



St. Paul's National School

Summer Newsletter

Welcome to our end of year newsletter - we have moved onto eight pages because so much is going on! A taster...our performance choir came second in the prestigious Navan Choral Festival; our under 11 Olympic handball team competed in the Leinster Final; we had our Active week including water day, fun day, two sponsored walks, Athletics day and GAA day, we celebrated three beautiful Holy Communion ceremonies, and had the photos taken, we had two performances of 'Return to Planet Calculus'....and that was just in one week!! From the beginning of the year until the end the teachers lead the children in an assortment of activities and experiences. I would like to thank all the teachers for the dedication and commitment which they show every day in offering our children these amazing opportunities. I hope they will enjoy a well-earned rest. Thank you to our parents and Parents' Association for the invaluable support they give us. We wish our sixth class boys and girls all the best as they leave us to move on to secondary school. They'll be missed! We'll see everyone else back, safe and sound, on the 29th of August. Meanwhile, enjoy the newsletter and don't forget our website on www.stpaulsratoath.ie

Morag McGowan

Graduation 2013



In the beginning...!

In September 2005 St. Paul's National School was established. The first group of Junior Infants, 28 children, joined two teachers on the first day....

We've come a long way from there and now our first group of Junior Infants, with some very welcome new additions, have grown up and are moving on. On the 26th June 2013 we celebrated our first graduation and 44 sixth class children have moved on to secondary school. We wish them the best of luck!



St. Paul's Variety Show 2013

Our Variety Show proved to be a massive success with much thanks and appreciation going to all the teachers who worked so hard with the children in the run up to the show and to all the parents, family and friends who purchased tickets to support the event.



The Lion King was performed by our Fourth Classes. This production told the story of Simba, a young lion in the Pride Lands of Africa. The tale was portrayed through classic songs such as 'Circle of Life', 'Can you feel the Love Tonight?' and 'I Just Can't wait to be King'. Fionn and the Fianna, the story about a young Fionn, a boy who is full of ambition and the hope that one day he will become leader of the Fianna, was performed by Third Classes. Our performance choir treated the audience to a selection of a songs - 'Rolling in the Deep', 'One more Day' and 'May the Road Rise to Meet You'.



The Wizard of Oz - a classic tale about a young girl Dorothy who takes a journey to the Emerald City with Toto, Scarecrow, Tin Man and Lion - was performed by our 5th Classes. 6th Class Children performed Bugsy Malone, a ganster musical set in the 1920's featuring Dandy Dan and his gang who try to take over from Fat Sam. The play includes great comedy scenes, fantastic songs such as 'Fat Sam's Grand Slam' and 'Bad Guys'.



Sport

Olympic Handball

After successfully defending their county crown before Easter, our U-11 boys' Olympic handball team qualified for the Leinster final where they came up against Dublin opposition in the form of St. Patrick's N.S from Foxrock. Having performed brilliantly in the first half the boys went in at the break three goals to the good. However St. Patrick's proved to be very difficult opponents and they came back to draw the match 5-5. Level at the end of normal time, the teams could not be separated in extra time. Eventually our boys lost out narrowly on penalties. Although a cruel way to lose, the boys represented the school with pride and will no doubt be back next year!

Football

Our boys' junior Gaelic football team participated in the Fingal league. Playing for the first time in Division 1 of the competition, the boys performed excellently in their three matches and are looking forward to taking part in the Meath league in early September. Also congrats to Aaron Farrell who has been selected to represent Meath in the mini seven's game in Croke Park. Aaron will play at half time of the Meath v Wexford game this Sunday June 30th. We wish Aaron the very best of luck. We thank Tara from Ratoath GAA who has come in to the school each Tuesday to coach the Junior and Senior Infant classes in Hurling.

Athletics

We end another successful year at St. Paul's. The children who participated this year were very dedicated and determined and competed very well throughout the year! We wish all the 6th Class children who took part this year the very best and hope they will continue to keep Athletics up. Well done to all involved!

Tennis

We had our annual tennis tournament with 4th/5th class girls and boys. Ms Gogan was amazed to see how talented everybody was and how much they had improved.

In addition, Teachers ran a **basketball league** for 4th and **football leagues** for 3rd and 4th class boys. There was great enthusiasm and huge potential shown.

School Tours 2013

The weather was very good to us this year for our annual school tours. Most days went without even a drop of rain. We received great reports back from teachers and children alike.

