



Scoil Muire Bannrion



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A Message From Our Principal

Welcome to the summer edition of our newsletter. It is the end of an historic and exciting year for our school. Our Junior Infants including the first girls to be enrolled in our school have completed their first year in our school. As we draw to the end of a very busy school year we would like to thank all the pupils and parents for making it such a fantastic year. We would also like to thank our wonderful Parents Association and Board of Management for their hard work. To each and every one of our sixth class, we wish you all the very best and every success as you move on to secondary school and we hope you look back on your time here with fond memories! The end of the year is also tinged with sadness as we say goodbye to our loyal staff members Doreen Nolan and Bridget Tyrrell. We will miss them very much but I would like to thank them for all the enormous contributions they have made to our school and we wish them all the very best in their new found freedom. Finally I would like to wish you all a very enjoyable summer break!

Saying Goodbye

Sadly we have to say goodbye to two of our longest serving staff members this summer. Doreen Nolan is finishing work in our school after more than 20 dedicated years as a Special Needs Assistant. She has been an outstanding member of our school staff and we wish her well for the future. Our wonderful school secretary Bridget Tyrrell is retiring after 11 years service in the school. Bridget has been the first point of contact for every visitor to the school over that time. Both ladies are pillarstones of our school and the wider school community and will be greatly missed by staff and students alike.



School Renovations

Over the summer the school will be getting a facelift, the outside of the school is getting painted. We are already looking forward to getting back in September to see it!

School Reconfiguration



Our school has just completed the first year in our reconfiguration process where we welcomed Junior Infant girls and boys into our school for the first time. It was fantastic to have infants with us this year and they were treated like VIPs for the entire year! In September 2018 both our Junior and Senior Infants will be co-educational classes. We look forward to welcoming our new second class from St Mary's in September 2018 also. We will then have one final year of boys making the transfer from St Mary's Primary School to ours in September 2019.

New Caretaker

We are delighted to announce that Oliver Mangan has been appointed as our new caretaker here in school. We would like to welcome Oliver to our school staff. He will be kept busy ensuring our grounds are kept neat and tidy. He started with us this week and has already done a huge amount of work.



Offaly's Fittest Classes

All of our classes were assessed by Offaly Sports Partnership recently to assess each child's top speeds and fitness. We have just received the news that our 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th classes have all won the fittest classes in Offaly award. 41 schools were tested in total throughout County Offaly so this really is a fantastic achievement! We are the fittest school in the county!



Active Week

This year our Active Week took place from April 23rd to 27th. Every day our students enjoyed a variety of exercise based activities. We took part in swimming, boxing, GAA, fitness classes, fun obstacle relays, orienteering and many more activities designed to help keep us fit and healthy and hopefully to become aware of the benefits of regular exercise in our daily lives. During our sports marathon we were able to enjoy PE sessions in Gaelic football, tag rugby, basketball, hockey, athletics, Olympic handball, soccer and many more events.

Cumann na mBunscol

Our Cumann na mBunscol hurling team won the Hurling Final against Scoil Bhríde, Tullamore in O' Connor Park on May 17th. It was a fantastic game of hurling and our hurlers won on a scoreline of 4-3 to 2-4. Well done to Mr Ryan, Mr Murphy and all of the hurling panel who worked very hard throughout the year.



Sixth Class Hoodies

Our sixth class pupils received hoodies last week. Included on the back of the hoodies is each pupil's signature. They will be a lovely way for our 6th class to remember our school and the friends who were in their class.



John Blong League

The 5th and 6th class boys competed in the John Blong Football League this month. 6 teams and over 60 pupils battled it out to be crowned this year's champions. It turned out to be a very sporting and competitive competition this year with Cillian Tallon and Cillian Foran's teams succeeding in reaching the final. The final was a very closely contested affair but in the end it was Cillian Foran's team who were victorious. This competition has been running in our school since 1995 and has had some prestigious winners over that time. The league was played in a very sporting manner and it was fantastic to see so many participating.



Specialist Teachers

This term Jimmy O' Grady shared his skills and knowledge of football with all classes for a number of weeks once again this term. We would like to thank Jimmy along with Edenderry GAA, for sharing his knowledge and skills with us and also for the time he spent training our students. We hope to see him again next year.

Flower Planting

Our school grounds are looking in great condition again after Mr Fitzgerald along with help from some students in 6th class planted flowers around the trees on Gilroy Avenue and planted window boxes also. They have been busy keeping them watered especially during our fine weather!

Local History

As part of our local area studies each of our classes studied a particular theme relevant to our locality. Some of our classes studied the history of our school, the history of Edenderry GAA, Edenderry 100 years ago while another class visited the canal and our 6th class tried out the new heritage audioguide of the town.

Mount Lucas Windfarm

All of our classes visited the Bord na Móna Mount Lucas Wind Farm in the month of May. It was really interesting to learn how electricity is generated in a green way in our locality. We even got to use Virtual Reality headsets to see what the view would be like from the top of the turbines!

