



Scoil Naomh Feichín Termonfeckin



End of School Year 2014-2015

Dear parents,

Enclosed with this final newsletter you will find your child's school report and a calendar for the school year 2015/16. We hope that all of our pupils had a very enjoyable year in our school and that they have made good progress academically. At the end of this very busy term we all deserve a well-earned break and we sincerely hope that all of our school families have a great summer holiday.

The staff will be involved in planning and organisation activities at the end of August and we look forward to seeing all of our pupils back at school on September 1st.

Bryan Collins
Principal



Ms Helena McDermott (SNA)

It appears that we will be losing another long serving member of staff, Mrs Helena McDermott, this summer as the Department of Education & Skills is likely to reduce our SNA allocation at the end of this month. *Ms Helena* has worked in our school for the last 13 years in her role as Special Needs Assistant and has provided wonderful support for several children with special needs during that time. It is disappointing to lose someone with such a wealth of experience and we know that our pupils will miss her greatly. We wish Helena all the best for the future.

County Council Environment Awards 2015

The Green School Committee in our school was delighted to be awarded a 3Star Award in the Louth County Council Primary Schools Environmental Awards earlier this month. Representing our school at the presentation in Dundalk were Mrs Cassidy, Aoife Curran, Jayne Smith and Edie Ryan. This prize helps to affirm the fantastic work that has been carried out in the area of Biodiversity in our school throughout this school year.

We have lots more plans for next year and we look forward to continued support from our school community.

Many thanks to Oonagh Rath who kindly took the pupils to Dundalk on the day of the awards.



Skipathon 2015

To kick off Active School Week this year we held a School Skipathon. This event includes every pupil in our school in a team skipping competition. There were 10 skippers of all ages in each team and each child got to skip for 60 seconds. The total number of skips were then calculated and the team with the greatest total, at the end of the competition, were crowned winners.

The winning team this year was made up of : *Azaan Hafeez, Victoria Pompova, Neda Totilate, Sophie Sheridan, Jessica Campbell, Jack Rogher, Soairse Branigan, Coaimhe Hynes, Victoria Ajayi & Caoimhe Johnston.*

There was also an individual competition with five of the top skippers in the school selected to contest the final. The finalists were Eoin Finglas, Aoibh Murray, Rachel Akano, Alex McAleer and Joy Njekwe. With 168 skips completed in 60 seconds Aoibh Murray (left) came out on top, just pipping Eoin Finglas (165 skips) for the title. Presentations will take place on Tuesday, June 23rd.



Skipping Champion 2015
Aoibh Murray

Maths Questionnaire

Many thanks to the parents of pupils in 1st - 6th classes who filled out our recent Maths Questionnaire. We were delighted that there was such a positive response. The feedback you provided will be very helpful when we are planning for the new school year.

Book Scheme

It is great to see so many parents supporting our School Book Rental Scheme. It is a fantastic and cost-effective way of organising your child's school books for the upcoming school year. Parents who are not in the scheme are advised to order books early in the summer as book shops may be out of stock in late August and it is unfair to expect children to begin the school year without their school books. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Mrs Hurley who organises the School Book Scheme every year.

End of Year Mass

Please come along to our special school Mass to mark the end of the school year on Tuesday, June 23rd at 10am in the Church of the Immaculate Conception.



Cycle Safety Training

As part of National Bike Week (June 13-21), the boys and girls in Ms Maguire's 3rd Class received an afternoon of Cycle Safety Training funded by Louth Sports Partnership. Three experienced cyclists from the Cú Chulainn Cycling Club showed the children how to cycle safely on the road. They also gave advice on looking after your bike and wearing cycle helmets. It was a very worthwhile exercise and hopefully we will have an opportunity to provide other classes with this training next year.

New Text Service

Please ensure that at least one parent in each family is signed up to the new school text service. It only cost €2 for the year and there are no further costs as the school buys credits in bulk at the start of the year.

No school text charges will appear on your phone bill and you will get texts from the school even when you have no credit on your mobile.



Dublin – 2015 Girls Champions



Dublin – 2015 Boys Champions



Gaelic Football Finals in Active School Week

This year's Active School Week was packed with fun activities for all of the pupils in our school. Fortunately, for most of the week, we were blessed with good weather and the pupils spent much of their school day involved in sports and physical activity. One of the highlights of the week was undoubtedly the finals of the boys and girls inter-county Gaelic Leagues. All of the pupils were on the sidelines to cheer on the teams in the finals. At the full-time whistle the winners in both the boys and girls finals were Dublin. Above is the victorious girls' team with captain Grace Campbell proudly holding the Marie Fanning Cup while on the left is Ben Sheridan, captain of the boys' team holding aloft the league trophy after the presentation.

A HUGE thank you to Ms McAuley for all of the work she did to make Active School Week such a great success again this year.

Teddy Bears Picnic

The children in Junior Infants took advantage of the sunny weather to have a special Teddy Bears Picnic on Wednesday of Active School Week. Second class also had their picnic on the same afternoon.



Second Class Explore Historic Tower

Mrs McCluskey's second class went exploring in the village this week and paid a special visit to Termonfeckin Castle. This tower house dates from the 15th or 16th century. It was repaired by Captain Brabazon after being damaged in the rebellion of 1641. A very interesting place to visit, I'm sure you'll agree, and the children were even lucky enough to go inside and have a look around. They really enjoyed the view from the top floor.

Teacher Upskilling Course

During the first week of July many of the teachers will be attending professional development training arranged through the NCTE (National Centre for Technology in Education). The course will run from July 1st-7th and will take place in the school. Ms Carolan has received special training during the year to act as course tutor and the course content will be related to creating digital resources for use in the classroom.

MS Readathon 2015

Thank you to everyone who supported our MS Readathon again this year. It was great to see so many children busy reading for a month and the charity was thrilled to receive a generous cheque for €3,482.62 when all of the sponsorship money was collected.



Sixth Class Pupils with their teacher Mr McCann and SNA, Ms Anne Marie, enjoying their day out in Gormanston College at the Let's Go Sports Camp on June 4th.



School Tours 2015

All of the classes seemed to thoroughly enjoy their school tours this year. While both 3rd classes had a brilliant day at Causey Farm (above), the children in Ms McAuley's 4th class had a very educational day at W5, Belfast. The senior classes (5th & 6th) had a full day of sports and activity at Gormanston College while all the junior classes (Infants, 1st & 2nd) had a fun day out at Tayto Park in Ratoath.



Congratulations

Congratulations to Mrs McManus and Mrs Fahy who have become proud mums of two beautiful baby daughters during the year. Mrs McManus has now returned to work and Mrs Fahy plans to be back with us early in the new school year.



Coast Guard Helicopter



As a special reward to all of the pupils who were nominated to have their names entered into the **Golden Book** during this term we organised a very special morning on Wednesday last. The 26 pupils were taken by coach to Walshestown soccer pitches to see the Coast Guard helicopter up close. The pupils arrived just in time to see the huge helicopter land on one of the pitches. Then, in small groups, the children were shown around and inside the rescue helicopter. The pilots and winchman talked to the children about their role in sea rescues and showed them how some of the rescue equipment worked. It was an amazing morning and a real treat for all of the pupils.



And the good news is... the local Coast Guard has arranged for the Search & Rescue Helicopter to visit our school next year!!!!

