

St. Laurence's National School



Summer Newsletter 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is hard to believe that the end of the school year is upon us again. It has been great to get back to normal this year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone, staff, committees, pupils and especially you the parents/guardians for all your continued support and encouragement throughout the year. We greatly appreciate your constant good will. as without it the school would not run as smoothly as it does.

School Events Update

First Communion: The boys and girls in Second Class made their First Holy Communion on Saturday, 21st May 2022. It was a great day and so nice to have all the boys and girls together to celebrate their day.

Thanks to Ms. Massey and Ms. McGinn who prepared the classes. Ms. Fahey, Ms. Carpenter and Ms. Jones for conducting an excellent choir, Mr. Maher who accompanied the choir and to all the staff who played a part.

Science/Maths Award: The school was delighted to receive the SFI Award (Discover Primary Science and Maths award) in recognition of all the hard work done in STEM in the school throughout the year. Well done to all the teachers and students.

Author visit: On Wednesday May 4th, Ms O'Callaghan's 3rd class and Ms Faughnan's 3rd class both welcomed Irish author, Natasha Mac a'Bháird to St. Laurence's N.S. Both classes enjoyed a very entertaining and enlightening morning with Natasha. The children were very curious to learn about the life of an author and there were plenty of interesting questions for Natasha in both classes! Natasha read from her novel Shay Given (Great Irish Sports Stars) and she showed the children some video clips of our former Irish goalkeeper in action. In preparation for the visit, the children from 3rd class wrote

a piece about their own favourite Irish Sports Star and shared this with Natasha.

Summer Stars Reading Programme is back in Baldoyle library this summer. It's free and is packed with fun, adventure and creativity. It is all about encouraging children to continue to read over the summer months. Pop down to Baldoyle library for more information or call 01 8906793

Gaeilge Well done to all of the children who participated in Sos Beag this year. Maith sibh go léir!



Green School: The children in both buildings continue to work hard to keep the school green. Our green school committee have had a busy year keeping us all on track to help us all become greener. All our efforts were rewarded with the 7th renewal of our Green Flag for Global citizenship and energy. *Ní neart go cur le chéile!*

Amber Flag: The school is very proud to be awarded the Amber Flag for the second year in a row. The Pieta Amber flag initiative recognises the work and activities for mental well-being carried out within the school over the course of the school year.

Save the Bees: On Friday's 27th May and 17th June, classes from the junior and senior school joined Baldoyle Tidy Towns and artist Marie Gordon for a wonderful workshop on biodiversity. It took place at the beautiful "Save the Bees" mural at the Youth Club (beside the shopping centre) and in Seagrang Park. As well as learning about wildlife in Baldoyle the children planted bee friendly flowers in planters which you can see in the car park of the Youth Club. If you would like to learn more about the tidy towns events please email them baldoyletidytowns@gmail.com

School Tours: The boys and girls in both the senior and junior school enjoyed school tours with their classes. Tours included Tayto Park for 6th Class, 5th class went to Causey Farm, 4th class went to the Sealife Aquarium in Bray and bowling and 3rd class had a fun day at the Greenan Maze in Wicklow. In the junior school 2nd Class enjoyed a day out to the the DSPCA, 1st class and Senior Infants enjoyed a trip to Newbridge Farm and Junior Infants enjoyed the butterfly house and fairy trail at Malahide Castle.

6th Class Activities: 6th class have had an eventful month with trips to the National History Museum and the Bird Sanctuary at Bull Wall. We also celebrated **6th class graduation** on Tuesday 28th June. The children had a lovely ceremony and were presented with their graduation t-shirts and certificates. Well done to all the boys and girls and we hope they all have a great summer and wish them all the very best in secondary school.

Thank you to the parents association for organising the teas and coffees and covering the costs of the t-shirts.

Olympic Swimmer visit: Darragh Greene an Irish Olympic Swimmer who swam in the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and holds the 50m/100m and 200m breaststroke Irish records visited the senior school on 16th June and spoke to the children about his training and experiences competing for Ireland. The children took part in a Q&A session with Darragh after his chat with them and they all enjoyed learning about his journey.

Sports day: The annual sports day took place on Tuesday 04th June, and was another huge success with a huge buzz in both buildings there were sack races, egg and spoon races, obstacle courses and plenty more fun and games.

Gaelic Coaching: Congratulations to the boys and girls from fifth and sixth class who took part in the school's Gaelic football teams. Both teams trained and played very well throughout the competitions. Thanks to Mr.Maher, Ms Jones, Ms.Carpenter and Ms O'Callaghan for all their hard work with the teams. All classes continue to receive Gaelic coaching courtesy of Mark from Na Dubh Ghall.

Santry races: Congratulations to all the children who represented the school at the Santry races on the 26th May. There were also a few medals won in the team and individual events. Well done everyone.

Photos from all our school activities this term can be seen on our school website www.stlaurencesbaldoyle.org

Fundraising

We would just like to say thank you to everyone who has contributed to our non-uniform day collections on Aladdin. The collections from May have raised €466. This money goes toward all the activities the Parents Committee organize throughout the school year for the children including the 6th class graduation.

Pyjama Day: On Friday 3rd June the whole school participated in a pyjama day to fundraise for "Oscar's Kids" the school have managed to raise a massive €2,476.00! Thank you to everyone who contributed to the fundraiser.

Ice-cream van: The school enjoyed a visit from Mark in the ice-cream van on Monday 27th June. Everyone got a lovely ice-cream and all donations were toward the Irish Cancer Society. Amount raised was €768. We would like to thank ??? for sponsoring the visit and

Student Teachers

- We say '*Slán agus Beannacht*' to our student teachers and wish them well in their careers.
- We also thank all our past pupils who returned on work experience as part of their transition year.

Retirement: It is with a heavy heart we all say goodbye to Gerry Burke our caretaker in the school. Gerry has been a huge part of the school community since he started with us in 2018. We wish Gerry all the very best in his retirement.

Please Note

School Closes for the Summer holidays at
12:00 noon on Thursday 30th June

School will reopen at **09:00am on Thursday 01st September**

We wish you all have a restful and enjoyable summer break.

Yours sincerely,
Clare Finnerty
(Principal Teacher)