

Confirmation

Congratulations to the 6th class children who made their Confirmation on March 22nd. Bishop Tom Deenihan confirmed them on the day and the PA hosted an after party here at the school. Thank you to the PA for all their efforts in putting on this memorable event.



Congratulations to the following children who have missed no days this term

Ms Melvin's Class: Harley Cummins, Zoe Elwood, Emily Petrisor, Tadhg Dempsey, Kara Theron and Erin Dempsey. **Ms Ruane's Class:** James Dowling, Emma McKenna, Zoe Fullam, Matthew Woods, Isabella Hanly, Olly Tormey, Erica Ryan, Elliott Prendergast, James Petrone, Adam Duffy, Lauren Lynch, Molly Walsh and Eva O'Leary. **Ms O'Sullivan's Class:** Ella Rose Muller, Éabha Woods, Cathal Crowley, Kerry Anne Keane, Sam Fullam, Lauren Giurgila, Julie O'Brien, Eli McNamara, Cullen Smyth and Harry O'Connell. **Ms Kennedy's Class:** Lucie Cunningham, Fae Hennessy, Oran Jennings, Rhys Malone and Naoise Lumley. **Ms Dennehy's Class:** Harrison Cooke, Oliver Couch, Aoibheann Ginley, Luke Gill, Devin McGrath, Patricia Simonavicius, Max McDonald, Callum White and Jason Giurgila. **Ms Hession's Class:** Cáit McElroy, Conor Hickey, Lynn Willems, Aron Gieros-Tchorz and Emma Flood. **Mr Joyce's Class:** Finn Carrigan, Lara Clarke, Clodagh Kinsella, Lily Mae Fahey Clancy, Ciaran Pentony, Holly Dowling, Abigail King O'Gorman and Ellie O'Gorman. **Ms Prendiville's Class:** Bobby Cannon, Ollie O'Brien, Joe Thompson, Gabija Rimkute, Niamh Daniels, Finn Higgins, Isabel Winston, Maya Moran, Liam Godkin, Tia Flynn, Lydia Jordan and Joe Tormey. **Ms Mullen's Class:** Ellen Daughton, Matthew Meagher, Amelia Cooley, Harriet Prendergast, Hannah Reynolds, Adam Walsh, Alex Richardson, Holly Dowling and Caroline Woods. **Ms Burke's Class:** Declan Byrne, Shane Hickey, Stephen O'Brien, Isla Willoughby, Dylan McMahon, Amy Leeson, Lauren Doran, Louis O'Connell Cowley, Zac Stafford, Aoibheann O'Connor and Doireann O'Sullivan. **Ms Cunningham's Class:** Conor Andrews, Hannah McCue, Lee O'Connor, Amelia Couch, Seán Ward, Serena Conway, Paul Thomas and Éila Corboy. **Ms Bagnall's Class:** Oscar Hennessy, Emma Ginley, Tommy Lynch, Liam Wade, Michael Murray, Cian O'Callaghan, Megan Lane, Conor Gibson, Sophia Sherry, Aleks Suhanovs, John Thomas, Seóna Cunningham, Ciara Gill, Louis Connolly and Nicole Doherty. **Ms Crosbie's Class:** Katie Barker, Noah Murphy, Ryan Tinnelly, Siobhéal Hartford, Elena Kinsella, Emily O'Connell Cowley, Ehren Harris, Harrison Yardley, Joseph Cooley, Tadhg Keenan, Caleb Richardson and Lucy McCormack. **Ms O'Donovan's Class:** Mark Daughton, Oisín O'Riordan, Lauren Murray, Evie Wardick, Sorsha Lumley and Olivia Ryan. **Ms Murphy's Class:** Aoife Kinsella, Lily Flood, Aoibheann McNamara, John Fitzgerald, Ben Hayes, Gracie Cronin and Stephen Heffernan. **Ms Broderick's Class:** Lucy Kelly, Harry Hesse Mason, Fionn Crowley, Jack Cotter, Ava Doran, Lucy Reynolds, Marie Phelan and Seán O'Sullivan. **Mr Duffy's Class:** Amber Lane, Sonia Gieros-Tchorz, Gabriele Sutkeviciute, Ava Hennessy, Eva Carroll, Killian Murphy, Sophie Cooke, Isabelle Twyford, Darragh Griffin-McEnroe, Sadie Prior and Brendan Meagher. **Ms Tully's Class:** Rachael Hyland, Jenna Willoughby, Karolina Meagher, Clodagh McHugh and Alice Kinsella. **Ms Conroy's Class:** Harry Bogan, Max Brady, Aoibhinn Gibson, Ruby Coatsworth, Saoirse Carrigan, Sophia Collins, Ava Prendergast, Oran Corboy, Katie Burke, Evan Sherry, Éinin Murphy, Aria Kinsella and Callum Willoughby. **Ms Brassill's Class:** Lauren McKenna, Katie Keenan, Joshua Gill, Max O'Reilly, Seán Coleman and Christopher Cannon. **Ms Hamilton's Class:** Niamh Colgan, Molly Moran, Tarah Coyne, Katie Doherty, Gavin Daly, Cillian Malone, Isabella Khreiss, Lauren Mavimipi Kimbondo, Robert Hayes and Mary-Kate Prior. **Ms Brennan's Class:** Eve Winston, Ava McManus, Darragh Lyons, Jessica Cronin, Sarah Forde, James O'Kane, Amy Murray and Cormac Tormey. **Mr Harte's Class:** Ryan Brunton, Shawn Ocampo, Seán O'Beara, Analena Stobie, Conor Daughton, Saul Harris, Ella Clarke and Rebecca Ryan. **Ms Moore's Class:** Sophie Barker, Jonathan McDonnell, Molly Kearns, Elsa Johnson, Ella Goggin, Geena Keogh, Kate Raftery, Adam O'Connor, Seán Caffrey and Cara O'Sullivan. **Ms Smyth's Class:** Troy Farrell **Ms O'Connor's Class:** Noah Langan and Leah McGlinchey



