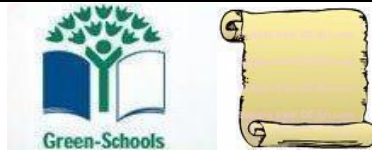


## **BALLYMURN NEWS – 22ND JUNE 2023**



Dear Parents/Guardians,

In reflection of a fantastic year, I want to pay tribute to all members of our school community. To our pupils, your work ethic, kindness and enthusiasm has led to yet another successful and enjoyable school year. You have all contributed to your school in many ways such as through the student council, participation in school events such as sports day and creating amazing hats for World Book Day. We have particularly enjoyed the past month with you all having fun and enjoying the sunshine that we have been so lucky to see recently.

To our staff, I would like to extend a huge thank you. All staff members have been so supportive of me in my new role as Acting Principal and for that I am so grateful. The pupils in Ballymurn N.S. are very lucky to have dedicated teachers supporting them in their learning and wellbeing each year.

Finally, to our parents, guardians and wider school community. We are always grateful for the support and involvement of our parents & guardians. From helping pupils with their homework, to showing up at school events or helping out on the parents council, we appreciate it all. Having a school community on the same page is imperative to its success and we are so lucky that it is the case here in Ballymurn.

I would also like to extend a sincere thanks to Fr. Finn who has a frequent presence in our school. We have been delighted to return to whole school masses this year and are grateful to Fr. Finn for inviting us to participate in these masses.

I wish everybody a safe and happy summer break, and look forward to seeing the children again on August 28th.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Chloe Ormonde  
Acting Principal

## **Enrolment for School Year 2023/2024**

We are still accepting enrolments for September 2023. 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.

## **School Tours**

### *Junior & Crescent Class tour:*

Our Junior Infants, Senior Infants, 1st Class and Crescent Class went to Woodfield House on their school tour this year. They had a fantastic day blowing giant bubbles, building 'The Great Wall of China' with blocks of turf and milking cows! The children absolutely loved their day out and the staff in Woodfield house added to the amazing day.

### *Middle tour:*

2nd and 3rd class enjoyed a trip to Courtown for their school tour. They enjoyed pedalling boats, playing crazy golf and bowling. They also enjoyed a delicious meal. The boys and girls had a great, action packed day out.

### *Senior tour:*

4th, 5th and 6th class headed off to Castlecomer Discovery Park in Kilkenny earlier this week. They braved new heights by walking on obstacle courses at a height, climbing walls and trying their hand at archery. The pupils also took part in team games and enjoyed every minute of their tour.

## **Sports Day**

Sports Day took place on Thursday, June 15th. We were so lucky with the weather, and were able to have a glorious day outside on the pitch. We had 14 teams, captained by our 6th class pupils, who had great fun competing in all the races. The winners were as follows:

1st Place: France: Amber, Luke, Ellie, Ellie-Mae, Amelia, Jack, Alfie and Noah

2nd Place: Sweden: Cillian, Jack B, Jackson, Jessica, Robbie, Penny, Ed and Timmy

3rd Place: Italy: Ashleigh, Ronan, Evan, Anna, Erin, John, Amber and Robert

Following the races, the children were treated to a yummy barbecue by the Parents' Association. Many thanks to them for their generosity, and to Denise Redmond, Denise O'Connor, Bridget Cummins, Pamela & Michaela Quirke, Niamh King, Rene Wegner, Barbara Healy, and anyone else who helped out in any way for all their hard work on the day. Thanks also to all parents who came to support and watch on the day and of course to our parents who took part in a race themselves!!

## **Active Schools Week**

Active Schools Week took place from June 12th - 16th. Many activities took place throughout the week and we couldn't have been luckier with the weather.

- Splash day took place on Monday where the pupils engaged in many water related games and activities. This is a new annual day which seems to be a highlight for many of the pupils

- On Tuesday, the senior classes walked the 6km block and our junior classes participated in a shorter walk around the village estates. The 5th & 6th Class pupils also set up stations around the school on our return for each of the classes to take part in
- Wednesday saw everyone participating in athletics with Sinéad. All pupils also had fun playing crab soccer with help from Ms. Morrissey's 5th & 6th Class.
- On Friday, all children in school enjoyed a 'healthy breakfast' in school. We would like to extend a huge thank you to Declan Kealy for supplying much of the fruit, cereals, rice cakes and juices on the day for the children to enjoy.

### **New Primary Curriculum**

The new Primary Curriculum has begun its roll out in Ireland. Our school staff have already participated in a training day explaining the new curriculum framework and how we are going to begin to facilitate its implementation over the next number of years. We are already teaching under the framework of the new Primary Language Curriculum. Following this, the introduction of the new Mathematics Curriculum will begin in September 2023. The guidelines have estimated that it will be 2025 before the introduction of the new curriculum in other subject areas will first be introduced. The department has issued a flyer to distribute to school communities across the country and you will find it attached to this newsletter.

