

School Newsletter

The end of another very busy school year and all are ready for a summer of fun in the sun! We have been busy as usual since our last newsletter. Many thanks to our local **Fire Brigade Officers** for their visit in May. They visited Preschool Lachtaín also and the children really enjoyed the experience.

Scoil Lachtaín Naofa



Achadh Úr

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Dates to remember:

- ❖ School finishes Friday June 24th at 12.15
- ❖ School re-opens Wednesday 31st August.

DVDs of First Communion and Confirmation are still available through school or direct from Tommy Butler - €10 each.

Thanks Tommy for always keeping a record of all our key celebrations.



We are delighted to say that we have been awarded the **Discover Primary Science and Maths Award of Excellence**. Thanks to all the classes and teachers involved and especially Mrs. Bolger for co-ordinating all, plus Rang 6, led by Ms. Bergin and Anne Marie, who organised our Science Fair for all classes.

Our **school trips** proved hugely enjoyable for the children and all were blessed with good weather. I'd like to thank the staff for all their extra work, time and effort in planning and making them so enjoyable for all.

This Wednesday marked the tenth year for our essay / poetry competition for Rang 3 / 4 and Rang 5 / 6. The *Des McCheane Memorial Trophy* is awarded to **Seán Eardley** and the *Barnaville Print and Graphics Trophy* is awarded to **Kate Dalton**. Well done on all the great entries this year.

We are delighted to welcome back Ms. Meehan and Ms. Roche after the holiday. We thank Ms. Lawlor for all her great work both in class and on the football pitch this year, and we wish her all the very best for her future. We hope to see her again.

Twenty-one new Junior Infants are currently enrolled for next year. Five other children are enrolling up through the years. We enjoyed a sunny 'Open Afternoon' for them on Wed. 1st June.

Ten new children will enrol in **Preschool Lachtaín**. We welcome them all and their families to Scoil Lachtaín.

Our Garden Party for Preschool Lachtaín was held on the 17th of June. **Elise, Finn, Callum, Fionn, Aleya, Jack, Sarah, Rian, Billy and Lucas graduate this year. We will miss them greatly and wish them and their families happiness and all the very best in their new schools.**

Our **6th Class Graduation Ceremony** took place in the Courtyard on Thursday 16th June. Thanks to all for helping us make the night very special. Special medals containing our school crest were presented to the children.

Many thanks to our Parents Association for their support, and for making all occasions extra special, and to our Board of Management for all their hard work behind the scenes.

To you, our Parents and Guardians

From all of us here in the school, thank you, our parent body, for your support, your vigilance and your co-operation throughout the year. We wish you and all your families a lovely summer and a good rest.

Keep safe and well.

Summer Term 2022

Our News



Junior Infants.

Wow!! We can't believe it. We are almost finished Junior Infants! What a year it has been. We are really enjoyed our time here with Ms Harrison.

We went on a big bus to Castleview Pet Farm for our school tour. We had a great time. We got to see lots of different animals such as cows and calves, sheep, goats. We even got to feed the goats with carrots. We saw rabbits and hens. There was loads of fun in the playground. We got to ride on the go karts, play in the sand box, and even try the tricky maze. We had the best day ever.

For art we got to make pinch pots, we loved playing with the clay. It took the clay a long time to dry but when they were we painted them loads of different colours.

We were delighted when Ms Harrison told us all about Margaret and the lovely music we learn with her. It is great fun getting to ring the bells. When our lesson is over, she plays musical statues with us.

We are amazed at how fast the year has gone by. Time flies when having fun.

Senior Infants. The end of the school year is almost here, and we cannot believe how quickly it has come. We have been so busy in Senior Infants that the time has really flown by.

We have been learning about the campsite and have enjoyed building log cabins from wooden blocks, writing postcards, and reading books in our classroom tents. We have also been learning about siopadóireacht agus an trá and measuring the length of different objects in the classroom. We studied minibeasts and also learned about the importance of exercising and eating healthy foods. We have also been busy making sunflower and bumblebee art!