St. Paul's National School Easter Newsletter 2019

We're always up for a bit of excitement in St. Paul's and what could be more exciting than a school surrounded by scaffolding and fencing! Unfortunately the excitement is wearing off and there has been very little in the way of information or progress from the Department of Education and Skills. They still tell us their investigations into all Western schools are ongoing and that they will have no information until it is all completed. You'll hear when I do! There will be further investigations over the Easter break and they have agreed to address some electrical issues which we brought to their attention. Hopefully the weather will be better in the final term and the children will be able to walk, scoot and cycle, which will help with the parking! Meanwhile, fun and games continue as normal and I am very grateful for the patience, cooperation and support shown by all the parents and staff. Roll on tomorrow and our 'Pyjama Dance for Cancer'! Thank you to the Student Council for organising this. Enjoy the Easter break and we'll see you all on the 29th of April. **Morag McGowan**



Easter Bunny Visit

The Easter bunny and his helper were made feel very welcome when they visited the children this week. Thank you so much for taking the time out to come to the school and for providing a little chocolate treat for each child!

6th Class Bake Sale

Our sixth classes held a bake sale on Friday 8th February and raised €1359.56 which will go towards helping subsidise their school tour.



Health Promoting School Week

Our Health Promoting School week was packed full of activities to encourage and support a healthy mind and a healthy body! Yoga, Meditation, Dance, Food Dudes and Healthy cooking were just some of the activities enjoyed over the week. A new initiative to encourage good oral health resulted in a Brushathon on one evening at 8pm. As you can see lots of you got in on the action!



Jersey Day for 'Cystic Fibrosis' and 'Kyle's wish to walk'

We were delighted to raise €1200 on jersey day for both Cystic Fibrosis and Kyle's wish to walk. Kyle and his mum visited the school and were presented with a cheque which included a contribution from Ashbourne Credit Union.



Friends for Life

We recently completed the Friends for Life programme for 1st classes. This is a school based mental health programme which helps students deal with worry, stress and change. Our Teachers are qualified through the National Educational Psychological Service (NEPS) to deliver this programme to the children. It is a positive, fun learning experience which the children should enjoy and learn from.

Dates for your Diary

School is closed on Friday 3rd May for a staff in-service day

School will close on Tuesday 21st May at 1.40pm for all children to facilitate a staff meeting.

Uniform Fitting Days

Our uniform people will be in on Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th June for fittings and uniform orders.

Variety Show for 3rd/4th/5th/6th Classes

18th/19th June

Dates for 6th Classes

6th Class Tour - 20th/21st June

6th Class Graduation - Wednesday 26th June.

New School Year

Children return after the Summer Holidays on Thursday 29th August.



Congratulations to Éila Corboy who won third prize in the Ashbourne High Street Art Competition 'Put Mam in the Picture'. Éila won a €10 euro voucher for herself and a €100 voucher for the school. Thank you Éila!!

New Incoming Junior Infants

We will be inviting parents and our new incoming Junior Infants into the school for an introductory meeting on the 11th & 12th June. Our uniform people will be here for fittings and uniform orders can also be taken over these two days.

Rainbows

We have just completed a 12 week term. Thank you to the Teachers and Staff members who provide this valuable programme.