- Junior Infants to Newbridge Farm.
- Senior Infants to the Zoo.
- 1st Classes to Causey Farm.
- 2nd Classes to the Pine Forest.
- 3rd Classes to Dublinia and the Phoenix Park.
- 4th Classes to W5 in Belfast.
- 5th Classes to Crystal Maze in Cavan.
- 6th Classes to Tanagh Outdoor Adventure Centre in Monaghan.



Ms Dooley's JI Class went to Newbridge Farm



On behalf of the 5th and 6th class girls Gaelic team I would like to thank Ms Dennehy, Ms Prendiville and Ms O'Donnell for training us. We had an amazing experience! We trained several times a week and learned many skills. We worked hard, competed well in matches and we are very proud of our success. By Chloé Faherty and Zoé O'Callaghan

St Paul's National School, Ratoath



First Holy Communion ~ Mr. McCahey ~ 2012 ~ 2013

St Paul's National School, Ratoath



First Holy Communion ~ Ms. Kennedy ~ 2012 ~ 2013

St Paul's National School, Ratoath



First Holy Communion ~ Ms. Ní Chinnéide ~ 2012 ~ 2013

Communion 2013

Our 2nd class children made their first Holy Communion on the 11th of May. We thank the teachers Mr McCahey, Ms Kennedy and Ms NíChinnéide for all their hard work in preparing the children for the big day. We also thank Ms Gogan, Ms Kieran and Ms Smyth for leading the school choir over the three ceremonies. Our Parents' Association did us proud by hosting a party in our school hall after each of the three Communion ceremonies. Special thanks goes to the volunteers who helped out, the day before the Communion setting up the hall and on the day making sure a good time was had by all. Nothing was forgotten or left to chance. The attention to detail was second to none. We sincerely thank all of those who helped out to make this annual event a very memorable occasion for the children and their families.



The school hall transformed for our First Holy Communion school party!



Date for your Diary!

Next year's First Holy Communion will be on Saturday 17th May 2014.



Children from 3rd classes present a representative from The Irish Cancer Society with a cheque for €935.50



Children from Ms McCarthy's and Ms Gogan's 4th Classes present a representative from Irish Autism Action with a cheque for €935.50



Our 6th Class children were asked to donate some of their Confirmation money to charity - they chose Temple Street Children's Hospital and St. Vincent De Paul. A cheque for €165 was presented to both charities. Well done to the sixth classes, you should be proud of yourselves!

Open Day

We had an Open day for 90 new infants, and some older children transferring from other schools, and their parents. We look forward to seeing them again in school on the 29th August.

Coin Trail

Our Coin Trail raised €1871 euro which was split between two very worthwhile charities - The Irish Cancer Society and Irish Autism Action.

Barretstown

Our 2013 Communion children contributed money to Barretstown and raised €582 for the charity. It was a very generous donation from such small children and showed great kindness - well done!

Sponsored Walk

All the children and their teachers walked around Ratoath with different walks for different classes. €4,391 was raised by the children and their families. We are very grateful for the generosity shown and this money will be put towards buying equipment for the school.

Food Dudes Programme

Our Junior Infant and Senior Infant Classes took part in our 'Food Dudes' Programme which has been specially developed to encourage children to eat more fruit and vegetables. The programme ran for 16 days during which each child received a small portion of fruit and raw vegetables to eat in class before lunchtime. It was a great success and encouraged the children to try new foods. Thank you to the Parents' Association, who funded it and Ms O'Toole who organised it.

Ms O'Toole's Class enjoying the Programme



Achieving our 2nd Green Flag

We achieved our 2nd green flag this year for energy. Well done to the Green Schools Committee and to all the children and teachers in the school for all the hard work that was necessary to achieve this. Particular credit goes to Ms Crowe, Ms Egan and Ms NíChinnéide who put in a tremendous amount of work.



