

# **BALLYMURN NEWS – 26TH MAY 2022**



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for taking the time to read our school newsletter- We try to ensure that all up to date information relating to school events is included here each month, and if we can keep a good readership base, it enables us to give parents a one stop view of what is happening in our school.

## **Tara Bishop Memorial 5k Fun Run**

The annual Tara Bishop Memorial 5k Fun Run takes place this Sunday, May 29th at 12 noon. We would love to see as many of our school community as possible participate. As the name states, this is a fun community event, and all are welcome to walk, jog or run the course. It is possible to register online at [popuraces.ie](http://popuraces.ie), or you can also register on the day. There is no entry fee, and all donations are greatly appreciated by both benefactors, who are our school and Temple Street Children's Hospital. Refreshments will be served afterwards. Many thanks to who have sponsored the event this year, and to Bobby and Mag Redmond for the huge effort they put in to organising it.

## **Rackard League Girls County Champions**

Our Rackard League girls team went on from their District Final victory to overcome Gusserane in the county-semi final in Rathangan on April 25th, setting up a county final tie with Monageer-Boolavogue, which took place in St.Patrick's Park, Enniscorthy on Friday night, April 29th. This was a hugely entertaining game and our girls came out convincing winners in the end. There were scenes of great joy on the night when we saw the girls bring a Rackard League county final cup back to Crossabeg/Ballymurn for the first time in over 15 years. The girls had a really enjoyable party in school last week and look forward to their medal presentation on Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 5.30pm in Ballymurn Hall. Panel members from our school were: Ruby Dempsey, Mollie Doyle-Murphy, Abbie Wade, Michaela Quirke, Jessica Cush, Frankie Canavan, Crystal Connolly, Ciara Redmond, Ashleigh Carroll, Nikki Fortune, Amber O'Connor, May Cummins, Katie Murphy and Emma Cush.

## **Homework**

Written homework will cease for the rest of the year from this Friday, and children will continue to have reading and learning homework until Friday June 11<sup>th</sup>.



### **Green Schools Update**

Yesterday was a great day of celebration for everyone in the school. We received our 7th Green Flag. The whole school community attended the virtual Award Ceremony along with hundreds of other schools across the country. The children all wore green and gathered together in the schoolyard to sing our Climate Change Song. Ruby Larkin from 3rd class won the honour of raising the flag!

Due to the unusual circumstances of the past few years we have worked on this theme since 2018 so a lot of the children who began this theme with us are now in 3rd year in secondary school!!! We would like to acknowledge the work of the previous Green School Committee over those years and of course say well done and thank you to the children of the current committee who have worked extremely hard this year. They have helped the school become more aware of what it is to be a global citizen and the importance of saving energy in the many ways we can.

We began our Green School journey in 2005 and received our first award for Litter in 2007. In 2009 we raised the flag for Energy, 2011 for Water, 2013 for Travel, 2016 for Biodiversity, 2018 for Global Citizenship & Litter and now we have won the award for Global Citizenship & Energy.

We are very proud of this achievement and look forward to our next challenge which will begin in September. Our next two-year project will be on the theme of Global Citizenship and Marine Environments.

Well Done everyone!!

### **Sports Day**

Our school Sports Day will take place on Tuesday, June 21st. (Weather permitting) As Covid restrictions have now been lifted, we look forward to returning to our pre-covid format and can once again invite families to come and enjoy the day. Our Parents' Association will host a barbecue on the day.

### **Easter Raffle**

Our Parents' Association would like to extend their thanks to all who supported their recent Easter raffle, which was the first fundraiser that they could hold in a number of years. A total of €1440 was raised, and the P.A have thereafter been in a position to donate €500 towards our school tours, which will help to offset the cost of buses.

### **School Tours**

School Tours will take place on the 13th, 14th and 15th June. Junior Infants, Senior Infants, The Crescent Class and 1st Class will visit Woodfield House, Oylegate, 2nd and 3rd Class will go to The Stables, Gorey and 4th-6th Class will go to Clara Lara.