We have had a brilliant time doing music lessons with Margaret. We have learned new songs and we know how to make music using bells. We are really enjoying the nice weather and have been playing lots of games as part of active week.

For our school tour we went to Castleview Pet farm in Cullohill. We saw so many animals there such as goats, owls, peacocks, foxes and cows. We also got to play, and drive go karts which was lots of fun. We were all very tired on the bus home! Some of us have already been on holiday and we are all looking forward to the summer holidays. It is going to be a big jump from infants to 1st class, but we have all been working very hard and we are ready for the challenge.

Thank you to everyone for all your help this year and we hope you have a wonderful summer!

Rang 4 *Mr. Flood*

And just like that another year nearly over. Our last term has been our busiest yet! We were lucky enough to have Ms.Rafter for the start of the term and we were all sorry to see her go. We covered lots of interesting things in SESE and people seemed to have a particular interest in Amelia Earhart and her achievements.

We completed our own kites from fabric in art and have made our own clay hurls and pots as mementos from the year. With our tests done we are now enjoying active week and our steps are through the roof with all the different activities going on!! We are also lucky to have Noel Devlin visiting us on Friday mornings for rugby coaching which the children really enjoy; maybe the next Johny Sexton could be coming from Freshford!

We had a super time on our school tour in Wexford. Susan our tour guide in Ferrycarrig Heritage Centre was excellent and passed on a great deal of knowledge to all the children. The afternoon in the IOAC was great fun; the children really enjoyed all the obstacle courses and the archery. Oisín, in particular, took to the archery like a duck to water and was like Robin Hood when the battle part of the activity took place!!

Music Generation were with us on Friday for a drumming session which was greatly enjoyed by everybody. Outside school we have lots of people involved in different activities with Eve O'Sullivan recently singing some Abba songs in the Watergate, a star in the making! We have lots of people heading on holidays with Spain, France, Italy and Belfast being some of the destinations people have to look forward to!! Mei Lan will be the flower girl for her aunties wedding this summer while Lola is getting a dog for the summer. It's been a busy and enjoyable year in Rang 3 / 4 and I think all the children are now looking forward to a well-earned break...

Rang 2/3

Happy holidays from Rang a 2/3! We have been busy since our last newsletter. We have been working very well in Maths, where we have learned about Spatial Awareness, Capacity, Money, Multiplication, Division, Decimals, Weight, Word Problems and Chance, among others.

We have also enjoyed engaging in various art items including Clay and Fabric and Construction.

More recently we have been learning about historical topics like the Milkman and hospital life years ago. We have considered idea of milk in glass bottles and how this would benefit the environment. Some of us have enjoyed interviewing our older relatives re. same.

We have incorporated Wellness Wednesday into our morning routine, where we have been practising gentle exercise, breathing and mindful techniques to great results.

Our cursive writing is really starting to impress, especially in our Narrative and Free Writing activities. I would encourage same at home.

In other news, both classes had a ball at their school tours in recent weeks as well as participating in various classes here in school including 6 weeks of rugby training, weekly music with Margaret and drumming workshops, as well as Friendship Café and Card games for Friendship week. We also recently enjoyed a summer service for the Month of Mary kindly hosted by Ms Doyle.

Finally, a massive congratulations to Rang a Dó who recently completed the Blessed Holy Communion programme in class and received their First Confession and First Holy Communion.

Many thanks to all who have organised their child for school this year, and have a very happy and safe holiday!

