

Weekly Newsletter 23rd May 2025

Meitheal Evening Of Action on Wednesday- Please join us!

Dates for your diary

Friday 30th May & Monday 2nd June (Bank Holiday) :School Closed

Sports Day;Tuesday 10th June (weather permitting)

Incoming Infants Visit:17th June

6th Class Graduation: 24th June @ 7 pm

6th Class last day: 25th June

Summer Holidays:27th June

Tours

Here is an overview of all the fun that is happening on our school tours this Month and next:

16th May: Jun Infants, Sen Infants & 3rd trip to Dublin Literature Festival

26th May: 6th Class 3 Day trip to Delphi Adventure Centre

5th Class Tour to Explorium

27th May : Jun & Sen Inf Tour to Kia Ora Farm

29th May: 4th Class Exhibiting their Postcard garden in Bloom

17th June: 3rd & 4th Tour to Trinity Sports Centre

18th June: 1st & 2nd Class Tour to Dublin Zoo

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Testing

Our classes have been completing standardised testing in Literacy and Numeracy over the past while. Some classes also complete tests on Gaeilge also. This information is valuable from a whole school perspective as we see how our pupils are performing in relation to national norms. The results are submitted to the Department of Education. They also highlight areas of teaching and learning that may need to be addressed as a whole school.

They are useful to parents to provide insights into a pupil's individual performance. The results should always be viewed as indicators of performance however. The teacher can also give you an informed perspective on your child. Tests are also a measure of outcomes on a particular day and may not capture the progress the pupil has made over the year.

The Growth Mindset is a useful model to apply to test outcomes; if a score is lower than expected, parents can frame this positively; emphasise the improvement that has happened with hard work/ homework/great listening to teacher. Focus on what has been achieved. If the results are high; you can encourage a growth mindset by again focussing on effort rather than labelling a child as "smart" By doing this, it helps to build resilience in our children. It also gives them a space to improve and grow; the labels are not fixed.

Our results are consistently strong and we are proud of our academic outcomes in our school. We measure ourselves in many ways ; how we care for our pupils, how happy they are , how well the pupils engaged with their learning, the level of collaboration among our learners, their levels of independence and curiosity..... we hope that we are hitting the top notes on all counts and we are always looking at ways that we can improve!

The Standardised results will be shared on pupil report cards for 1st-6th early in June. You can make an appointment to follow up with your child's teacher if you have any queries arising from these.

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Delphi Trip

Our 6th Class trip is a great way to build independence and for the pupils to have a ball! Ms Kearney and Breda always ensure that the tour is a memorable time for all the pupils. All the time spent outdoors in beautiful surroundings, taking safe risks and being in groups is so valuable. We wish our 6th Class well!

Parents Links

This Webinar provided by the HSE may be of interest to you ; Managing Big Emotions. See link below.

Bloom

The 4th Class have been so involved in cultivating their plants for the garden. We cannot wait for the trip on Thursday to see our garden in situ! Grainne, Orla and Amy have been busy bees on this project; thank you to you all!

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Follow Up to Colman Noctor/Reducing Screen time

We have looked at aspects of our digital learning in school and our digital learning homework. We have decided to suspend the use of the Digital Learning Programme, Spellings For Me. We will be choosing an alternative Spellings programme which is textbook/workbook based instead.

We have also reviewed the use of Reading Eggs at the Junior End of the school. We will be reviewing our use of the Seesaw platform in September. In doing this , we hope to reduce the amount of time that pupils spend on their parents phones / their own devices, to do homework. This reduces their screen time and hopefully reduces the conflict which can sometimes arise when parents then seek to end the screen time.

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We will continue to review our progress in Spellings and to evaluate the effectiveness of our programmes. We will be interested to hear parents' feedback on this in September. More to follow.

The P.A. will continue to work with the other schools in our parish on our Device Free Childhood Pledge.

Please continue to encourage your children to get outdoors and play safely, developing their independence and social skills.

Local Interest

This is a lovely way to get out for walk this weekend and to support a worthwhile cause- You may be interested in learning more in the link below:

<https://www.autismassistancedogsireland.ie/events/%f0%9f%90%be-join-the-agri-a-dog-walk-2025-in-support-of-aadi/>

Curtlestown Ladies Lunch; We wish our friends in Curtlestown School well as they celebrate their Annual Ladies Lunch in the Summerhill Hotel this weekend.

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