

Hurling Final 2012—

A Bridge Too Far

It was the 29th May 2012, a cold and damp morning and I (James Keyes) like the rest of the team headed to school. The long and painful wait for our parents to collect us at 2pm finally ended. When we arrived at O'Moore Park it all sank in. We knew that our opponents, Castletown, would be gunning for us following our previous meeting, where we won by just one point. During the time in the dressing room our mentors, John Sinnott and Chris Murray, who were with us the whole year, gave us some words of inspiration, before heading out. Miss Kirwan, unfortunately, could not be with us, due to her All-Star trip to Toronto. Then we were out of the dressing room and into the thick of it. The ball was thrown in and Castletown were off the mark fast. They were not making life easy for our back-line Nathan Dunne and Daniel Butler and of course most of all our keeper Eoghan Brennan. We knew from ourselves that we were way off our usual performance and that we could be playing a lot better than we were all over the pitch. We were letting in goals not the fault of Eoghan Brennan, and our reply was just some points here and there, but goals were what we needed. At the break it was Castletown 3-3, to Tobar an Léinn 0-4. We, as a team wanted to show that we were better than this and could play the way we could, so we did, with some new faces. The work-horse John Mulhall and his brother in arms Eoin Donoghue had to succumb to the side line for the super-subs, it makes the winning days even sweeter! Final score Castletown 5-6 Tobar an Léinn 3-10.

Soon after, a long ball launched up from Nathan Dunne was collected with ease by William Ward, who was unlucky not to win a free, but instead was dispossessed. I quickly ran on to it and was fouled and awarded a free. I stepped up to take it and got a goal!!! We were now daring to dream that we could do it, but our dreams were quickly put to bed when from that puck-out the final whistle blew. We are gracious in the face of defeat, but sure that's sport and it makes the winning days even sweeter! Final score

Castletown 5-6 Tobar an Léinn 3-10.

By James Keyes, 6th Class.



Swimming

This year, after Easter, 4th, 5th and 6th started swimming for six weeks every Monday. We are split into two groups. Our group does the breast stroke and floating. The other group have even done some life saving skills. At the end we have playtime. We all enjoy it and it is good exercise.

By Amy Whelan, 4th Class.



How to Know its Summer

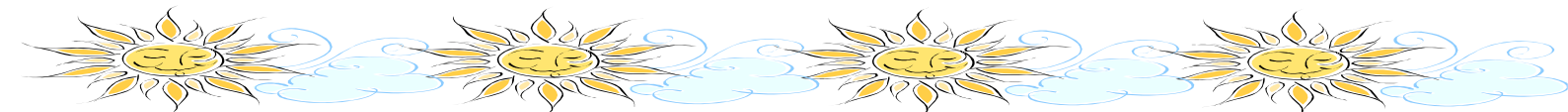
We Know its Summer when the leaves turn green

We Know its Summer when buttercups bloom

We know its Summer when the G.A.A. is on

We know its Summer when there's no School.

By Natasha Dunne 3rd Class.



Tobar
An
Léinn

Nasc

"Tús
Maith"

Tobar an Léinn Achieve

Three In A Row



On Friday 15th we had the raising of the Green Flag. Our special guest on the day was past-pupil, Brenda Stackpool,

President of Laois Chamber of Commerce. To celebrate 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th classes sang songs. The infants sang a song and performed a dance while the band, Glúnóg from rang a 5 agus a 6 performed a number of tunes. Ms. Ní Leathlobhair gave a very good speech highlighting that only 1% of the earth's water is fit

for human consumption – this is why it is so important that we:

"Use less water In your home Save Conserve Every drop".

Mr. Mac Gearailt and Mr. Michael Holland, Chairperson of the Board of Management presented Ms. Stackpool and Ms. Ní Leathlobhair with a gift to mark this important day. Luckily the rain held off so we were all able to make our way outside to watch Ms. Stackpool raise our Third Green Flag. It was a very memorable day. **By Eoin Donoghue, 6th Class.**

Have a wonderful safe summer holiday everyone!! We'll look forward to seeing you after the summer – rested, relaxed and ready for the new school year.



Summer Concert

On Thursday Night the talent of the pupils in Tobar an Léinn will be on show in an end of year Concert in the James Fintan Lalor Hall at 8pm. The Parents' Association with John Hosey, have organised this concert for the new School Choir and other acts. It's sure to be an enjoyable evening. Best of Luck to all taking part.

My bicycle

My bicycle is an old bike about 70 years old. It is called a High Nelly. My Mam used to take it to school. The bike is covered in rust and has no brakes. My grandfather got it for my Mam in exchange for 30 square bales of straw. It is very fast and easy to cycle.



I cycle it up and down the road nearly every day. It is a very high up bike and has springs under the saddle. It is a Raleigh Biker. There is a High Nelly Club in Durrow that goes to almost all the vintage rallies.

By Enda Mulhall, 5th Class.



School Tour to the reptile Zoo

On Wednesday the 6th of June 2nd, 3rd and 4th went on their school tour to the Reptile Zoo in Kilkenny.

We left school at 9.30 a.m. When we arrived we had a small break. Then we started our tour. The tour guide showed us around. Her name was Megan. She answered all our questions. First we went to the alligator tank. The male alligator's name was Battle. Then we went over to the snakes, Squirt and Budha. Budha is the largest snake in Ireland.

