

May Newsletter 2022



It has been a very busy month in Rashina NS! Here is some of the news below.



Cumann na mBunscoil Finals –

Wednesday 18 May was a great day for our school. Both our boys' and girls' teams played their hearts out in the finals in Bord na Móna O'Connor Park, Tullamore. The girls won their final against Scoil Mhuire, Tullamore with a very strong

finish! The boys came up against a strong Gortnamona team and were narrowly defeated. All players and supporters represented the school so well. It was great to see so much blue and white in the stand! The whole school enjoyed a treat from Supermac's on the Friday. The girls will be presented with their medals in the coming weeks.



Rashina NS Family 5km Fun Run/ Walk –

Our fundraiser on Sunday 29 May was a great success. We were blessed with gorgeous weather and there was a huge turnout. So many of our families and people from the wider community joined us. All of those who walked or ran enjoyed snacks, refreshments and a friendly chat afterwards. There was a great atmosphere and community feel, which we have largely missed for the last few years. **The amount raised to date is €6,483.** Thanks to everyone who supported the event in any way. The generosity and involvement was amazing and it is greatly appreciated.

First Holy Communion – Congratulations to the six Second Class girls who received their First Holy Communion on Saturday 21 May with Fr. Brendan in St. Colmcille's Church, Ballinahown. They all looked fabulous and did so well. Thanks to Ms.

Mollen, Mary and all the staff who helped prepare for the day. Well done also to the Rashina boys and girls who were in the choir and thanks to the First Class parents who helped out with the lovely party in the hall afterwards.



VEX Robotics Competition – Ms. Moran’s 4th, 5th and 6th class pupils braved the wind and rain on Friday 6 May to take part in the robotics competition run by Offaly County Council in Bord na Móna O’Connor Park, Tullamore. Well done to all who helped design and build the robot. Much work was done coding the robot in advance of the day. Those who drove the robot on the day did so with great skill and precision. Pupils enjoyed the space dome, gaming zone and other activities on the day.

Standardised Testing – Pupils have been busy completing their end of year tests over the past two weeks.

School Tours – Boys and girls are looking forward to very nice school tours that have been organised by their teachers. Thanks to all families who have already paid. –

- Ms. Farrell’s Junior/ Senior Infants – Playtown Tullamore on Wednesday 8 June
- Ms. Mollen’s 1st/2nd and 3rd Classes – Turoe Pet Farm on Thursday 9 June

- Ms. Moran’s 4th/ 5th and 6th Classes – Lough Key Zipit Forest Adventures

Literacy Lift-Off – Pupils in Ms. Farrell’s Junior and Senior Infants class continued this programme in May and worked on their literacy skills in stations.

Most Enterprising Student Awards – Well done to our 5th class business ‘Soap and Bubbles’ who set up a stall at the enterprise awards day in the Tullamore Court Hotel on Monday 23 May. Congratulations on reaching this stage and receiving a gift pack.



Track & Field – Ten pupils from 5th/6th class competed in the Tullamore Harriers at the Offaly Track & Field Championships. Boys and girls took part in the 80m sprint, 600m run, long jump and shot put. There were some very stand out performances from the Rashina team. Well done.



Catechist Visit – We had a lovely visit from our Diocesan Catechist Margaret Kelly on Tuesday 31 May. Margaret spoke primarily to the sacramental classes and was very impressed with the welcome she received. She particularly loved our May altars that were created by all our pupils this month.

Clothes Collection – Thanks for the great response to the Clothes Collection Thursday 5 May. 150 bags were collected, which resulted in the **school making €432**. Thanks to all families for supporting this and spreading the word. The majority of this money was put towards the cost of school tour buses and making each pupil's trip as affordable as possible.

Feathered Friends – Ronan visited the school in May and brought a duckling and chick that had hatched in school before Easter. The children could not get over how big they had grown. Ms. Guinan and a number of pupils are also keeping a close eye on the new chicks in the bird box in our garden. They are making great progress.

Homework – There will be **no written homework** for the month of June. Children will continue to do reading on certain nights.

Half Day – School closes at **12pm on Thursday 2 June** to allow for staff training in the Primary Language Curriculum.

School Closure – There is **no school on Friday 3 June**. This day is taken in place of Friday 18 March, which was given as an extra Bank Holiday this year.

The past month has been a very busy and successful one for lots of our students outside of school too. Rashina NS pupils brought news of many victories into school over the past few weeks – boys'

county football final with Ferbane, first place in the Offaly Comhlata competition, girls' and boys' soccer finals' success with Ballinahown, rosettes from horse riding, plus much more. Well done to all those who participated in different drama productions and to all who are enjoying and doing so well in extra-curricular activities. Congratulations to our girls' football team captain who represented Offaly in the All-Ireland U-14 Final vs Derry. **Well done to all!**

June Activities - June is always a busy month in school. There are lots of activities including sports day, cricket blitz, school tours, etc. The school will give more detail on such events closer to the time. 2022/23 school calendar will be shared with families soon.

The staff and BOM would like to thank families for all their help and support at this busy time of school year. We hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable June Bank Holiday weekend and look forward to welcoming back pupils on Tuesday 7 June.

School closes for summer on Friday 24 June at 12pm.



School will reopen for the Academic Year 2022/2023 on Wednesday 31st August 2022.