### **Rackard League Boys Hurling**

Our boys took part in the Rackard League hurling competition over the past number of weeks. They were defeated by Bree in their final group game last week, which brought an end to the competition for us. The boys really enjoyed being back hurling in the school jersey for the first time in three years. Panel members were: Jamie Whelan, Noah Botha, Charlie McNicholas, Chulainn McGrane, A.J. Walsh, Harrison Kavanagh, Riain Redmond, Cillian Byrne, Luke Healy, Ronan Devlin and Jack McNicholas.

### **Standardised Testing**

Our pupils completed their standardised tests over the past few weeks. The results will issue in the children's school reports in June. Like last year, we have been reminded by the Department of Education to make parents aware that the scores for these tests were standardised pre-covid. If you have any concerns regarding your child's score, please contact the school to discuss it with their teacher, but always remember to never draw your child's attention too much to these tests, as their main function is to provide data to the Department, and help school staff to prepare for teaching, unlike regular class tests where children are more aware of their performance. No child needs to be told that they have scored below average/average/ above average for their age. Next year, we remain committed to looking after pupil wellbeing as our number one priority, and focussing on English, Maths and Irish skills that may have suffered due to pupil absence levels that were much higher than usual due to Covid related issues.

### **Sacraments**

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class pupils received the sacrament of Confirmation on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Class pupils received the sacrament of First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. These were two fabulous occasions that were greatly enjoyed by the candidates, their families and our school community. The school choir performed for the first time post-Covid at both occasions and it was wonderful to have them back. We extend a huge thanks to Fr. Finn Ms. Morrissey, Ms. Lawlor, Monica, Ms. Kehoe, Monica, Leanna and all other members of staff who worked so hard to make these two occasions so special for the children.

### **Enrolment for School Year 2022/2023**

The official enrolment process has now concluded for September 2022, but we accept enrolments all the time. If you are, or somebody you know is, interested in a place for your child in our school, please contact the office on 053-9138435 or by email at [office@ballymurnns.ie](mailto:office@ballymurnns.ie) for more information.

I thank you all for taking the time to read our newsletter.

Is mise le meas,  
Emer O'Gorman  
Príomhoide

# Dates/Upcoming Events

- June Bank Holiday: School closed Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>, Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> & Monday June 6<sup>th</sup>
- Junior School Tour: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June Woodfield House
- Rackard League Girls Medal Presentation: Monday June 13<sup>th</sup>, 5pm, Ballymurn Hall
- Senior School Tour: Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June Clara Lara
- Middle School Tour: Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June The Stables
- Active Schools Week: Mon 20<sup>th</sup> - Fri 24<sup>th</sup> June
- Sports Day: Tuesday June 21<sup>st</sup>
- 6th Class Graduation: Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm
- Summer Holidays: School will close for the summer at 12.15pm on Wednesday, June 29<sup>th</sup>

## News from our Classrooms

### **Report from Ms. Ormonde's Crescent Class**

We have had a busy couple of months in the Crescent Class. The pupils have been progressing in ways that we never imagined this year and they have been loving every moment of school. Last month, we learned all about the dentist with Ms. O'Gorman's class. We expanded on the knowledge we learned during Aistear with our mainstream peers by practising these real life skills and brushing our teeth in school. A giant set of teeth even made an appearance in our bucket which was fun for everyone!

At present, we have moved onto the theme of 'The Rainforest.' The pupils in the Crescent Class have been enjoying learning about all the rainforest animals. We have been learning about where they live, what they sound like and even how they move. We have also been participating in yoga each week in class which is becoming a big hit with the kids (and adults)!

All pupils in the Crescent Class have also been enjoying athletics with our coach Sinéad as part of their mainstream classes. The pupils love playing games with their peers and we are always ready for a big lunch after running around so much during these sessions. We will all be well prepared for sports day

### **Report from Ms. O'Gorman's Junior/Senior Infant Class**

We have had a really busy, but fun time in school since we returned from our Easter holidays. We've finished learning all our new sounds and tricky words for this year and are now focussed on revising them all and are getting better at our reading and written work all of the time.

We've worked on two very enjoyable Aistear themes, 'The Dentist' and 'The Rainforest'. We learned about the dentist in conjunction with the HSE 'Mighty Mouths' programme and we look forward to a visit from the dental nurse to conclude this programme next month.