Class Allocations 2022/23

❖ Junior Infants	Ms. Harrison (Assistant Principal 2)
❖ Senior Infants	Mr. McGuire
❖ Rang 1 / 2	Mr. Shortall
❖ Rang 2	Ms. Furney
❖ Rang 2 / 3	Ms. Murphy (Assistant Principal 2)
❖ Rang 4	Mr. Flood
❖ Rang 5	Ms. Meehan / Ms. Roche
❖ Rang 6	Ms. Bergin
❖ SET 1	Mrs. Bolger (Deputy Principal)
❖ SET 2	Mrs. O' Neill
❖ SET 3	Ms. Byrne
❖ Preschool 1	Ms. Doyle / Ms. Gleeson
❖ Preschool 2	Ms. Clarke [Ms. Drennan]
❖ Preschool 3	Mr. Mullally
❖ Principal	Mr. Tynan

Preschool 1

We have had a very busy and exciting. We have been enjoying the nice weather and love playing out in the garden on the swing, slide and climbing frame. Last Thursday we had water play out in garden, we had big plastic boxes filled with colourful water, containers and funnels, and we had lots of fun pouring and splashing and even getting inside the boxes to cool ourselves off in the lovely sunshine! On Friday we had our end of year garden party, our families came and looked at all our artwork in the hall and we had great fun playing outside in the garden and enjoying some yummy treats.

We also had great fun on our school tour to the play station. We all enjoyed getting to go on the big bus and we had lots of fun going down the big blue slide, playing into the ball pool and climbing frame.

We will be very sad to say goodbye to Elise, Callum, Fionn, Jack and Sarah, we will miss them so much! We are so proud of how they have all grown and progressed in their one or two years here with us and we wish them all the very best for the future.

We hope everyone has a great summer holiday!

Claire, Paula, Laura and all the boys and girls from



Special Needs Assistants

Preschool 1:

Paula Kavanagh
Laura Marnell

Preschool 2:

Catriona Galster
Olwyn Bergin [Rachel Dowling]

Preschool 3:

Susan Drennan
Audrey Harrington

Mainstream SNAs:

Anne Marie O' Hara
Ruth Levins
Lucy Burke
Mary Hughes

Rang 1

First Class have had an extremely busy term since Easter. The best part of the term has been welcoming a new boy to the class. His name is Oliver, and he has moved here from South Africa. We have loved getting to know him and he has been telling us lots of things about South Africa. Everybody was feeling very jealous when they heard that there was a scooter track in his old school!! We really hope he settles in well and is happy in our school.

We have finally cracked adding with tens and units and carrying over our one.... Once we don't forget to add it in at the end!!! It's amazing to see how far everybody has come since September. In history we were looking at High Street in Kilkenny now and one hundred years ago and noticing the similarities and differences between both pictures. Learning about static electricity in science was fun especially when children were rubbing balloons off their hair and creating some crazy hairstyles!! The children also made butterflies and then made their wings move by creating static electricity.

This term we were delighted that Margaret has come back to teach us music and all the children have enjoyed learning the hand signs and playing the musical bells to match the sign. We look forward to continuing it in September. For the last few weeks 1st class have been lucky enough to visit Browns Wood on a few occasions for Forest School. We have successfully dodged heavy rain... where there is a will there is a way!! It has been made all the sweeter by being there all morning and not having to do schoolwork until the afternoon! The children have learnt many valuable skills while having fun at the same time. They have cut small pieces of wood, sharpened slates and even built some impressive shelters in the woods. Watching the children work together in groups and working cooperatively together to complete a task has been heart-warming to see as some children really shine when out in nature. Our facilitators, Maura and Fiach have been wonderful with the children, and we look forward to one last session on the day before our holidays.

Finally, we had a fantastic day out on our school tour in The Watershed. Children played lots of games, did hockey, penalty shoot outs, dodge ball, bouncy castle and swimming. We even managed a quick stop off at Jenkinstown Park on our way home for lunch and some more organised fun and games. Everybody was tired when we eventually got back to Freshford.

In first class, the jump from infants is always a big one, especially this year after missing so much of infants. However, the children have been amazing, and they are well ready to march on to 2nd class with confidence. Wishing all children, Mammies and Daddies a wonderful summer and hopefully the sun will shine.



Rang 5

Dia daoibh ó Rang a 5, We can't believe we've reached the end of 5th class already. It has been a quick and busy school year.

This term has been jam packed with activities and fun. We really enjoyed our time with Ms. Doheny and all the great lessons she did with the class. We learned all about the 'Great Famine', 3D shapes, averages, outdoor and adventure, materials agus caitheamh aimsire. We were sorry to see her go.

