

St. Paul's Summer Raffle Prize Winners

Thank you to all our sponsors and to everyone who bought tickets. We raised €3,493.00 for the school. The winners are as follows:

24' Felt Mountain Bike	Alex O'Leary
MRS Beauty Hamper	Niamh Flynn
Gucci Westman Giftset	Oliver Rourke
Graham Knuttle Painting	Oscar Twyford
€100 Des Kelly Voucher	Evan Duffy
€50 Blanchardstown Voucher	Layla Lane
€100 One for All Voucher	Harry Fitzpatrick
€50 La Bucca Voucher	Mathew Hetherington
€50 La Bucca Voucher	Ryan Mulligan
€50 La Bucca Voucher	Gracie Cronin
€50 All for One Voucher	Joe Tormey
€50 Blanchardstown Voucher	Annabelle Zhao-Kelly
€50 All for One Voucher	Jayden Crawley
€50 All for One Voucher	Reyah Pathmarban
€50 All for One Voucher	Millie Corcoran
€100 All For One Voucher	Cora Tobin
€25 Ashbourne High Street Voucher	Calvin Griffin
€25 Ashbourne High Street Voucher	Mia Deasy
€25 Ashbourne High Street Voucher	Lauren Murray
€25 Ashbourne High Street Voucher	Leonidas Kelly
Chocolate Fringe Voucher	Conor Hickey
€40 Melt Vouchers	Adam Forde
Gleeson Butcher Voucher	Rachael Hyland
Little Prints Voucher	Kate Butler
Zoo Voucher	Kyle Kane
Zoo Voucher	Oliver Foran
€50 Forever Amber Voucher	Nathan Connolly
Wine and Coffee Set	Jacob Lee
Circle K Hamper	Oisin Wallace
Bottle of Lacoste Perfume	Seán Petherbridge

We also had a free kids' raffle. The following children won goodie bags:

Scott Fitzgerald Room 1, Ben Murray Room 3, Goda Baltrusaityte Room 4, Siuan Hanly Room 5, Tadhg Dempsey Room 7, Eabha Coy Room 8, Elliot Prendergast Room 17, Hannah Reynolds Room 11, Karl Leydon Room 14, Isabelle Hetherington Room 15, Ryan Tinnelly Room 19, Sara McMahon Room 21, Cameron Jordan Room 22 and Brogan Ryan Room 24.

Congratulations to all our Winners!

Other News

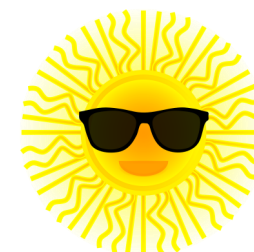
In case the containers and the skip weren't a give away, there will be work going on in the school again this Summer. All of the light fittings are being upgraded so every room will be effected. The school and the grounds will be out of bounds so please make sure to bring all bikes and scooters home. We will re-open as planned on the 31st of August!

Summer Reading Challenge

Summer reading challenge with Meath Libraries on <https://youtu.be/APZkXOqBPN8> or see all events at www.meathlibraries.ie

Run Around Ireland Challenge

This May and June the children of St. Paul's took on the 'Run Around Ireland' Challenge. This involved the children running laps of the yard. Each lap was measured as 1km for this challenge. Each class had a map of Ireland with the landmark sights of Ireland marked in. Each class measured the distance from our school to the landmark they chose to visit. The class would then choose a new destination to run to. When each class reached the new landmark of Ireland they would learn a little about that landmark. The children really enjoyed this challenge and it was great to see their levels of fitness improve. Each class finished the challenge by going on a walk around Ratoath Village. Well done to all for great participation in this challenge.



St. Paul's National School Summer 2021 Newsletter

As I told the children, this year would be different ,but good. It was, in fact, amazing. It is hard to imagine, and even harder to explain, but the atmosphere that has been around the school all year has been so positive and so uplifting that the past year has been a great one. There has been so much happiness, so much kindness, and such incredible support. We managed to give the children a fairly normal experience. The bubbles and pods, sanitising and wash bags are not remarkable anymore, they've become so used to it. Breaks and activities are even better than normal, despite all weathers, and the amount of activity in and around the school has been phenomenal. Attendance has also been very good. Our attendance, in a pandemic, was 95.4%. To put that in context, last year it was 95.7% and the year before that was 95.4%! There was still the usual high level of teaching and learning, both remote and in person, but beyond that the children got so much more...we still had Active Week, we still had Santa, we had Christmas concerts and dress up days, we had the Panto and pyjama day, we had tours, prize givings, Easter eggs, jersey day, 'sponsored' walks, graduations, assemblies, fun friends and sacraments.

