

Basketball Tournaments

On May 22nd, 3rd and 4th class went to St. Mary's Hall on a bus. We went there for a basketball tournament against other schools. We were divided into two groups. The first group played while the second group went upstairs to cheer everyone on and vice versa. We went to the tournament to improve our basketball skills and to have fun. Everyone had a great day!

By Claire Tierney, 3rd class

On the 22nd of May, 5th and 6th class travelled to St. Mary's Hall for a Basketball Tournament. In our first match we played the Holy Family. We played very well but we lost. Our second team played Holy Family's 2nd team which we also lost but they were the better team at the end. In our second match we played Timahoe N.S. but once again lost. In the next match we played Ballinakill and we won by a late half court 3 pointer by Liam Whelan. The crowd went crazy. Liam was very pleased with himself. After a while we got a break to eat our lunch and watch a few matches. We then went down to play our last two matches. We both tried our best but sadly we lost both games at the end. We all had great fun and that's all that matters.

by Liam Conroy and Evan Farrell, 6th Class

Rounders

On the 6th of June 5th and 6th class went to the Heath GAA club to play rounders. The 6th class played The Rock and won by 9 points. In the second match, we played the Holy Family and it came very close but we won by 2 points. In the 3rd match we played Killanure. This was important because it was a quarter final. It was very close and we went into extra time because the referee thought that our third person, Gráinne Keane, got out. We got 5 people home and won the match by 5 points. We are now in the final on the 19th of June. We are looking forward to it.

The 5th class weren't so lucky. Camross, Graigcullen and The Holy Family beat them by a few points. Unfortunately, this meant that the fifth class were out of the competition but they always have next year. A girl named Danielle came to the school to do some coaching with the sixth class. It was very fun and we are going to get some more training in the future to prepare us for the finals.

By Ally Mc Donald and Orla Colley, 6th class

Cumann na mBunscol

This year in the boys Cumann na mBunscol we had played very hard all the way up to the semi-final where we were beaten by a very strong team that went on to win the final. In the first game we were beaten and outplayed by another very strong team which was Paddock that also ended up in the final. In the second game we played Clonaslee at our school and beat them by 7 points. In the third game we played Knock and beat them well. In the fourth match we travelled over to Rosenallis where we beat them by 11 points; even though they came back in the second half we kept the lead. In the fifth match we made our way over to Borris where we won by 5 goals and 2 points which allowed us to make it to the cup semi-final. We were placed second in our group so we had to play the Pike of Rushall. On the 21st of May we travelled over to Rathleague where we tried very hard and put in a powerful performance but we were beaten by 3 points which meant that we were out and were not going to the final. Even though we didn't make it to the final we still had a great time and thanks to Con and Ms. Campion for coaching us.

By Liam Whelan and Christopher Phelan, 6h Class.

Track and Field

On the 12th of June 4th, 5th and 6th class participated in the Laois Track and Field Races in Crettyard. Despite the bad weather schools from all over the country turned up for the competitions. We all participated in the 80m heats. Liam Whelan came third in the 80 metre sprint. 5th class competed in the long jump while 6th class competed in the high jump, where Gráinne was placed 4th. After this, 4th class competed in the javelin throw. Next, 4th class competed in the 600 metre long distance run. 5th class competed in the 800 metre long distance run and 6th class competed in the relay races. Our medal winners included Maya Donoghue, Niamh Stackpool, Emma 'O Connor, May Phelan, Tom Coleman, Paddy Farrell, Billy Brennan, Matthew 'O Sullivan, Katie Grant, Ava Coleman, Tara Murray, Sive Lalor, Keenan Hearn, Jack Farrell, Liam Whelan and Christopher Phelan! Despite the poor weather we all managed to have a great day.

By Keenan Hearn and Mark Hearn, 6th Class.

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Girls Cumann na mBunscol 2019

The girls camogie started in April and our first match was against Timahoe. We got off to a flying start by winning this match. Our next two matches were against Clonaghadoo and Rosenallis. The Clonaghadoo match was in Raheen and the other match was away. We won both of these matches by a large margin which led us to our semi-final against Shanahoe. We were all very nervous for this match as Shanahoe had only faced defeat in one of their matches. Thankfully though, we didn't let our nerves get the better of us and we pulled out another fantastic win.



Now all eyes were on the final and we were due to play Mountrath who hadn't faced defeat in any of their matches. On the day of the match we were all very nervous but walking onto the pitch all we could think about was going home with the cup in our hands. The match was very tight with no obvious winner at half time even though Raheen were down by 4 points. In the second half Raheen picked it up and right before the full time whistle blew Aoife Delaney got a goal to level the game. The game was so close, it ended up being a draw. There was 10 minutes extra time with 5 minutes a-side. At the end of the first half we were ahead by 4 points but Mountrath were not giving up. In the second half they brought the lead down to 1 point, but we fought back with another 2 points, leaving us ahead by 3 points. Everyone was trying their hardest until the full time whistle blew. We won the final! We went to receive our medals and Gráinne gave a great speech. Then we went to Super-Macs to celebrate. For the girls in 6th class this was a great way to end our school years.

By Gráinne Keane and Lucy Donoghue, 6th Class.

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Congratulations to Ms. Herlihy on the birth on her baby boy, Mikey.

We wish all our Sixth Class the very best as they move on from Tobar an Léinn. Always remember your 'Tús Maith' in Tobar an Léinn!