### **Rackard League**

Well done to our boys Rackard League team who overcame Gorey in the shield final on Monday last. A great display of hurling was on show, the boys all played excellently. A special work of thanks for Ms Morrissey and all the coaches from Crossabeg Ballymurn GAA club for all the hard work they put in with the boys this year.

Also thank you to Paudie Foley, Matthew Sludds and Leah Scallon for coming in the present the boys with their medals and a special mention also to the girls who received their medals for being the runners up in Roinn B football final earlier on this year.





### **Sixth Class Graduation**

Our sixth Class Graduation ceremony will take place in the church today at 7 pm, followed by a celebration in the school for the 6th class pupils, their parents and their siblings. We would like to thank Fr. Finn for facilitating the ceremony in the church and Ms. Morrissey and Monica for all their work preparing the children for this special occasion. Thank you also to Bridet Cummins who has agreed to help with the provision of teas and coffees in school after the ceremony. We are saying goodbye to our wonderful Class of 2023, who will be greatly missed around our school next year. Go n-éirí an t-ádh le Jenna, Ciara, May, Nikki, Amber, Dani, Katie, Ashleigh, Callum, Adam, AJ, Cillian, Riain & Harrison.

Tomorrow also marks the last day of the Redmond, Fortune, Murphy, Redmond & Byrne families having a member attending our school, and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their support for the school over many years.

### **Student committees**

I would like to thank our student council and green schools committees for their dedication and contribution to their school for the past year. Our outgoing committees gained valuable experience helping out with school events and speaking in front of their peers and we encourage all pupils to consider joining up on our return to school next year.

Outgoing student council: James Vorster, Dani Canavan, Adam Dooley, Lucy Cummins, Jack McNicholas, Saoirse Courtney Kerrigan, Anna Lawlor & Leon Killeen.



Outgoing green schools committee: Roisin Farrell, Caoimhe Walsh. Jack Warren, Penny Parle, Nikki Fortune, Louie Bursey, Daniel Murphy, Erin Murphy, Jessica Murphy, Leon Killeen, John Whelan, Callum Murphy & Jenna Sheehan.

### **Parents Council**

Thank you so much to our parents council who facilitated many school fundraisers this year and who provided many opportunities for our students throughout the school year including a Christmas gift for all pupils, hosting an Easter raffle and providing a delicious barbeque at our Sports Day. We would encourage as many parents as possible to consider joining our AGM early in the next school year and signing up to help out with these much needed school events.

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

Is mise le meas,

Chloe Ormonde  
Acting

Principal

## Dates/Upcoming Events

- End of year mass for the whole school: Thursday June 22nd at 10 am
- 6th Class Graduation Day: Thursday June 22nd at 7 pm
- Summer Holidays: School will close for the summer at 12.15pm on Tuesday, June 27th
- Return to School: August 29th at 9.20am (10am for Junior Infants)

## News from our Classrooms

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

June is always a busy and exciting month but it can also be overwhelming and overstimulating for our pupils with autism. I am so proud of how each and every pupil in the Crescent Class has been dealing with the numerous changes in schedule over the past month. Their resilience has been amazing.

I think 'Splash Day' was a highlight for us this month. The pupils absolutely LOVE getting their teacher and SNAs soaking wet and we definitely won the most soaked class award on the day! We were also treated to an ice-cream in Dan Nolan's which we absolutely loved. The pupils tried their best on Sports Day and a huge well done to James Vorster who won the Crescent Class vs. Teacher race!

I am looking forward to seeing the pupils in the Crescent Class around the school again for an extra three weeks this summer as we participate in July Provision. I would also like to wish the pupils the very best of luck with their new teacher, Ms. Doyle, in September. I will miss you all very much but know that you will be well looked after with your fantastic new teacher and I will look forward to seeing you all around the school often throughout the year! :)

### **Report from Ms. O'Reilly's Junior Infant Class**

Junior Infants have been working really hard the past few months. They are continuing to make great progress in their literacy, maths and gaeilge. Their handwriting is really improving and they are enjoying working together in groups.

As the weather has been so nice we have been exploring the theme of the beach in Aistear. The boys and girls love playing in the water play and sand area. They have created cool jellyfish and painted a sea/sand picture. They enjoyed playing in our beach shop and small world beach house.

We have been very busy with our School Tour, Sports Day and Active Week.

For our School Tour, we visited Woodfield House and got to do loads of hands-on activities. The boys and girls got to milk pretend cows, build turf towers, paint, make butter, play bodhráns and had a wet sponge fight. We had so much fun there!

Active Week was so exciting. We started the week off with Splash Day. Everyone joined in and love every minute of it! On Thursday, we had our first Sports Day. The children did so well and really enjoyed taking part in the races such as the running race, three-legged race and skipping race. We got to taste some delicious burgers after to finish off the day.

### **Report from Ms. Lawlor's Senior Infants and 1<sup>st</sup> Class**

The last two months have just flown by in our classroom. The children have been busy finishing their schoolwork for the year in between all the fun days we had to fit in!

1<sup>st</sup> Class have been perfecting their joined writing, with a focus on the capital letters over the past few weeks. In Maths they have also been working very hard on addition with renaming and subtraction. Senior Infants have also been working hard on sentence writing, reading and adding 3 numbers in Maths.