Most importantly we had very happy children. They took to remote learning extremely well and settled back into school even better. It has been a great year and I would like to thank all of you for your support throughout, for abiding by the rules and restrictions in ensuring that we kept the school safe. I would like to thank the children for how well they adapted and how well they followed the new practices in school and I would like to thank the staff for everything that they have done to get us all safely, and happily, through this year. Everyone went above and beyond and did it with a great heart and with the children to the forefront of everything they did.

What should have been a horrendous year, turned out to be an incredibly positive one, so thank you to all.

Morag McGowan

Active Week/Sponsored Walk

Thank you to Ms Dennehy for organising a very active 'active week'. There were lots of events organised, in a socially distanced way, and we would like to thank the Athletics' Club, GAA Club and Tennis Club for allowing us to use their facilities. The week ended with a Jersey Day for all and each child were given an apple and a bottle of water. The week also coincided with our Sponsored Walk and as we couldn't collect sponsorship money in the usual way we asked for a 'participation fee' of €4.00 instead. We are delighted to say we raised €2,081.00 for the school.



International Children's Art Exhibition Winners

Congratulations to all the winners of the 51st International Children's Pentel Art Competition.

Pentel: Devin Burke, Harry Hetherington, Leo Ross, Noah Coy, Isobel Cox, Jamie Beamish, Lauren Robinson, Suzie Milner, Goda Baltrusaityte, Rayah Malone, Katie Conaty, Jason Giurgila, Niamh Daniels, Sarah Ann Brady, Grace McNally, Alexandru Petrisor and Amber Wyer. **Bronze:** Jack Burke, Senan Finnegan, Ava O'Leary, Sophia Coyle, Saul Galvin, Erin Dempsey, Erica Ryan, Cathal Crowley, Ben Arthur, Victor Clarke and Olivia Ryan. **Silver:** Hannah Barry, Mia Deasy, Jamie Farrell, Oliver Lantry, Thomas Quinn and Rachel McKenna. **Gold:** Conor Murphy, Ellie King, Tadhg Dempsey, Devin McGrath, Annabelle Zhao Kelly, Ellie O'Gorman, Lily Flood and Nathan Connolly. **Supreme Gold:** Amber Keenan and Seán Foster.



Ms Dennehy's 1st Class enjoying the recent good weather.

Confirmation and Communion

Bishop Deenihan has asked parents of 6th Class children to save the **4th/5th September** for their Confirmation ceremony. We hope to have further information in late August.

Our 2nd Class children had their first confession in school with Fr Gerry and Fr Yohanna and they hope to celebrate the children's First Holy Communion on **Saturday 18th September** with ceremonies at 10.00am, 11.30am and 1.00pm.

Reading Eggs and Maths Seeds

Just to let you know that the children from Junior Infants to 4th Class will continue to have access to their Reading Eggs and Maths Seeds programmes over the summer. There is no pressure on anyone but the children might like to access the range of reading materials or explore some of the additional maths activities which are available through these online programmes.

Community Games

The Ratoath/Rathbeggan Community Games were held virtually this year. Congratulations to Charlotte Fitzpatrick who won two prizes - 1st place in U8 art competition and 2nd place in the U12 solo singing competition.



Baby Joy

Congratulations to Ms. Conroy who had a baby boy this month.

Wedding Bells

Congratulations to Ms. McMahon who got married in June and to Ms. Dennehy who is getting married in July.

6th Class Graduation

We are always sorry to see our 6th class children move on and this year is no different. Despite Covid restrictions we were still determined to give the children a good send off and organised two school tours while following the safety recommendations. The children went to Cavan Crystal Maze and Tanagh Outdoor Adventure Centre. A special thanks to Ms Ward and Ms McGowan for making this happen!