Passing the Green Flag



How we got our 2nd Green Flag by Genevieve Slod

Sophie and I from the green schools committee got picked to receive our energy flag. On Tuesday the 28th of May Sophie and I were collected by Miss Ní Chinnéide. We went up to the Pillo hotel in Ashbourne. When we got there we had a lovely lunch. We met Ms Crowe there. After lunch we went into a big hall. There was a man and a lady there. Peter from the Meath County Council was there too. The lady from the Louth County Council was there as well. They all made speeches. The man said that we are not the only country that do green schools and that 53 other countries do green schools as well. Then he started to give out the green flags. I didn't know that playschools do green schools!!!!!! There were 50 other schools before we got our flag. When we went up to get the flag Sophie got the flag and I got the book that showed what we have to do next year and the year after. Then after the ceremony we left the Pillo hotel. Ms Ní Chinnéide dropped me back to my crèche. She went with Sophie to bring her back to the school. We had a wonderful time collecting our 2nd green flag!!!!!!!!!!!! :}

Green Schools by Sophie Scattergood

On Tuesday the 28th of May Genevieve and I went to the Pillo Hotel to attend the green schools ceremony. Ms Ní Chinnéide and Ms Crowe joined us. We got a gift bag with a carrier bag, a bottle, a tattoo that said green schools and some wildflower seeds. It was very nice of them. We had a great lunch. Pasta, beef stew and potatoes, it was very nice. We also had a choice of Lemon cheesecake, Strawberry cheesecake or coffee cake for dessert. After lunch we went into the ceremony room to receive the green flag. Peter, who came to interview us a while ago, spoke there along with two other women and the presenter who gave some speeches about green schools too. The schools were called out one by one. Each school walked up to the stage and received the green flag and certificate, with a plan for the next flag. Genevieve and I walked up to collect ours. It was a very fun and interesting day. I hope to be elected for green schools again in 6th class!!

Cash for Clobber

Our recent clothing collection yielded €800 euro which will be put to very good use within the school.

Wedding Bells!

Congratulations to Ms Crowe who got married during the year and to Ms Dooley who is getting married in July and will come back to us in August as Mrs Begley.

Garda Band

The Garda Band visited our school on Friday 14th June and entertained the children and staff. We are very grateful to Killian and Aisling's mother who organised it for us. We had a great time!

Pentel Art Winners

Each year we participate in the Pentel International Children's Art Exhibition. The following children have won awards which unfortunately did not arrive before the end of the school year but we promise to distribute them in September.

Pentel Certificates go to Emilliana Baczkowski, Sofia Hearn, Liam Fraser and Aaron McGoldrick

Bronze Awards go to Gavin Daly, Dennis Olaru, Shóna Conneely, Cian Campbell, Conor Godkin, Charlie McCue, Molly Kearns, Aaron Harry Bizzell, Megan Fitzmaurice, Tazim Ibrahim, Rebecca Ryan, Katelyn Collins, Alex Kearney, Paul Rynan, Ella Clancy, Aaron Prendergast, Jessica McMahon, Dara Kavanagh, Eoin Drysdale, Aaron Farrell, Daniel Ohoka, Lillian Brady, and Darragh Harte

Silver Awards go to Mary-Kate Prior, Lara O'Suilleabhain, Aisling Stratford, Meg Johnson, Sophia Collins, Luke Colgan, Joshua Connolly, Remi Akinyemi, Pierce McManus, Ryan Foley, Seán Goggin, Olivia O'Driscoll and Colm Sevestre

Gold Awards go to Piotr Weglowski, Vincent McGuinn, Ella Byrne, Joshua Lyons, Abi Hunt, Charlotte Hue Hurley, Daire McCourt, Zoe Preece, Sarah Cullen, Ameera Saeed, Claudia McKeon, Evun Grant, Josh Donohoe, Ella McGoldrick, Eve Drysdale, Jennifer Lee, Laoise Murphy, Mia Cunningham, Max McGreevy, Nicole Gallagher Breslin and Aaliah Saeed.

A **Supreme Gold Award** was awarded to Sam Paval.

Well done to all the children involved!!

All Ireland Champions! Again!!

For the 2nd year in a row, our school choir have won the title of All Ireland Champions in the Community Games which was held on Saturday last in Athlone. Tremendous credit goes to Ms Hession and Ms Kieran who spent many hours with the choir preparing them for this annual event. The children performed three carefully selected songs beautifully - 'Rolling in the Deep', 'One more Day' and 'May the Road Rise to Meet You'. The choir also performed in the Navan Choral Festival and came second in that equally prestigious event!