Our Aistear play themes were based on summer themes, *The Airport* in May and *The Beach* in June. We have learned about how to stay safe on the beach. In History we read a Polish story called *The Dragon of Krakow* and the children made their own dragon using junk art materials.

Our school tour to Woodfield House was great fun. The children participated in many traditional games and fun activities such as bubble making, painting, limbo dancing and bodhrán playing. The children's behaviour was fantastic during all our fun days. Splash day was also a great day for everyone.

As the school year ends, I just want to say that I have really enjoyed being your child's teacher this year. They have been such a fun and enthusiastic group to work with every day. Have a lovely sunny and safe summer everyone.

**Report from Ms. Boggan's 2nd & 3rd Class** This has been another busy month in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> class.

In Gaeilge we have been learning all about 'Caitheamh Aimsire'- hobbies. The children learned how to say different phrases about the topic. They also have been learning a song called 'Ceol' and a poem called 'Iascaireacht'. In English we have been learning about procedural writing-where we have been writing collective pieces together as a class and reading comprehensions based on that genre. We are just finishing up another novel 'Charlotte's Web' by E. B White. The children have really enjoyed the story and love how it's based on animals. They are looking forward to watching the movie when we have the book completed. In maths we have been doing lots of revision work on topics such as data, fractions, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. They have been working on problem solving to revise each of the topics too.

We had a fantastic time on the school tour earlier this month in Pirate's Cove- the children enjoyed GellyBall shooting, Fun Caves, Bubble Rollers, Go Karts, Bumper Boats, Adventure Golf and Bowling. It was an action-packed day from start to finish. The children loved spending time with their friends and trying out all of the different activities that day.

The class had a great time during Active Week this month. We began each day with a 5 minute workout from Joe Wicks. We did a 10 minute 'Run Around Ireland' each day and recorded our total number of laps each day where we managed to collectively run to lots of different landmarks around the country. We also got to play crab soccer on the field which was led by the 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils. The children also got to watch the 6<sup>th</sup> class vs staff rounders match on one of the afternoons. Splash Day was another fun day of activities where the children moved around the various water stations to complete the water games with their class. Active Week also included Sports Day where the children took part in lots of different races with their teammates from the other classes.

We had a most enjoyable end to the school year with lots of fun activities. I wish all of the children and their families a safe and fun-filled summer break.

**Report from Mrs. Brophy's 4th & 5th Class**

Welcome to the June report from our class. We have had such a fun month with lots of wonderful activities.

In Maths we have studied Percentages and Chance. We are working very hard on this subject and are making great progress.

In English we have finished third novel of this school year. We read 'The Secret Garden' by Frances Hodgson Burnett. We watched the movie version of the novel also and really enjoyed this. It was such a lovely story about hope, love and 'Magic' ☺

In Gaelige we have been working on the theme 'Ocaidí Speisialta' (Special Occasions) and in History - we looked at the influence the 'Baby Boomers' of the 1960s had on society at that time in terms of fashion and music.

Activity Week was great fun for our class also. We had a fantastic Sports Day with unbelievably gorgeous weather. Congratulations to team France, Sweden and Italy who placed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Finally, in Music we learnt about one of Ireland's most famous rock band - U2. We compared and contrasted two of their songs 'Where the Streets have no Name' and 'Beautiful Day'. The children particularly enjoyed the rhythm and beat of these songs.

Our school tour to Kilkenny was a wonderful day out. We were lucky with the weather and the children had a very adventurous experience doing a variety of activities.

As this is our last Newsletter for this school year, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a lovely summer holiday break. Thank you.

#### **Report from Ms. Morrissey's 5th & 6th Class**

This was a very fun and action packed finish to the year for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class! We finally completed the running programme MarathonKids! This was an 8 week programme which included a 4 day running plan which totalled up to a full marathon distance! Well done guys this was an amazing achievement!

We also finished and completed the JEP programme, and not only that but we also received a special merit for our design approach! This is an extra special award for having used lots of original artwork and recyclable materials, instead of using images from the internet etc. We are very proud of this achievement!

We also had a lot of involvement in the Active week activities and helped to demonstrate and facilitate the younger class activities!

We had many fun days such as splash day, school tours and the real highlight was the surf day out which the children really loved!

I just want to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you for all of your support all year and all the best for the holiday



# General Notices

## Crossabeg Ballymurn Under's 8 Fundraiser

🔗 🔗 🔗 \*26th June Deadline approaching\* 🔗 🔗 🔗

The 26th of June is the last date to guarantee your order of our 2023 Coiste na nÓg program & club pens!!!

Order \*now\* @ <http://t.ly/yBvr> to avoid disappointment!

Program contains pictures of \*every\* underage team, activities, information, history & interest for past & present players & supporters.

Any orders received after this date will be processed on a first come first served basis as only \*very limited\* stocks remain!

Collection date for programs will be announced shortly 😊

Thanks again to everyone for their support 🙌🙌