



St Andrew's National School
Curragha, Ashbourne,
Co Meath

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1st of May 2024

Dear Parents,

We've enjoyed a busy month here in St. Andrew's and we have lots of dates to add to your diary for the coming months.

April

Swimming

As part of the Aquatics Strand in the P.E. Curriculum, 1st to 6th class are currently enjoying swimming lessons in the Aura Swimming Pool in Navan. Junior and Senior Infants are completing the Paws Programme where they are learning about water safety skills.

Rugby

We have started rugby sessions with Naoise from Ashbourne Rugby (1st to 6th on Thursdays and Junior and Senior Infants on Fridays). We are enjoying learning new ball skills and drills.

Green Schools

We are continuing to work towards our third green flag on the theme of TRAVEL. So far this year we have promoted Walk to School Week and we have carried out a car park audit. Our Green Schools Officer Tom has visited our school regularly. He met with the Green Schools Committee of Alannah, Platon, Robyn, Adam, Olivia, James Mc, James G, Maria, Tom G and Aoibhe in September to plan activities for the year. Tom came to visit us again in term one and conducted a Walkability Audit in our locality with our committee to see how safe it is for children in our community to walk to school. He recently visited senior school pupils and conducted a Food Miles workshop to teach us about sustainable food sources and how far our food has to travel to get to our plate. Finally last week, our junior school pupils took part in a fun Scooter Workshop to learn about safe scooting and the rules of the road. We look forward to seeing Tom again and continuing on the road to our next Green Flag Award.

Leinster Athletics Cross Country Championship

Our cross country teams had a wonderful outing at Navan Adventure Centre recently at the Leinster Athletics Cross Country Championship. All children ran great races and it was very exciting to have our performances chip timed for the first time! Results can be seen here <https://www.standrewscurragha.com/active-school.html>

Football Glory Continues!

Congratulations to Niall Horgan who was recently selected to represent Cumann na mBunscol na Mí at Croke Park in an exhibition game at half time during the recent Dublin vs Meath Senior quarter final. Congratulations also to Freddie Greene who will represent our school at the Cumann na mBunscol 100 Touch Challenge competition in Dunganny on May 3rd and to Emily Keogh who has been selected to represent Cumann na mBunscol na Mí at Dunganny at an inter county blitz also on May 3rd. We are so proud of you and all of your team mates who have had such a fantastic year of football.

Dublin Educational Tour

Yesterday, 30th of April, 3rd & 4th class visited the National Museum of Ireland and The National Art Gallery to consolidate learning in the classroom on The Bronze Age and the Irish Artist Jack B. Yeats and portraiture. 5th & 6th class visited the Jeannie Johnston Famine ship and the EPIC museum to consolidate learning in the classroom on the Irish Famine.

Our Shoes Campaign

In April we took part in the Our Shoes Campaign. We collected over 200 pairs of shoes for the children of the South African townships in Cape Town. Thank you to everyone who kindly donated shoes to the campaign. <https://www.ourshoes.ie/>

Daffodil Day

We picked daffodils from our school garden to sell to raise funds for the Irish Cancer Society on Daffodil Day. We planted daffodil bulbs back in October so we are delighted that they bloomed just in time! We raised an amazing €1,200. Our Confirmation Class donated €671 and we raised €529 selling daffodils. Thank you for your generous donations to this wonderful charity.

Readathon

Thank you to all who took part in our school Readathon before Easter. We raised an impressive €2164.91.

Coming up this term

Creative Classrooms

On 13th and 14th of May all classes will take part in a Felt Workshop with our Creative Schools advisor Gabriella McGrath. We look forward to getting creative exploring the visual arts strand of Fabric and Fibre.

First Holy Communion

Children in 2nd class will receive their First Holy Communion on Saturday 18th of May at 10.30am. Our Parents' Association are currently working hard preparing for the Communion reception for families in the hall. All volunteers welcome to help out.

Well-being Week

Well-being Week will take place from 20th- 24th of May. We are planning lots of well-being activities including a fundraiser for Pieta House.

School Summer Disco

To conclude our Well-being Week at school, our Parents' Association will hold our School Summer Disco on Friday 24th of May. Details to follow.

Cumann na mBunscol Track and Field Championships, Claremont.

The annual Cumann na mBunscol Track and Field Championships in Claremont Stadium in Navan will take place on Tuesday, June 11th. The squad for this event will be announced before the midterm break.

Summer School Tours

- **Junior Infants to 2nd Class** will visit Navan Adventure Centre on Thursday, June 20th where they will experience outdoor adventure activities, games and challenges.
- **3rd & 4th Class** will visit the Alive Outside Adventure Centre in Kilruddery Estate in Bray, Co. Wicklow on Tuesday, June 25th. They will take part in team building games, obstacle challenges and other outdoor activities.
- **5th & 6th Class** will visit Tanagh Outdoor Education and Training Centre located near Rockcorry, County Monaghan for our bi-annual overnight trip on Friday, June 14th. The centre provides a range of water-based and land-based adventure activities for all.

Details of each tour will be sent home by your child's class teacher.

Sports Day

Sports Day will take place on Friday, June 21st, weather permitting. Further details to follow.

Graduation Day

6th class graduation mass and ceremony will take place on Thursday, June 27th at 11am.

Camp Curragha

Camp Curragha will run from Monday 1st of July to Friday 5th of July (9.30am to 1.00pm daily). This camp is open to all children from incoming Junior Infants to outgoing 6th class. Please contact Ms. Ronan or Ms. Kinsella to book a place.

We are all looking forward to an exciting and enjoyable summer term.

Mise le meas,

Catherine O'Connor