We really enjoyed Green Schools Day this week, and had many discussions about ways in which we can contribute to a more environmentally friendly society. We learned lots about the Rainforest, it's animals and it's people, and learned a little bit about deforestation through a wonderful story we read.

Our Athletics programme with Sinead started after Easter, and all members of the class really look forward to taking part each week.

In S.P.H.E, we completed the final parts of our Stay Safe programme and are currently working on the R.S.E programme. We are really looking forward to June in school, and cannot wait for our first trip together on the bus to our school tour.

### **Report from Ms. Kehoe's 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Class**

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class have had a very busy month. In Irish we have explored topics such as food, hobbies, the weather and stories. They have been working hard on their English and maths also.

In history we looked at the Irish legend, Oisín I Tír na nÓg. After, the pupils drew pictures of their dream country to live in. They came up with very interesting things to have in their paradises. In science we explored topics such as grass and snails. The children recorded facts they discovered about snails and coloured snails. They are on display in our classroom at present. We looked at the history and geography of Italy also. We read the story of Romulus and Remus. The children found the story funny and interesting.

2<sup>nd</sup> class were extra busy this month. The Communion ceremony was on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May and each and every pupil was excellent on the day. It was lovely to see everyone outside of school in their lovely Communion attire. Everyone looked fabulous! The children were excellent throughout the preparations of the big day and very willing to participate and engage with the practice and trips up and down to the church. So a very big well done to them and I hope everyone enjoyed the afters of the Communion and the lovely weather we got on the day!

The class enjoy doing P.E with Sinéad each Tuesday. Sinéad plays great whole class games with 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> and they get great enjoyment out of it each Tuesday morning. This term has really flown in. It's hard to believe we are coming to the final few weeks of this year! We have lots of things to look forward to as the year comes to an end with school tours and other various occasions!

### **Report from Ms. Brophy's 3<sup>rd</sup> Class**

May has been a brilliant month in our class as we welcomed our new pupil, Artem, all the way from Ukraine. We are delighted to have him and his family join our school community. We also helped to celebrate the Sacraments of Confirmation with 6<sup>th</sup> Class and First Holy Communion with 2<sup>nd</sup> Class as we were part of the school choir. Well done to all our fantastic singers who lent their voices to both of these special occasions and congratulations to the boys and girls who received their Sacrament.

In English this month we have continued to work on the 'Explanation' writing genre. We also read our third novel this year, 'The Giggler Treatment' by Roddy Doyle. The children thoroughly enjoyed reading about Mr. Mack and his family. They also loved hearing their teacher read the word 'poo' several times per chapter! Each child is working very hard at their reading and making great progress through the different levels.

Irish theme for the month was 'Aimsir' (weather). We have been learning lots of different ways to describe the weather as well as reading about weather in other places e.g. Texas and Amazon Rain Forests. Many of the children's fluency in their reading has improved immensely since they began using our 'Sona ag Léamh' reading programme. Keep up the good work everyone!

We have been working hard in Maths as we focused on 'Time' and '3D Shapes'. We studied timetables, calendars and identified the properties of many 3D shapes. The children made their own 3D shapes in class e.g. cone, cylinder, cuboid etc. We shall begin revising our 3<sup>rd</sup> Class curriculum for the month of June focusing on the main topics e.g. decimals, fractions, area etc.

Geography saw us learn about Australia and how the capital Canberra came to be. We did lots of research on the school tablets finding interesting facts about this amazing country. Did you know that there are 26 million people living there? Their native animals consist of the koala, emu and kangaroo to name but a few.

In Art we painted summer scenes and in SPHE we have been learning all about newborn babies and how to look after them. We would like to thank Mrs. Redmond for visiting our class with her beautiful 8 month old daughter Aoibhín. We learnt so much from this experience and really enjoyed see Aoibhín crawl and roll on her mat. She is a beautiful little girl.

Finally, I would like to thank all the boys and girls in 3<sup>rd</sup> Class for the huge effort they put into completing their recent standardised tests. Everyone tried their very best and this is to be commended.