Active Week

Once again we had a very successful active week this year. Over the course of the week, the boys and girls of St. Paul's enjoyed taking part in a range of varied activities. As always the emphasis was on enjoyment and participation. The week started with our now much anticipated water day. Doing exactly what it says on the tin, the boys and girls ran, skipped and jumped their way through a series of water activities that had the expressed aim of ensuring they had a smile on their faces. Tuesday was our fun day. Egg and spoon races, sack races and wheelbarrow races were just some of the fun events the children enjoyed. Our annual athletics day took place on the Wednesday. Special thanks goes to Peter Doherty from Ratoath Athletics Club and his wonderful team of coaches for organising a very successful day that gave the children a chance to try out the full range of athletics events. Held over two days on Thursday and Friday St. Paul's went on a tour of the village for our annual sponsored walk, and the week concluded with our annual GAA day. Once again a huge thanks to Philip Lanigan and his team of coaches from Ratoath GAA club for organising such an enjoyable event that gives each child an introduction to the games of football and hurling.

**Congratulations to the following children
who missed no days from school this term**

Niamh Colgan, Sophie Coroner, Tarah Coyne, Maxim Cusack, Gavin Daly, Katie Doherty, Robert Hayes, Isabella Khreiss, Lauren Mavimpi Kimbond, Liam Larkin, Megan Murray, Charlie O'Hare, Isabel Byrne, Kevin Cunningham, Adam Ducie, Joshua Gill, Sadhbh Gorman, Tom McCormack, Lauren McKenna, Eva Murray, Molly Murray, Círdan O'Chearnaigh, Max O'Reilly, Dennis Olaru, Vasilica Paval, Eoghan Shirley, Dylan Taylor, Harry Bogan, Katie Burke, Ruby Coatsworth, Oran Corboy, Aoibhínn Gibson, Kevin Gray, Alex Knowles, Dylan Langan, Éinín Murphy, Ava Prendergast, Evan Sherry, Isabelle Somers, Ava Cooley, Ciaran Dardis, Conor Godkin, Daragh Grennan, Molly Kearns, James Kelly, Devin Lynch, Charlie McCue, Amy Murray, Eabha Brown, Conor Daughton, Kyle Donohoe, Lorna Fisher, Mia Foley, Saul Harris, Conor Shirley, Seán Twyford, Aaron Bizzell, Ruby Daly, Mila Downey, Megan Fitzmaurice, Sarah Forde, Tazim Ibrahim, Jonathan Kaya, Zara Lynch, Cormac Tormey, Tyler Arkesteijn, Finn Boylan, Jack Clarke, Lauren Dolan, Ryan Dunne, Chris Duruanyawu, Ben Fitzpatrick, Joshua Lyons, Laiqa Saeed, Andrew Brady, Sonny Byrne, Liam Corbett, Amy Forde, Ava Gorman, Charlotte Hue Hurley, Aoife Hyland, Dara Kavanagh, Áine McCourt, Pierce McManus, Ella O'Reilly, Nicholas O'Rourke, Bronagh O'Sullivan, Séan Phelan, Andrea Styles, Lucas White, Valentina Antonescu, Tomás Corbett, Wafiq Ibrahim, Leyla Kaya, Alan Kearns, Seán Kennedy, Adam Leeson, David Stobie, Jack Tormey, Ryan Walsh, Oliver Walter, Reuben Byrne, Shauna Cantwell, Grace Lan Conway, Rachel Hue Conway, Seán Corbett, Niamh Gibson, Helen Jenkins, Katie O'Neill, Michael Ohoka, Danielius Simonavicius, Conor Yardley, Senan Byrne, Alannah Cashman, Ryan Foley, Matthew Godkin, Sean Goggin, Christopher Haskins, Grace Hennessy, Alex Hesse Mason, Elizabeth Martin, Adam Murphy, Vincent White, Aimee Doherty, Benjamin Fraser, Lucas Longhi, Karen Mavimpi, Jessica McMahon, Grace McNeill, Nathan O'Connor, Aaron Prendergast, Adam Sherry, Margarita Baturova, Adam Cameron, Blessing Duruanyawu, Alex Fisher, Mark Kearns, Ava Killalee Okeke, Jack O'Neill, Killian Stratford, Conor Tierney, Paul Tynan, Matthew Hayes, Laura Jenkins, Emily Keeley, Jennifer Lee, Laoise Murphy, Liam Reynolds, Ruqaiya Saeed, Emma Burke, Leah Carey O'Neill, Ryan Doherty, Josh Donohoe, Evun Grant, Yasmin Kaya, Ella McGoldrick, Georgia O'Driscoll, Bogdan Batur, Ross Coatsworth, Kevin Dat Conway, Roisin Corbett, Karlin David, Sidney Dehane Edge, Katie O'Reilly, Mathieu Sevestre, Finn Turner, Liam Fraser, Amy Kinsella, Ella Byrne, Daragh Coatsworth, Luke Colgan, Abbie Coyne, James Cullen, Morgan Foster, Lee Gallagher, Eoghan Grennan, Seán Harte, Hugh Kehoe, Laura Kelly, Megan Langan, Lily Nannery, Corina Wade, Aoife Dardis, Rachel Doherty, Cain Fagan, Jake Fox, Adam Goggin, Luke Huynh Hurley, Tracy Kimbond, Emma Moore, Annia White, Piotr Bacowski, Emma Coroner, Hannah Dowling, Tara Ferguson, Daniel Ohoka, Radu Olaru, Sophie Scattergood, Luke Tynan, Lillian Brady, Luke Edwards, Darragh Harte, Niamh Larkin, Conor Phelan, Jessica Pik Shun Wong, Cian Buckley, Alexandra Ghorghi'ta, Harry Haskins, Emma McCamley, Riona Murphy, Leah O'Hannigan, Jordan Peppard, Sophia Long Kiu Wong, Harry Bailey, Cillian Byrne, Chloe Faherty, James Hennessy, Freya Kavanagh, Luke Keegan, Lucy Kelly, Conor Knowles, Cian O'Keefe, Jamie Reynolds, Roisin Tierney, Zoe Walsh, Ben Wyer.