Phyttons, rattle snakes, cobras, alligators, blue tonged lizards, bearded dragons and a snapping turtle are some of the many reptiles we saw. My favourite was a funny lizard called Vincent. After the tour we had a handling session. I held a snake and a bearded dragon. A blue tongued lizard started to walk on the barrier. Everyone touched him. There was a snapping turtle that bit through plastic and was too dangerous for us to touch. After that we had big break. We went into the play area. It was fun, we were back at ten to three. The whole day was brilliant. **By Cameron Halcrow, 4th Class.**

The Infants and First Class are heading to Abbeyleix on Friday the 22nd for their Tour. They will visit the Library, Dove House and the Heritage House and then on to the playground. It's sure to be an enjoyable day for all.



Sports Day

Our Sports Day which was due to take place on Friday the 8th of June had to be postponed due to the bad weather. We are now looking forward to it on the rescheduled date—Tuesday 26th June.



Our School Tour!!!- Behind Bars

On the 7th June, 5th and 6th Class went on their school tour to Kilmainham Jail. We set off at 9.30a.m, even though it was lashing rain - we didn't let that get in our way. On the way we all connected our DSs' together and played Mario Kart against each other, while some chatted. When we got to Kilmainham Jail we went inside and then we met our tour guide. She was called Siobhán. She was very nice and she was really good at explaining all about Kilmainham Jail and about the 7 leaders. She showed us a DVD about Kilmainham Jail, and about the 1916 Easter Rising. After the DVD she showed us all around the Jail, including the 7 leaders cells and the private execution area where the prisoners were executed and the execution yard. In the yard there were 2 crosses showing where they were executed. On the way home we stopped at McDonalds for a little snack, but before that we took a quick drive past Phoenix Park and Aras an Uachtarain to pass the time. We arrived back at school around 3:30pm where our parents collected us. I'd definitely go back to Kilmainham Jail any day!!!



By Chloe Fox 6th Class.

Glúnóg—Tobar an Léinn's Band

The Music Group has got a new name—Glúnóg. Glúnóg means **"Young Generation"**. We have been practicing hard and Ms McGill has been helping us. Glúnóg played at the Green Flag Day and never made one mistake. We played O'Keefe's Slide, an unnamed reel, St. Patrick's Day and the Kerry Polka. Unfortunately, I broke my arm and was unable to play but the band played nevertheless. "The show must go on!" as Mr. Fitzgerald said on the day. We received a round of applause and Conor Donoghue and Eoghan Hanley played a few funny notes and everyone laughed. Every Wednesday we practice and we are progressing well for next year. **By Conor Hennessy 6th Class.**

OUR CONFIRMATION

JOURNEY GOES ON



Our Confirmation Journey began when we started our project. This project helped us understand that Confirmation is all about living life like Jesus. On Tuesday nights 5th and 6th class came to the school to complete a Confirmation Programme. This was called "You Shall Be My Witness". Some parents gave up their spare time to teach us about prophets and inform and support us on the journey we were fulfilling. We had lots of fun being in different groups and taking part in different activities. The day of Confirmation we were all prepared and ready to go! We were excited to receive the Holy Spirit. A few weeks after the Confirmation we went on a retreat to Mount St Anne's. Here we prayed and learned how to live up to our life task. Fifth and sixth class want to thank Mr Mac Gearailt, Father Kelly and group leaders for all their help and support throughout our successful journey. **By Emma Grant 5th Class.**

Our Communion

In October our class started to prepare for our First Holy Communion. All our class had a family mass to help us prepare. In March we had our First Penance. Some of us were nervous, but also excited. In May we had a lot of work preparing for the Communion Day. Ms Kirwan and Father Kelly helped us prepare. It was great fun. Our Communion Day was Sunday 20th May. It was a really sunny day and everyone looked very well. We got to receive the host for the first time. It was very special. Lots of families had a party to celebrate. Seven boys and six girls made their communion. We all enjoyed our Big Day.

By Jennifer Holland, 2nd Class.

Trip for the Flag- On Tuesday the 22nd of May, four members of the Green Schools committee travelled to Athlone to collect our third green flag. The ceremony took place in the Sheraton Hotel, where we were given a lunch of soup and sandwiches and profiteroles for dessert. After lunch, we joined representatives of other midlands schools for the presentation of the flags. We were delighted to receive a brand new green flag. **By Vincent O' Cinnéide, 4th Class.**



Green News Concern

On the 18th April Liam Barnard, from a charity group called Concern, came to talk to us about their life-saving water projects in developing countries. He showed us pictures and photos of how poor Africa really is. He showed us a few pictures of a girl who is going to a small school there. The children used to have to carry water to school with them everyday. The school now has its own water container which is huge. Concern helped them build the water container. In school we tried to raise enough money to buy one solar powered water pump. But instead we had enough for three! One pump costs €36 and we raised €130.62. Three of the Green Schools Committee, Eoin Donoghue, Vincent O'Cinnéide and myself presented him with a huge cheque. We hope our donation will give a better quality of life to African children. **By Emma Hennessey, 5th Class.**