Our First Holy Communion

We made our First Holy Communion on May 12th in St. Fintan's Church, Raheen. We received the Body of Christ for the first time ever. All our friends looked lovely and we were excited on our special day. Afterwards we took photos and had a big party with our family and friends. Thank you to Fr. Kelly, our teachers Ms. Griffin and Ms. Herlihy and our families for preparing us for our special day.

By Abbie Conroy and Ciara Byrne, 2nd Class

6th class Graduation

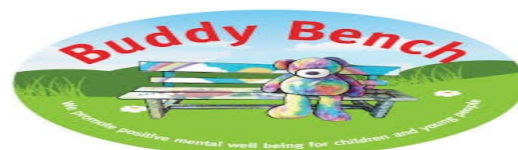
On the 24th of June 6th class will have their graduation and prayer service. This will be very sad because we will be leaving each other and going our separate ways. We will be having our prayer service first, followed by our graduation party with cake and kids champagne. We will also be singing a song. We will all be graduating apart from Liam Conroy who will be on holidays. We would like to thank everyone individually. Thank you to Ms. Ní Leathlobhair for all the good times in Juniors and Seniors and for teaching us the alphabet. Thank you to Miss Barry for teaching us in 1st class and Mrs. Griffin for helping us prepare for Communion. Thank you to Miss Hayes in 3rd and 4th class for the square chart and the lucky dip. And thank you to our current teacher Ms. Campion for all the fun trips and fun events carried out throughout 5th and 6th class. We all can't wait for that surprise at the end of the year and our great school tour. Thank you to Con for training us this year and being a great caretaker. Thank you to Mrs. Campion and Mrs. Moore for helping us throughout the years. Thank you to Orla the secretary for organising buses and other events and for being a great help. And finally thank you to the Parents Association for getting us our lovely hoodies.

By Aoife Delaney and Sophie Callaghan, 6th class

Buddy Bench

We got a new Buddy Bench in our school. It is a great idea because it's a place where children go and sit if they are feeling lonely or have nobody to play with. Other children notice and play with them. A lady came to our school and did a demonstration which was very educational and fun and it taught us to be kind.

By Conor Bergin and Patrick O'Connor, 2nd class



Debating

This year 3rd to 6th class took part in the Judy Walsh Debating League. There were eleven teams in total and most teams have five students. Pupils from 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th class were split up to form the teams. Each week a couple of debates took place. The winning team of the debate would then move on to the next round. There has been three very interesting rounds so far. Our grand final will take place on Friday the 21st and we are all very excited about it. We all wish the best of luck to both teams in the final. We all had lots of fun debating and we really enjoyed it.

By Aoife Hennessy and Ally McDonald, 6th Class

Write-A-Book

This year our school took part in Write-a-Book. Everyone had a few weeks to write their own story and we were all excited. The stories were sent away to be corrected and the winners from each class were picked. The winners went to the Awards Night in Portlaoise. We all enjoyed writing our books.

By Simon Callaghan and Shane Keogh, 1st Class.

Sports Day—Wednesday 19th June

Summer Holidays—Wednesday 26th June



School Tours

Infants visit Playtown

The class went on our school tour to Play-Town on a bus. When we got to PlayTown I saw a radio station called Midlands 103. My favourite thing in PlayTown was playing cops and robbers and the Ice Rooms where we made a big bridge.

By Molly Donoghue, Senior Infants.

Third and fourth class are looking forward to travelling to ZipIt on Tuesday 25th June.

Fifth and sixth are going to Explorium and Jump Zone on Thursday 20th June.

1st and 2nd Tour

On Thursday 6th June we went on our school tour. First we went to Rathdowney Playground and played on the monkey bars. It was lots of fun. Then we went to Kilkenny Activity Centre and got to play Splat-ball. We had guns with paint for bullets and we got shot everywhere. After that we did the assault course. We climbed, crawled and went through mucky water. It was brilliant fun.

By Bobby Callaghan and Lenny Phelan, 2nd class.

Active Schools Week

Active Schools Week was so much fun. There was bean bag tossing, Zumba with Tanya Grant, a visit from Martin McDonald and lots of fun and games in the yard like snakes and ladders. We all loved Active Schools Week.

By Ben Fitzpatrick and Adam Coogan, 2nd class

Congratulations to our Active School Team led by Mrs Griffin and to all our pupils who helped Tobar an Léinn to achieve our second Active Flag this year!!!

Cake Sale

This year 3rd and 4th class prepared a bake sale for the whole school and everyone took part. We raised over €400 from the bake sale and raffle tickets for our school and the children's ward in Portlaoise hospital. Alisha and Shane Keogh won a delicious cake, Patrick Doogue won a lovely hamper and Rebecca Seale won a voucher. Thank you to everyone involved.

By Maya Donoghue, 4th Class

Health Promoting Schools

The Healthy Promoting Team set about introducing a number of initiatives this year to make our school a better place for all our community. We took part in Food Dudes where we tried peppers, pine-apples, melon and blueberries. We all loved the fruit and vegetables. It was brilliant because now people have tried new foods they might not have tried before. The whole school took part in the Buddy Bench programme which promotes kindness and friendship. A woman came to give us the bench and she talked about the Men's Shed, which was an idea where men who were lonely came together and they sat down and had a cup of tea, became good friends. Then they started fixing things. The Men's Shed made our Buddy Bench. We are now waiting to hear from the HSE to see if we will be recognised as a Health Promoting School based on all our hard work.

By Leah Bergin and Jack Farrell, 6th class