Congratulations to the following children who missed only one day from school this year!

Lauren McKenna, Dennis Olaru, Kevin Cunningham, Seán Coleman, Ava Prendergast, Cara O'Sullivan, Bobby Smith, Megan Fitzmaurice, Tazim Ibrahim, Cormac Tormey, Danielle Connolly, Finn Boylan, Katie Smith, Adam Brady, Taigh Walsh, Corina Wade, Laura Kelly, Lee Gallagher, Hannah Cronolly, Andrew Brady, Dara Kavanagh, Sean Phelan, Wafiq Ibrahim, Vincent White, Emma Dunne, Erin Byrne, Leah Barnville, Matthew Hayes, Yasmin Kaya, Josh Donohoe, Roisín Corbett, Finn Turner, Karlin David, Ross Coatsworth, Sidney Dehane Edge, Emma Moore, Lauren Kelly, Abby Hesse Mason, Tara Ferguson, Max McGreevy, Conor Phelan, Luke Edwards, Colm Sevestre, James Hennessy, Jamie Reynolds, Royale Ohoka.

Congratulations to the following children who missed no days from school this year!

Katie Doherty, Lauren Mavimpi Kimbond, Megan Murray, Gavin Daly, Robert Hayes, Molly Murray, Éinín Murphy, Katie Burke, Alex Knowles, Evan Sherry, Harry Bogan, Oran Corboy, Geena Keogh, Charlie McCue, Mia Foley, Conor Daughton, Kyle Donohoe, Saul Harris, Ruby Daly, Lauren Dolan, Ryan Dunne, Tyler Arkesteijn, Amy Kinsella, Liam Fraser, Ella Byrne, Andrea Styles, Aoife Hyland, Bronagh O'Sullivan, Charlotte Hue Hurley, Liam Corbett, Lucas White, Sonny Byrne, Leyla Kaya, Adam Leeson, Alan Kearns, Jack Tormey, Ryan Walsh, Grace Lan Conway, Rachel Hue Conway, Michael Ohoka, Reuben Byrne, Seán Corbett, Alex Hesse Mason, Christopher Haskins, Ryan Foley, Senan Byrne, Aimee Doherty, Karen Mavimpi, Aaron Prendergast, Adam Sherry, Paul Tynan, Laoise Murphy, Adam Jackson, Katie O'Reilly, Bogdan Batur, Mathieu Sevestre, Aoife Dardis, Rachel Doherty, Tracy Kimbond, Cain Fagan, Luke Huynh Hurley, Sophie Scattergood, Daniel Ohoka, Radu Olaru, Lillian Brady, Alexandra Ghorghi'ta, Emma McCamley, Riona Murphy, Harry Haskins, Roisín Tierney, Cillian Byrne, Conor Knowles, Harry Bailey, Jared Molphy.