

Newsletter May 2023

School Photographer

County Photos will visit the school **tomorrow**, Tuesday 23rd May. The company have a schedule which they mirror in all schools, the photographer will take individual and class photographs of pupils in Junior Infants and 6th Class, as it's their first and final year in school. They will then take family/sibling photographs of all pupils, to include pupils in Junior Infants and 6th Class, if they have brothers/sisters in the school. Please find flyer attached.

Building update

As you will be aware, our initial plan was to move into our new extension after Easter this year, unfortunately we have had to wait a little longer. It was initially hoped that there would be enough time to complete external aspects of the project over Easter when pupils were off- site, however, it just didn't work out in the end. Whilst it is envisioned that the new extension will be completed in mid-June, final external works can only commence in earnest when the prefabs have been moved off-site. These external works will include a new enclosed hard/soft-surface play area together with an enclosed sensory garden, both will extend onto the area of ground where the prefabs currently lie. The completion date for the external elements of the project is mid July. The latest advice from the Design Team is to wait until September to move into the new building, at which point the project will be completed in its entirety. We thank you for your continued patience and understanding and we look forward to extending an invitation to you all to view our wonderful new facilities. It suffices to say it will be worth the wait.

Updated School Calendar

Please note the following amendment to our School Calendar. Pupils will now get their Summer Holidays on **Wednesday 21st June**. As you will note from our school calendar issued in September, we had one additional school closure to schedule. This school closure is now scheduled for Friday 23rd June. We are also required to take an exceptional closure day on Thursday 22nd to facilitate essential on-site works which must be carried out at the school the final week of term, to include dismantling prefabs, which the prefab company will begin on Thursday 22nd June, together with the relocation of all classroom furniture and requisites to the new building. School staff will remain on-site to assist with classroom relocation/ set-up in our new school extension

Free Book Scheme for Primary Pupils

As you will be aware from the media, Minister Norma Foley has announced a Free Book Scheme for all primary school pupils from the start of the new school year, September 2023. Monies allocated to our school by the Department of Education will be used by the school to purchase textbooks, workbooks and copies so parents will have a substantially lower return to school costs going forward. Parents will continue to purchase pupil stationary,

folders etc. We are still ironing out the finer details which we will communicate to you all towards the end of June. Please see flyer attached to this email.

Sona Wellbeing Classes for Pupils

Our Parents Association have kindly organised to fund Wellbeing Classes with Siobhan Connolly Hogan for all classes. Classes will begin on Monday 29th May, there will be four sessions in all, spread over the last few weeks in June. Please see flyer attached which contains some information about Siobhán and Sona Wellbeing.

Primary Games

Congratulations to Amy Cleere, Lilykate Kenneally, Colin Gaynor and Senan O Leary who were chosen to represent our school at the Primary Games trials held all over the county these past few weeks. A special mention for Senan who made it through to the final selection, lining out in the blue and gold of the Primary Hurling Game team against Cork, in Páirc Uí Chaíomh on 6th May.

Cumann na mBunscol Finals in Semple Stadium

As you are aware, our U11 Camogie and Hurling teams have made it through to the Cumann na mBunscol County Finals which are scheduled to take place in Semple Stadium on Tuesday 30th and Wednesday 31st May, a little earlier than previous years. A special mention for our U13 Camogie and Hurling panels also, as they narrowly missed out on making it through to the County Final stages of the competition. We will update you all when fixtures for Thurles have been finalised by the organisers. Please come along on the day to support our girls and boys. It is a wonderful achievement to make it to this stage of the competition. We extend the very best of luck our players, to Mr. O Flaherty and to Gilbert on the day.

Active Week 12th to 16th June

Active week will take place from Monday 12th June through to Friday 16th June this year. Sports Day is scheduled to take place, weather permitting, on Thursday 15th June. More details to follow closer to the time.

Garda Event for 6th Class Pupils

An Garda Síochána are committed to continuing the strong community focused relationship it has with the Primary Schools in North Tipperary. With this in mind, Superintendent Oliver Baker has issued an invitation to 6th Class students within the Nenagh Garda District to a special event to be held in MacDonagh Park, Nenagh on Monday, 12th June. Nenagh Gardaí are still working out the logistics of the day, which we are told will include a number of team based activities with a strong focus on both teamwork and communication skills. More details to follow once An Garda Síochána have communicated same to us.

Indoor Athletics

We have just been notified that Nenagh Olympic Athletic Club will host their very popular Indoor Athletic Event for Primary Schools in North Tipperary on Wednesday 7th June. This event is always one of the highlights of our school calendar. The event will cater for 4th, 5th and 6th classes as always, teachers will issue relevant details to all participating classes closer to the event.

RSE (Relationships and Sexuality Education)

Class Teachers will teach relevant topics as outlined in the policy in the coming weeks. Please see Appendix A from our RSE policy attached

Standardised Testing

Standardised tests, Sigma T and Micra T will be administered to all pupils 1st to 6th classes over the next couple of weeks and results will be issued in your child's school report. Please find a general information note relating to standardised testing attached to this email.