We were so lucky with the weather on our Confirmation Day. It was such a lovely ceremony. Monsignor presented us with some beautiful certificates to mark the occasion. We feel so grateful and blessed. Later that month, we also had a lovely service in school to mark the end of May.

For our school tour, we had a fantastic time down in Dunmore East Adventure Centre. It was so much fun. We got to do rock climbing, archery, caving, kayaking and best of all go on the wibit (a huge inflatable obstacle course). We were so tired coming home on the bus back to Freshford.

Something fishy came to visit us last week and we got to learn all about the different types of fish in Ireland and even what lives in our own Nuenna river. Declan, Padraig and Greg taught us about the different ways to fish and how to take care of our environment to keep our rivers healthy. We went down to Millennium Park where Declan had caught some trout, baby salmon (fry) and even an eel! We looked at the different kinds of insects that live around rivers as a food source for fish and how these insects can tell you how healthy the water is. It was so interesting, and we didn't realise how slimy fish and eels are.

Rang a 5 are currently working on arcade games that we are hoping to share with the rest of the school. We have some fantastic ideas to work on. There is a lot of problem solving involved, it gets frustrating at times, but we really love creating and making new things.

We are very excited for the summer holidays and ready to enter 6th class next year. Thank you to our teachers and parents for helping us get to where we are today.

Have a lovely summer.

Preschool 2

This term has been exciting and fun for all the children in PL2. We have had the opportunity to see all our friends in the Preschool and enjoy outdoor play with everyone from the other classes. The Fairy Garden now has a slide, seesaw and swing which has been so much fun.

With the start of the warm weather all three classes have enjoyed lots of water play. We were also delighted to finally get to play in the ball pool and use the sensory room daily.

The children have also been learning about ladybirds, butterflies and have created lots of brilliant artwork based on the theme of summer.

For our school tour we went to the Play Station in Kilkenny. This was so much fun, and we had the place to ourselves. The children were delighted to climb, jump and venture onto the giant slide! It was the loveliest day.

To mark the end of the year we held a Garden Party for the parents and children in the unit. This was a great way for Mam's and Dad's to meet each other and most importantly see the learning environment in which their children have been. They got to see the lovely work that takes place in the Preschool over the course of the term and meet the team of teachers and SNA's. We will be saying goodbye to three of our children from PL2: Aleya, Fionn and Billy. We wish them the very best in their new schools and look forward to welcoming the new intake of children in August.

Reminder -

National Education Welfare Board

Once a pupil reaches 20 days absence, an automatic notification is generated for the NEWB. Parents are then notified of this by the school.

Sometimes this will be as a result of illness, and this will be indicated to the NEWB.

*Action may be taken to communicate with parents for **unexplained** or **avoidable absences**.*



Hurling

Both our u-13 and u-11 teams put in great performances throughout the year.

Our u-13 team were beaten by a very strong Mullinavat side in the semi-final of the championship. The team put in some great performances along the way and with the majority of the team underage again next year there's a lot to be hopeful for when the next campaign comes around.

Huge commiserations to our u-11 team who put in a great performance but were narrowly beaten by Tullaroan. The boys can all be very proud of themselves for the effort they put in.

St Lachtain's Camogie

It was wonderful to be back on the camogie field after 2 years of limited playing. The year's games were extremely tight and tense. We started off our season with a good win against a strong Urlingford team. A very close game with St Lachtain's the narrow victors. We travelled to Kilmanagh where both teams played their heart out to earn a draw. Tullaroan were our next opponents. Extremely tough game, our girls showed great heart and determination but were narrowly defeated. An easy win over Danesford and all roads lead to the semi-finals. I'm so proud of the girls for all their hard work and achievements in reaching the semi-finals vs a very strong Tullogher team, who became the winners of the Cumann na mBunscol final the following week. Camogie is well and truly flourishing in St Lachtain's NS.

Discover Primary Science and Maths Excellence Award

A huge well done to all classes, including the early intervention class, for the fantastic work carried out for the Discover Primary Science and Maths award.

