

Sports**St. Mary's Teams at Garda Sports Day, Soccer Blitz and Gymnastics**

Our pupils get a chance to learn many sporting skills throughout the year including Gaelic, Soccer, Basketball, Hurling, Hip-Hop, Swimming, Athletics and this term our classes have started Gymnastics and skipping again. Our Soccer and Gaelic Teams have represented the school well this year. The Garda Sports Day held in the AIT was a success for St. Mary's with Delfina and Nouvel coming home with medals. Well done to all involved in sport and many thanks to the teachers and visiting coaches who lead these teams. Keep it up!!

Active Week, Sports Day, WAMWAS & Sponsored Walk May 2019 Our active Schools Team scheduled a very busy Active Week 27th–30th May for us all this year. Each day started out at 9.30am on the pitch with WAMWAS—Walk a mile with a smile. This was enjoyed by all and was a great way for children and staff alike to start their day. Many classes walked to the Regional Sports Centre to take part in Body Combat Classes also. Our Junior Sports Day was held on Tuesday 28th May and was a great success with junior pupils partaking in Dance, Novelty Games, Obstacle Races, Dress Up Races, Throwing Games, Parachute Activities and other fun relays. Senior Sports will be held very soon and senior children can look forward to a day filled with Penalty Kicks, Hurling, Tug-O-War, Novelty Games, Basketball, Obstacle Race and other relay activities. Our Active Week came to a close with a Whole School Sponsored Walk along the Greenway on Thursday 30th May. Well done to all as we collected €2,685 in funds for the school through sponsorship cards—it is very much appreciated and our pupils will reap the benefits!



Body Combat Class in Regional Sports Centre



Senior Infants Dress Up Race and the great sports day helpers!



WAMWAS

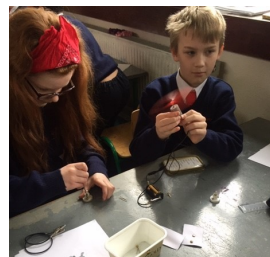


Sponsored Walk



Keeping to the Beat with Peace Proms, Feile Ceoil na Scoileanna, Orchestra, SingFest and Samba Drumming In February, pupils from 5th and 6th travelled to Dublin to perform in Peace Proms with Cross Border Orchestra Of Ireland which was established to promote peace and unity throughout Ireland. In April, St. Mary's had Junior Infant, 1st and 3rd Class groups performing in the Feile Ceoil where they played recorders and sang their hearts out. The orchestra pupils are busy with Paul learning to read music and play trombones, trumpets, flutes and clarinets. We hope to have a performance for the school and parents before the end of the term. Our 3rd Classes took part in the "Singfest" concert which was held in the A.I.T on Thursday 23rd May. Pupils enjoyed Samba Drumming sessions with Kieran this term also. Our pupils and teachers really enjoy partaking in these local and national music events.

Science Days & Science Blast, RDS, Dublin Our pupils thoroughly enjoy the school science event where they moved through five classrooms carrying out experiments and scientific learning in each. Our 4th and 6th class pupils also participated and presented Science projects at the Science Blast Event in RDS, Dublin in March. Mrs. Robbins 4th Class along with Mrs. Clarken and Stephi presented projects based on nutrition while Mr. Conlon's 6th Class baffled us all with their rapid thinking rapid action RUBIX cubes!



Debating Success 2019 We are very proud of our debating team who took part in a National Schools Debating Competition again this year. They were awarded second place in the final round against An Ghrianan N.S., Mount Temple. Our team proposed the motion "The Fight against Climate Change is the responsibility of the youth". Well done to Shreyash, Lucas, Fernanda, Aditi and to all the teachers and assisting team members who helped prepare for this event. Our pupils realise that the future is in their hands and we can be assured that they will give it their very best shot.

An Taisce Green Schools Awards 2019 We have just been awarded our 7th Green Flag Award for Global Citizenship & Energy. All classes in the school from infants to 6th were involved in Energy Saving projects and Global Awareness Lessons. They have gained knowledge on how to reduce their carbon footprint for a more sustainable future climate. Keep up these practices both at school and at home. Thanks to Joshua and Patrycja from our Green Committee for accepting the Flag on our behalf in Hudson Bay on May 21st. We look forward to raising this flag with our school community soon.