Cór Fhéile

Our school choir represented the school in this years Cór Fhéile. The children performed 'Tale as old as time' 'Your Song' and 'Trasna Na dTonnta'. Thank you to Ms Hession and Ms Conroy for rehearsing with the children.



Swimming

We have finished a Swimming term for Junior Infants, 1st classes, 4th classes and Rooms 25 and 26.

Athletics Report

Boys and girls from First to Fifth class took part in a cross country athletic competition in Navan Racecourse in March. They were competing in distances of between 600-1000m. Despite the heavy rain and strong winds, all the children ran exceptionally well and they brought home lots of team and individual medals. A big well done to all athletes who competed and a big thank you to all teachers involved.

Basketball

It was another busy year for St. Paul's basketball teams. Our boys and girls competed in the Meath Primary Basketball League where both teams made it to the finals in Trim. The girls were first to play and were met with a very tough side. Although they were trailing in the first half of the game they fought back to win and they brought the trophy back home. The boys' team had enjoyed a hugely impressive season in which they remained unbeaten coming into the final match. They faced a very strong St. Paul's N.S., Navan team and despite their hard work and effort the boys were narrowly defeated. St. Paul's are very proud of both teams and want to wish the sixth class players the best of luck for the future!



Congratulations to Darragh Grennan who represented the school brilliantly in the recent Spelling Bee Competition. Having qualified as our school champion Darragh went on to the Meath Final where he did both himself and the school proud! Maith thú Darragh!



Field Trips!

We had a number of field trips this term. Our 5th classes visited Kilmainham Gaol, 4th classes visited Fairyhouse Racecourse while 6th classes visited Leinster House. Everyone had a great



We are delighted to report that we have just been awarded our third active flag. We are currently working on our 5th Green Flag, and our flag for health promoting schools. We look forward to updating you further on this in our Summer Newsletter!!

We would like to thank Ratoath Men's Shed for the fantastic bug hotels which they very kindly made for us! The Green Schools Committee will be busy installing different materials into the hotels to encourage a variety of bugs and insects to shelter, feed and nest there. This project will positively impact biodiversity in our school by increasing awareness of the natural habitats present on our school grounds.



Cash For Clobber

Thank you for supporting our recent cash for clobber collection. We raised €742.00 for the school.



Well done to our super four who participated in the Ashbourne Credit Union Quiz. Thank you to Mr Harte for organising the team.

Seachtain na Gaeilge Agus Bliain na Gaeilge

Bhí seachtain íontach againn in the lead up to St. Patrick's day with lots of activities taking place for Seachtain na Gaeilge. There was plenty craic agus ceol i rith na seachtaine and it was lovely to hear the páistí using their Gaeilge throughout the week. Many thanks to all of the múinteoirí for their help throughout the week and a special go raibh maith agaibh to the páistí from the Coiste Gaeilge who produced some lovely artwork and who have been very busy encouraging all of the páistí scoile to use their Gaeilge more often. The week was rounded off nicely on lá glas where our school choir, who had recently participated at Cór Fhéile, sang for the school to mark the end of Gaeilge Seachtain na Gaeilge. In addition we raised €817.56 for Goal so thank you very much to everybody who contributed.



Easter Sports' Report

Once again it has been a very busy and successful sporting term in St. Paul's. This report will give you a flavor of the range of sporting activity in which our boys and girls participate. Well done to all concerned and to all the teachers who give up their time to train these teams.

Aldi Rugby Tokens Collection

As official supermarket of the IRFU, Aldi is giving primary schools the chance to win €50,000 to develop their playing facilities and help more children live a healthy and active lifestyle. Two Primary Schools will win €50,000 each to develop their playing facilities. A primary school in each province will receive €2,500 worth of training equipment for their school, a training session with Paul O'Connell, a new set of school jerseys and Aldi branded water bottles. Every school who enters a fully completed poster will receive an Aldi Play Rugby kit bag, 4 rugby balls, a water bottle holder and 6 water bottles. As many of you know we have been very busy here at St. Paul's collecting rugby tokens each time we shopped in Aldi over the past few months. Each poster holds 300 stickers and we have been very fortunate to have filled six posters with the help of all our families in St. Paul's. Thank you for all your incredible support in this.

Olympic Handball Meath Finals

It was another successful day for St. Paul's Olympic Handball teams in Gormanstown with all four of our teams having reached the Meath Finals. Each team started with a semi-final game. First up, our U11 girls



and our U11 boys took on Skryne N.S. both games were close encounters and St. Paul's displayed some great skills but were unlucky to lose out to very strong Skryne teams. The U11 girls played Carnaross N.S. in the play-off game for 3rd place and played their hearts out. They beat Carnaross to secure their 3rd place medals. Our U11



boys faced St. Anne's N.S. in their play-off game but were very unlucky to lose out to a very determined St. Anne's team. The boys finished 4th place in Meath.