Enjoy the upcoming long weekend and we will be back in June looking forward to more exciting events e.g. School Tour (15<sup>th</sup> June), Sports Day and Active Schools Week.

### **Report from Ms Lawlor's 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Class**

The month of May has flown by in our classroom! We hope 5<sup>th</sup> Class had a lovely day to celebrate making their Confirmation. A big thank you to the whole class for all the effort they put into their singing with the choir for both Confirmation and Communion. They did a great job!

In Maths we have been covering the topics 2D, 3D shapes and capacity. The children made some 3D shapes to explore their properties. In English we have been reading the novel *Private Peaceful* by Michael Morpurgo. It will tie in with World War 1, which we were learning about in History. The children have also been learning how to write an explanation which they will present to the class when finished.

We finally got to start learning the recorder. Many thanks to everyone for finding an old recorder at home or for buying one. Even though we're late getting started, we'll be practising everyday until the summer holidays. Already this week the children have learned the notes b and a and about time signatures, rhythms and rests. They are enjoying playing along to some simple tunes.

We've enjoyed a few fun days during the month. Well done to Jack Mc, Jack B, Louie and Jayden for showing amazing soccer skills in the Aviva Stadium last week. Also, well done to Ashleigh and Jack Mc for being part of the Green School Committee this year. We all attended the virtual ceremony on Wednesday followed by raising of the flag afterwards. We'll be looking forward to many more fun days in June.

### **Report from Ms. Morrissey's 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Class**

What a fun month May has been, it has flown by! Here is a little bit of what we have been getting up to!

In English we have been looking at some poetry, discussing our favourite imagery in the poems and talking about the mood, setting, messages, themes within them. They have been making great progress at discussing poems orally and will be composing some of our also!

In Maths, we have been busy looking at 3D shapes, making shapes using their nets and solving lots of shape based problems. We have been playing lots of chance games and activities also with a focus on the language of chance, using fun items such as coins, playing cards and dice! We have been looking at treasure maps and how the use and knowledge of coordinates can be extremely helpful when X marks the spot! Well done everyone!

In Irish we have been talking about our hobbies and pastimes and writing up a timetable/schedule of all the different activities we do in a week. We have also

been writing a little school profile this week including information about class size, where we are located, what subjects we like the most. Maith sibh!

Kids continue to enjoy athletics with Sinead for PE each week on Tuesday afternoons.

In SESE we have been looking at Australia, it's native people, food, landmarks, animals, sports and all sorts of fun information. We built our own map of Australia and marked in the main cities and territories. We have also been integrating this into our art and music this month, creating paintings based on the old Aboriginal cave paintings. We listened to different traditional music from around the world also, starting with Irish music and identifying traditional music from Africa, America, China and Australia.

## General Notices

### **Creativity Wednesday's**

Ballymurn Community Hall

Commencing Wednesday 25th May for 5 weeks

4 to 6 year olds 2 to 3pm 7 to 9 year olds 3 to 4pm

Clay, painting and more

Plenty of creativity in store!!

Contact Kathleen 0873145212 to book your place

**Community Games** Anyone wishing to enter the community games handwriting or art will have to submit by Monday 4th June both can be done at home to give a little extra time! Art subject is "community games activity". Handwriting can be anything from a poem, an extract from a newspaper or book. And handed back to school for collection

Anyone interested in doing talent can they please contact - Anne 086 198 0775 or Bevin 0872983354

Our area of community games is looking for anyone interested in taking part in track and field events for community games. Trials will be held at the community field Crossabeg Tuesday evening 31st May at 6:30 for registering and races start at 7pm. All are welcome to attend from age 7 upwards. Entry fee at gate is €3 thanks any further information please contact Anne or Bevin





**Crossabeg Ballymurn GAA Club**

**Cul Camp 2022**

**Bookings online at**

**[www.kelloggsculcamps.gaa.ie](http://www.kelloggsculcamps.gaa.ie)**

**Monday 25th July to**

**Friday 29th July**





# Summer Multisport Camps

Keep your kids active  
this summer! 🏈 ⚽ ⚾



For dates, venues and bookings  
visit [www.multisportcamps.ie](http://www.multisportcamps.ie)

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