

St Oliver Plunkett's NS Newsletter



May/ Bealtaine

Welcome to our

Newsletter

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you are all well. A few changes are underway at the school. Mr Callaghan will be at the helm next year and will no doubt do a great job. Mrs Murphy will go on secondment for a year to work with the National Induction Programme for Newly qualified teachers.

Congratulations to the staff on the Discover Maths and Science Award. Big thank you to Ms Mc Kiernan for bringing the school through this programme. The school has successfully completed the Amber Flag Programme which promotes well-being this year. Big thank you to Ms Maguire, Ms Duffy, Mr Callaghan, Ms Folan and Mr Fahey for working on this.

We have completed our standardised testing. These scores will be sent to you via the school reports on Aladdin Connect on the 10th of June for the 6th class and on the 17th of June for the rest of the school.

Please note that standardised tests were not completed in 2020 hence for the 6th class reports you will see scores from 2nd class and 6th class. The class teacher or the Learning support teacher will contact you before sending out the report if they have a concern. Please remember the standardised tests are a moment in time and do not always reflect a child's full capability. First class have completed the Drumcondra literacy screening test so will not have a score for literacy this year. Again you will be contacted if there is a concern. We ask that you keep your child's scores private to your family. Other years children have told each other on yard what their score was and this can be upsetting for some children who may not have performed as well. If you would like more information on standardised testing please go to https://www.ncca.ie/media/1429/understanding-standardscores_eng.pdf.

Thank you for taking the time to do the Child Safeguarding Survey which has been shared with you via a link on an Aladdin notice and by e-mail. Information on our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk assessment can be found on our school website.

Dates for your diary:

School Sports Day is Thursday the 9th of June at the Man O War GAA pitch. Please do not drive your child to the sports day, the roll will be taken by each teacher at school then classes will be bussed up to the pitch. All information is on our website under latest news. You can download the timetable. Children can wear their own clothes. We are now accepting any goodies for the cake sale and on Thursday morning there will be cars parked at the front to collect any fresh goodies.

Reminder: Ms O' Neill's class and Ms Gleeson's class will go home early at 12 on Wednesday the 15th of June to facilitate the induction of new junior infants. Thank you.

School closes on Friday the 24th of June for the summer holidays. Infants will go home at 12 and all others at 12.15. School reopens on the 1st of September. The new school calendar for the 2022-2023 school year is available on our website in the Parents' Area.

Read on and see what we have been doing this month!

The Green Flag Committee under the direction of Ms O Mahony continue to promote walking, cycling and scootering to school. During National Bike Week the pupils took part in a cycle workshop. First and second took part in a scooter workshop earlier in the year.



Congratulations to the second class on making their First Holy Communion. It was such a lovely day and a wonderful feeling of normality. Thank you to Ms Maguire, Ms Duffy and Deborah for all their hard work. Thank you to Mrs Callaghan and the choir.



The Parents' Association organised a party which was enjoyed by all.



Mr Callaghan brought the children from 3rd up to 6th to cross country.



Some decided to treat themselves to nail painting after a tough race!

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JEP: Ms O Mahony's class and Mr Callaghan's class say a big thank you to everyone who supported their Jep projects. The production lines are very busy getting their products out to their customers. The pupils have learned so much through this process. Thank you to Balbriggan Enterprise and Ria Stubbs for all her support.

PWC offered to do some science workshops with 5th/6th class. Kevina taught the pupils some very interesting facts about life on a space ship.





3rd class made a volcano with Mr Grant.

Balrothery Tidy Towns sponsored our new pollinator garden. Here are the pupils from 1st and 2nd class planting the seeds and tending to our garden area.



School tours are the best. The infants loved Newgrange Farm.



Last but not least we had a great Intercultural Day. Ms O' Neill, Mr Callaghan and the Yellow Flag Committee did a wonderful job at organising a fantastic day. The pupils in each class were given a country to learn about. The countries chosen are countries that are represented all through the school. Thank you to the parents who took the time to prepare food, share their artefacts with us, their stories and their dance. Kathleen Murphy shared her stories of the Travelling Community the present and the past. A big thank you to the Loreto Secondary School for allowing their group of dancers to come and perform for us on the day. Ms Bermingham's class had us all up dancing the Siege of Ennis.

Loreto dancers on Instagram!



The siege of Ennis



The hall had a wonderful display of projects by all the pupils in the school.





We had a parade around the village.





I hope you enjoyed our newsletter. See you all on Thursday at the Sports Day. Remember to send in your goodies, the more we have to sell the more the children will have to buy.

Mrs Murphy