Our Senior Boys' Team were up next to play Skryne N.S. in their semi-final. With a great display of teamwork and skills the boys secured their victory and a place in the Meath Finals. Here they played Yellow Furze N.S. The game was very fast paced with end to end scoring. The boys were beaten by narrowest of margins, a goal, to come 2nd in Meath and qualify for the Leinster Finals.



Our Senior Girls' Team met Yellow Furze N.S. in their semi-final with the game staying level with one a piece for much of the game. The girls showed great skill and determination but were very unlucky to lose out in the dying minutes with a goal for Yellow Furze. The girls finished 3rd in Meath. We are very proud of all the children and the work they put in to reach the Meath Finals. Thank you to all their coaches for giving up their time to train the teams.

Leinster Finals

The U-13 Boys' Handball team did themselves proud in the recent Leinster Finals, coming third overall. In the semi-final they faced tough opposition in Rush N.S. After a thrilling battle with some excellent displays St. Paul's lost out by the narrowest of margins with the game finishing 1-0. Rush went on to win the final. The boys met St. Olaf's in the third place play-off and they performed exceptionally well. They played with confidence and flare and they won the game comfortably on a scoreline of 6-0. They can be extremely proud of their achievements this year and they are a credit to themselves and the school.



Boys Mini -7's

St. Paul's N.S., Ratoath emerged victorious in the final of the Meath Cumann na mBunscol Mini- 7's competition after a thrilling and extremely close encounter with Kildalkey N.S. On the day, the twelve winners of the regional competitions competed against each other in four groups. St. Paul's and Kildalkey met each other in the final, having successfully navigated the group stages and their respective semi-finals. Kildalkey got off to a dream start scoring 1-1 in the opening minutes. St Paul's battled back with goals from Seán Twyford and Robert Hayes and there was very little between the sides at half time with Kildalkey just edging the encounter.



The second half was an incredible display of talent with both sides exchanging scores and neither side willing to concede an inch. St. Paul's went in front early on with some fantastic scores from James Kelly, Seán Twyford and Robert Hayes but were never able to open up a secure lead due to some fine teamwork from Kildalkey. St. Paul's needed to use all their resources to keep the upper hand and it took some heroic defending from players to try and keep Kildalkey at bay. St. Paul's Keeper, Devin Lynch, in particular put his body on the line several times to deny Kildalkey a number of excellent chances.

In the dying moments it was all to play for with both teams executing some fine scores. With barely any time left on the clock, it took an excellent long ball from Seán Twyford into the forward line to pick out Robert Hayes in order to see the game out. Hayes was left one on one with the keeper and maintained his composure to confidently slot the ball into the Kildalkey net which sealed the victory by a goal. This is St. Paul's second time to win this competition.

Girls Mini -7's

Congratulations to the Girls Mini-7's football team who played three games in Dunshaughlin GAA grounds. The girls played three games against Skryne N.S., St. Seachnall's N.S. and Rathfeigh N.S. displaying great skills. The girls' football team are made up of 5th and 6th Classes. We wish Sophie Coroner a speedy recovery following her injury during this competition.

Coaching

Thank you to Rory from Leinster Rugby who has been providing coaching to our 5th Classes. 4th and 6th Class will avail of coaching after Easter. Also thank you to our new GAA coach Diarmuid who has just started coaching our 1st and 5th Classes. Junior and Senior Infants will receive GAA coaching in May. Thank to you Sarah who coached our 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 6th classes prior to Christmas.

Soccer

On March 29th and April 4th the Boys' and Girls' Soccer Teams competed in the MDL Navan. All teams played some fantastic soccer and showed great sportsmanship on the day. The boys' B team and girls' A team made it to the play-off on each day with the boys losing out to a very strong Duleek side. The girls A Team met Ratoath Senior N.S. in the play-off. After a very early lead for Ratoath S.N.S.,



Molly Kearns stormed up the field and took her shot to score a brilliant equaliser.



With the game finishing in a draw, the match went to penalties. Molly Kearns, in goal, kept a clean sheet for St. Paul's. Grace Kelly and Molly Kearns stepped up to take their penalties and each scored to secure the win for St. Paul's. The girls went on to play in the finals' day on 10th April and were runners up on the day. The girls made history as this was the first time St. Paul's girls' soccer team had made it through to the finals' day and the first soccer medals for the school and we are super proud of them!!