' in the Playground. This event will take place on the last week of school when hopefully the weather will be dry. Parents will receive a Text to confirm the date closer to the actual day.

Sports Day:

We hope to have Sports Day on Monday 19th June, weather permitting. If that is wet we postpone to another day that week. Please ensure that children bring plenty of drinks on the day to stay hydrated & if it is very sunny please ensure they have suitable light clothing & sun screen.

Family Picnic: The Parents Association hope to have a Family Picnic & Fun Day on Sunday 18th June. It is envisaged that each Family would bring their own picnic & have a get together in the school grounds. This is weather dependant as well & details will follow later.

6th Class: We would like to wish the 6th Class who will be leaving us all the very best in the coming years in Secondary school. Good luck to Brian, Donnahay, Emma, Kate, Labhaoise & Sean.

Dates for your Diary:

Family Fun Day Picnic: Sunday 18th June
Sports Day: Monday 19th June
Clothes Collection: Monday 19th June
Music Evening: Wednesday 21st June @ 6.30 p.m.
1st, 2nd, 3rd class Tour: Friday 23rd June
School Closes: Tuesday 27th June @12 noon
School re-opens: Thursday 31st August

Is mise le meas,

Mary Daly, Príomh Oide

School re-opens on Thursday 31st August 2017