

April Newsletter 2023

Given how Easter fell, April was a short month in school. Lots of great work going on in classrooms. This newsletter has some of the latest news and dates of upcoming events –

- Well done to the **Good With Wood** boys in Ms. Moran's class who represented the school so well at the Most Enterprising Student Awards in the Tullamore Court Hotel on Tuesday. Great to see them pitch their products with such confidence and sell lots on the day too.



- **Barnardos Internet Safety Week** with Paul Hensey for 2nd – 6th classes were very worthwhile. Good response from parents regarding Parent Workshop and more details when finalised. Thanks to **Doon GAA** for covering the cost.
- **The Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE)** programme finished up in all classes this week. Thanks to parents for discussing the weekly topics with your child.
- **Music with Zoe** (Tuesdays) and **hurling with John** (Wednesdays) continues into Term 3.
- **First Holy Communion** is just around the corner. The boys and girls and their families will join with Fr. Brendan on **Saturday 6th May at 3pm** in St. Colmcille's Church, Ballinahown. The children took part in a preparation mass last Sunday and are busy preparing with Ms. Grehan, Ms. Guinan and Mary. Best of luck to all!
- There is **Gaelic Football training** as follows-

- Rescheduled 5th/6th class **Tag Rugby Tournament** in Ferbane is set to take place on the week of Monday 8th May. Date and time TBC.
- Induction morning for **Junior Infants class of 2023/24** will take place on Wednesday 31st May from 9.30am – 12pm.
- **End of year standardised testing** will take place on the week of Monday 22nd May.
- As always, it's nice to hear children proudly describe their activities outside of school. Well done to the girls from 3rd class who represented Ballinahown FC in soccer blitz at the Aviva Stadium. A day the girls will never forget!
- **Table Quiz fundraiser in Martin's of Doon on Friday 19th May at 8.30pm**. All support would be greatly appreciated as all funds raised will go to the school. €10 per person and raffle on the night. Please share the event with your family and friends. Looking forward to a great event.



- **Friendship Week** will be celebrated in school on the week of Monday 15th May.
- We will receive another visit from PDST Sustained Support facilitator Nicola Corcoran on Monday 15th May where she will **teach Gaelge lessons** to all classes.
- **Sports Day** is set for either Wednesday 14th / Thursday 15th June. Call closer to time based on the weather forecast.
- **6th Class Graduation** mass will take place on Wednesday 21st June. Time will be shared with 6th class families soon.
- All the children in the school enjoyed **smoothies** today. Thanks to 5th class for helping make them!

- Snr Infants to 2nd class on Wednesdays.
- 3rd to 6th on Fridays.
- All boys and girls are encouraged to attend and gum shields required.
- There will be **in-school Gaelic tournaments** for these classes during May and June.
- The girls and boys from 3rd – 6th have games in **the Cumann na mBunscoil Spring League** and will enter a mixed team. The first fixture is –
 - Tullamore Educate Together NS vs Rashina NS in O’Brien Park, Tullamore on Thursday 4th May at 12.30pm.
- Girls and boys were very comfortable in their home clothes today. Thanks for supporting the non-uniform day for local charity **Laois Offaly Families For Autism**. We will send the total raised to this great cause.
- School tours are as follows –
 - 1st – 3rd Class to *Navan Adventure Centre* on Thursday 1st June
 - Junior/ Senior Infants to *Glendear Pet Farm* on Wednesday 7th June
 - 4th – 6th Class to *Zip-It* on Thursday 22nd June.

More details will go home soon.



SCHOOL TOUR



- Reminder that **school will be closed for all pupils on Friday 2nd June** to allow for teacher training in the Primary Language Curriculum and Primary Curriculum Framework.
- The **Dignity at Work Policy and Protected Disclosures Policy** were both approved at Board of Management meeting on Tuesday 25th April and are available on the school website.
- Ms. Moran has been appointed to the role of Assistant Principal II in the school.
- Morning supervision starts at **8.50am**. Thanks also to parents for having children at school in uniform for 9am to start lessons.
- The road outside the school is busy as always, especially at home times. Thanks again to all parents for being **extra vigilant** at these times and ensuring the safety of all.
- We would like to thank all families for their support and wish all a lovely long **May Bank Holiday Weekend**. We look forward to seeing everyone in school on Tuesday morning 2nd May.

