



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

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27th of June 2024

Dear Parents,

As another busy school year comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on some of the activities and achievements we have enjoyed in June.

June 2024

Claremont 2023

Congratulations to all of our athletes who did our school proud at the Cumann na mBunscol Track and Field Championship in Claremont Stadium on June 11th 2023.

Creative Classrooms

All classes took part in a Drumming Workshop with drummer David Day from Jabba Jabba Jembe. A wonderful day of rhythm and music was enjoyed by both pupils and staff. This was funded by our Creative Schools' grant.

Summer School Tours

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

Thank you to our Parents' Association who subsidised the cost of all tours.

Active Schools Week

Our annual Active Schools Week has been a great success. On Monday children from 4th, 5th and 6th Class took part in a Rugby Blitz with Ashbourne Rugby Club and all pupils enjoyed a lunchtime disco. On Tuesday all pupils took part in GAA workshops with our GPO Caroline. On Wednesday children from Junior Infants to Second Class participated in an obstacle course and children from 3rd - 6th Class played in a Euros Soccer Blitz. On Thursday Junior Infants - Second Class went on their school tour to Navan Adventure Centre and children in 3rd - 6th Class played tennis in the Curragha Tennis Club. We spent Friday in Curragha GAA Club for Sports Day. Thank you to our Active Committee for another great Active Schools Week.

Sports Day

Our annual Sports Day took place on Friday 21st of June. Congratulations to Ms Kinsella's Red Team who took home the Mark Mooney Memorial Cup. Well done to all our teams who worked so brilliantly together on the day. Thank you to Ms Ronan for organising yet another successful Sports Day. We also raised a fantastic €288 for Down Syndrome Ireland. Thank you all for your donations.

TV Appearance

Ireland AM broadcasted from Emerald Park on Wednesday and invited our 5th and 6th class for a morning of fun in Tír na nÓg. It was a great way to end our last week in school!

Blue Star Programme

Senior Infants completed the Blue Star programme which involved examining and studying elements from the historical, geographical, cultural and institutional aspects of the European Union. Pupils received a Blue Star Certificate of Achievement and European flag for display in our school.

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.

Looking Ahead....

Classes for 2023/2024

Junior Infants – Claire O'Farrell

Senior Infants – Róisín McLarnon

1st & 2nd Class – Siobhan Gilligan

3rd & 4th Class – Hannah Horgan

5th & 6th Class – Niamh Ronan

SET – Catherine O'Connor

SNAs – Mary Fitzmaurice, Aoife Ryan & Karen Dowling

Best wishes to Ms Shauna Kinsella as she begins her maternity leave after the summer break.

Farewell to Fr. Kevin

It is with a heavy heart that our school bid farewell to Fr. Kevin on Wednesday. All classes performed songs dedicated to Fr. Kevin. Presentations were made from the Board of Management and the pupils. I would like to thank Fr. Kevin for all his hard work with our school. As Chairperson of the Board, he provided wonderful guidance and support to the running of the school. His regular visits to the school with his dog Rex were always welcome. Fr. Kevin has further enriched our sense of community here in Curragha having the school and the Church work closely together. We wish him every happiness in his new Parish of Johnstown.

6th Class Graduation

I would like to congratulate our 6th class who graduate this week. They have contributed greatly to our school during their time with us, through their academic, musical and sporting achievements. We wish them continued success in their respective secondary schools next year. I would like to bid a very special farewell to the Downey, Dowse, Duffy, Gaffney, Horgan, Rowland and Szepielewicz families whose youngest child is now leaving the school.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you the parents for your continued support this year. Thank you to our Parents' Association for their successful fundraising which enhances all aspects of school life for our pupils.

Thank you to our dedicated staff for all their support and hard work with their classes throughout

another wonderful school year.

We look forward to welcoming all our students, especially our incoming Junior Infant class on **Wednesday 28th of August.**

I wish you all a happy and healthy summer.

Catherine O'Connor