We have been awarded our **tenth** award this year. Thanks to Mrs. Bolger for all her work in co-ordinating the project once again. A very special thank you to Rang 6 and Ms. Bergin for running a brilliant Science Fair for all the children in the school.



Rang 6

As we savour our last few days here in Scoil Lachtaín we think back on an eventful and busy last term. We tried to make the most of it and enjoyed lots of memorable activities together!

We celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation on May 14th. We received a lovely certificate from Mon. Kieron which we will treasure, helping us to recall that special day in our lives. Thanks to Clare Kilkenny for the beautiful music on the day. It was a lovely day and a nice way to kick off the final term here!

We planted out our fruit and veg after Easter and have been carefully watering them and keeping a keen eye on them as they grow. Just recently we harvested our first few juicy strawberries, some lovely healthy lettuce and some little turnips and radishes. We are hoping to have some more ready to harvest before we finish up!

It has been great to welcome Margaret back to do music with us each Thursday morning. She was delighted to see we had managed to remember lots of what we had learned back in 4th Class! We've also enjoyed tag rugby with Noel again this term – a great way to wake us up on a Friday morning!

On Friday June 3rd we headed off on our school tour to Dunmore East Adventure Centre. What a day we had! We started off with rock climbing, then caving and archery. After lunch we took to the water in kayaks, on paddle boards and then onto the Wibit! We had so much fun, it really was a brilliant day out and as always we were so well behaved! Definitely a trip to remember for all of us and we are so glad we got to have such a great day out for our last tour in primary school!

To commemorate Féile Lachtaín we worked with Mrs. Bolger to create replicas of Lámh Lachtaín using mod-roc. It was great fun to do, and we think the finished product turned out really well.

It's been a busy few months sports wise in Scoil Lachtaín. Both the girls camogie team and the boys U13 team reached the Cumann na mBunscol semi-finals. Both teams were unlucky not to progress any further but as always did the school community proud with their commitment and attitude. Well done to our U11 team who played a stormer in the county final in Nowlan Park last week before being narrowly beaten by Tullaroan. The future is bright here in Scoil Lachtaín!

June has been a really busy month so far as we prepared to celebrate our Graduation on Thursday 16th. We made some lovely displays filled with our treasured memories of primary school and all contributed to a slideshow of photos. Thanks to Cara and Mia for putting the slideshow together and to Keith for choosing the tunes for our Grad playlist! It was a great night and was it very special to be able to celebrate with our parents, siblings and teachers. Thanks to Susan, Catriona, Margaret, Mags, Ms. O'Neill and Ms. Harrison for catering on the night. Thanks also to all the 5th Class parents who generously donated goodies for us to enjoy on the night!

We are enjoying our last week in Scoil Lachtaín, organising sports day, helping out in Pre School Lachtaín and making the most of the lovely weather! While we look forward to the opportunities and experiences ahead, we will certainly miss Scoil Lachtaín and all of the school community. Thanks to everyone, staff and students, for making our 8 short years in Primary School such a positive and enjoyable experience. We all feel ready to spread our wings and embark on this new adventure! Slán go fóill!



Preschool 3

We have been very busy in Preschool 3 these last few months. We have enjoyed lots of new nursery rhymes and songs, and listened to stories like Little Red Riding Hood, Goldilocks and Jack and the Beanstalk to name a few. We enjoyed hunting for a bear in our classroom with our binoculars and using the ball pool. The ball pool has reopened over the last month, and we have enjoyed jumping in and pretending we are swimming

This term we have really improved on waiting for our turn for the trampoline, slide and seesaw and we have gotten very good at sharing toys and bikes at playtime. We have enjoyed playing together enjoying games like chase and Hide and seek.

We were very much looking forward to our school trip and excited to go with all the other boys and girls in preschool. We have two boys, Rían and Lucas, who are going to graduate this year from Preschool 3. We will miss them next year but wish them all the best in the future.

Hope you all have a lovely summer break.

Cian, Susan and Audrey