School Tours

This year all classes explored thrilling and exciting activities on their school tours. Mrs. Fox's and Miss Molloy's class headed to Fort Lucan in Dublin. There was huge excitement in the morning as the boys made their way from the school to the bus! Mr Ryan's class headed to Navan Adventure Centre on 27th June and had a brilliant time. Mr Murphy's and Mr Foran's class had a brilliant day out at Croke Park and they also did the Viking Splash Tour around Dublin City.

Finally Miss Tyrrell's and Miss Fitzsimon's classes made the trip to Carlingford where they stayed overnight and had an amazing time! They took part in laser tag and kayaking as well as team building activities!



Awards

Our Annual Awards Day will take place on Thursday 28th June. The Awards Day always proves to be an exciting day of the year and we are sure this year will be no exception. Choosing the award winners will be extremely tough as there are so many deserving students in each class whose efforts and achievements this year deserve to be acknowledged. It is important to remember that those who are successful are accepting their award on behalf of their fellow classmates who have all worked so hard this year.



Cake Sale

Our 6th class organised a cake sale to raise funds for our school. They were overwhelmed by the support they received with so many children and parents supplying beautiful and tasty home made goodies. Thanks to everyone who supported it on the day by sending in treats and by making purchases on the day.



Sports Day

On Tuesday May 29th, we held our Annual Sports Day. We were so lucky to have the sun shining for the day. Everybody had a brilliant day taking part in lots of different fun events. Most importantly we all showed a very sporting attitude and realised that the most important part of the day was the taking part and making sure fun was had! Every student has received a participation medal and those who were lucky enough to win an event received a certificate.



Ice Cream Day

As part of our Sports Day we organised an Ice-Cream Fun Day to raise funds for Down Syndrome Ireland. It was great to have so many volunteers from our Parents Association who along with Mrs Martin and Doreen helped us in organising the day. A big thank you to all the



children who donated generously. Photos of the day can be found on our school Twitter account.

SOS

As part of our 6th class preparation for Secondary School they took part in a switch over to secondary school programme which highlighted areas of importance to ease the transition for our students. This is organised by Edenderry School Completion and is hugely beneficial in preparing students to settle into school in second level.

Green Flag

We are delighted to have been awarded our 7th Green Flag for Global Citizenship and Energy. Members of our Green School Committee were invited to Athlone to receive the flag at an awards ceremony. We would like to thank all the pupils and teachers who put in such hard work to earn the flag.

Communion Class of 2018

This year our second class children received their Holy Communion on 12th May 2018. This was a very special day for the school. A great day was had by all! We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents and teachers involved in preparing the children for the 'Do this in Memory' masses which were held throughout the year!



6th Class of 2018

Congratulations to the 6th class boys who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on 14th April 2018. It was a very special, spiritual and enjoyable occasion. The graduation mass for 6th class took place on Monday 18th June. All the staff of Scoil Muire Bannrion would like to take this opportunity to wish all the 6th class boys all the best for the future. They will be missed greatly!



Summer Reading Challenge

To promote reading as a lifelong skill Offaly libraries are running a summer reading challenge to encourage students to continue reading throughout their school holidays. We would encourage all of our students to take part in this challenge. You can sign up for it in our local library.

Literacy & Numeracy Improvements

Throughout the past number of years we have been focusing on improving the literacy and numeracy standards of students in our school. We would encourage all parents to foster a love of reading in their children. Regular trips to the library and reading stories to them can really help with this. In addition to this we have been focusing on improving our writing. We have looked at different writing genres throughout the year and some children had their work published in the newsletter or posted on our writing noticeboard in school. With regard to numeracy our Mathletics accounts will continue to be live over the summer and children can continue to sharpen their mathematical skills using this.

School Year 2018-2019

Scoil Muire Banríon will reopen on 30th August for the coming school year. A full school calendar for next year is available on our school website and on our school Twitter account.

Booklists

Classes met their new teachers on Friday 22nd June. Each child received their booklist on the day. A copy of all booklists will be available to be downloaded from our school website also. We provide a book rental service for all classes and we urge all parents to avail of this as it will result in significant cost savings.

School Reports & Standardised Tests

School Reports have been sent out on the week of June 15th. If you have not received your child's school report please contact the school. The results of your child's standardised tests are also included in the school report.

Lost Property

Any coats/jumpers that have been left behind since September are going to be left in the school office. Please call to the school office to check for lost items this week.

Education Passport

Tips for parents on how you can improve and support your child's learning are available on helpmykidslearn.ie

YouTube

Our end of year video featuring a quick look back at all of our fantastic achievements over the 2017/2018 school year is available on our school YouTube channel (Edenderry BNS). We also have a video which looks back at our 6th Class time in our school.

School Website and Twitter!

Check out our fantastic website for updates on school events, pictures and news at www.edenderrybns.ie

Don't forget you can also follow us on **Twitter** for all the latest news at www.twitter.com/EdenderryBNS



All the staff of Scoil Muire Banríon are very proud of all our students for their fantastic success and achievements this year. We would like to wish all our students a safe and happy summer and we hope for continued success in 2018-2019.