St. Mary's N.S

June 2019

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Summer Issue
June 2019

School Tours

Junior Infants: Ms. Curley & Mr. Lennon

Thursday 20th June: Glendeer Pet Farm

Senior Infants: Mrs. O'Grady, Ms. Carey & Ms. Gallagher

Friday 14th June: Glendeer Pet Farm

1st Class: Ms. Waldron, Ms. Lawlor & Ms. Gallagher

Tuesday 11th June

Turoe Pet Farm, Co. Galway

2nd Class: Ms. McDonnell & Ms. Coen

Tuesday 25th June

Turoe Pet Farm, Co. Galway

3rd Class: Ms. Mc Loughlin & Mrs. Egan

Thursday 6th June

Portlick Outdoor Adventure, Athlone

4th Class: Ms. Donnellan, Ms. Browne & Mrs. Robbins

Thursday 6th June

Portlick Outdoor Adventure, Athlone

5th Class: Ms. Hannon & Mrs. Murphy

Thursday 20th June

Tayto Park, Co. Meath

6th Class: Mr. Noone & Mr. Conlon

Tuesday 11th June

Baysports, Athlone

Dates for your Diary:

Teddy Bear's Picnic & Parent Meeting for incoming Junior Infants: Thursday 6th June @ 10am in Junior Hall

6th Class Graduation Mass: Date & Time TBC (in Senior Hall)

Thursday 27th June: Summer Holidays @12pm

School Re-opens: Thursday 29th August 2019

Principal's Message

Congratulations to everyone on another very successful year at St. Mary's N.S. A huge thanks to all our teachers and staff for their hard work and dedication. We appreciate the great support of our parents and wish you and the children a wonderful summer holiday. Stay safe and see you all on **August 29th**.

Text-a-Parent Throughout the year, the school has been using text messages to inform the school community of any expected closures, parent courses and non-uniform days. It is vital that we have an up-to-date mobile contact for all families. Please inform the office or child's teacher of any contact changes.

Celebration of Sacraments at St. Mary's Congratulations to our 2nd Class First Holy Communicants and to our 6th Class Confirmation pupils who received sacraments in May. We wish all of our 6th class pupils our very best wishes with their transition to secondary school. Thanks to all who prepare our pupils so well. Our choir sang beautifully at both ceremonies. Well done to all!

Attendance Records

We would like to remind you of your obligations under the Education Welfare Act to ensure that your child attends school every day.

Standardised Test Results

All school reports will have standardised test scores. Information regarding these scores is available on the school website. (See web address above) Our pupils have recently completed a new standardised English Test called Drumcondra Reading Test and they have also completed the Sigma T Test in Maths.

Communion & Confirmation Art



School Website Did you know that we have lots more school news, samples of class work and photos available to view on our school website? You should take the time to check it out for yourselves on www.stmarysprimaryschoolathlone.ie. As you may appreciate, it is very hard to fit all of our good news on a newsletter so please have a quick look at our school site for lots more news at all class levels. The website has lots more general school information from school calendars, school closures and school policies which are all updated regularly.

New Primary Language Curriculum, School Inspection & PAX In February, our staff engaged in a whole school training day for the new primary language curriculum which is being implemented nationally. Our school also had a recent incidental inspection in February and staff were both proud and delighted to be commended for high standards in both teaching and learning. Many of our staff also attended PAX training days which is a programme to encourage and promote self regulation and good behaviour—ask your children about teacher's harmonica and the granny wacky prizes!

National Spelling Bee Final We are so proud of George, one of our 6th Class pupils, who has reached the National Finals of the Eason's Spelling Bee and he will compete against three other provincial winners in Dublin on Thursday 13th June. Best of luck in the National Finals George.



Home School Links & Parent Courses Mrs. Lee has been very busy this term arranging a variety of workshops. Parents have had the opportunity to attend classes in Story Sacks, Creative Sewing, Cookery and Triple P Parenting. Many parents also worked with Mrs. Lee and a local artist, Paula Sharkey, to create this beautiful mural which can be seen in our reception area. As always, Noelle is available to meet with parents and to offer advice and support if necessary. (Noelle: 086 8354567)

Parents Association Thanks to our PA Committee who meet on behalf of the parent body of our school. The PA assisted our staff at the First Holy Communion Breakfast and provided a personalised bun for each Holy Communion child. Members of our PA, along with many other parents, also walked alongside the children at our recent Sponsored Walk. Please spread the word as parents are encouraged to attend our meetings and are welcome to join next year.

Happy Holidays!!!