

## **Scoil Inse Rátha**

### **Déan do Dhícheall**

#### **Newsletter June 2023**

#### **Dear Parents,**

We have had another wonderful year in our school. There was a full range of activities and opportunities for our students. As a school we have had many landmark occasions during the school year, but the most important achievements have happened in each classroom where your child has progressed successfully to the next stage. We can reflect with pride on a full and productive year. Thank you to our wonderful, committed staff, our supportive parents and Parents Association, our excellent Board of Management and all those people and businesses in our community who have supported us. All these people and bodies have worked hard during the year with the one, clear goal – to make our school a better place for our students. The biggest thank you of all goes to our amazing students who make us so proud and who never cease to amaze us. We really are lucky to get to work with you!

#### **Cork City Sports:**

Our boys and girls represented us excellently in MTU at The Cork City Sports at the start of June. We are very proud of all of them. Thank you to the teachers who brought and prepared them and to all those who attended to support them.

#### **School Tours:**

Each class went on a school tour this year. We are proud to bring our students out of the school as they are all great ambassadors. Everywhere we go we get compliments about how well behaved and polite they are. We never take it for granted but it is lovely to hear. Their excellent behaviour also encourages us to take them to more places and to more events!

#### **Superstars:**

6<sup>th</sup> Class organised and ran Superstars earlier this month. Each team was made up of at least one person from each class and was captained by a 6<sup>th</sup> Class person. We had lots of fun and it promoted a sense of community. Holly's uncle came to give us all ice-cream which made the day even better!

#### **Italian Graduation:**

6<sup>th</sup> Class have been studying Italian all year with Ms. Ginevra. It is part of the Say Yes to Languages Programme encouraging children to study different languages. They have had a great year and have learned loads. They went to UCC to receive their Italian graduation certificates and get a tour of the college. The trip finished with a test where they had to order their own hot chocolate and treat in Italian. Luckily, they all passed that test!

#### **Sports Day:**

We had our annual Sport Day last week. We had beautiful weather and a large crowd turned out to witness the events. Lots of our past pupils arrived as well, which is always lovely to see. The sports were fun and competitive. Thanks to our PA for providing fruit and drinks. It was very hot so these were greatly appreciated by everyone. Lisa presented the medals on behalf of the PA in her last official act before stepping down as Chairperson. Presentations were made to Lisa on behalf of the PA and the BOM in recognition of her service over the years. Thanks Lisa!

**Graduation:**

6<sup>th</sup> Class celebrated their graduation last week. They dressed up and demonstrated some of their Italian and received their Italian Certificates. After a speech they received their graduation certificates. We are very proud of them and will miss them but wish them well in the future. Thanks to the PA for providing tea/coffee and to the parents for providing cakes. Thanks to Lorraine for getting treats for the children from Spar. A big thank you goes to the O'Donnell's who took on the massive task of preparing the yearbook.

**AbVie School Improvement Works:**

AbVie have started work on our school. They have many plans and have dedicated a significant budget to this project. Keep an eye on our app and Instagram account to see how the project progresses. They will have a team of volunteers here next week to do painting and gardening as well as having contractors to do the more complicated parts. We are extremely grateful for their input which will make our school environment even better for our students.

**Past Pupils:**

It was particularly nice over the last few weeks to catch up with some of our past pupils and hear how they are getting on. We have been especially proud to have worked with Ms. Tobin over the course of the school year. Having a past pupil teaching in our school is a wonderful achievement. Ms. Tobin is a talented teacher and has a great career ahead of her.

**App/Instagram:**

Our school app will be closed from the 31<sup>st</sup> July. It served us well for a long time, but it has become old and cumbersome to use and to maintain. We have started using Instagram recently and will expand our use of this over the course of the new school year. This will require use of a new policy and set of permissions from you, our parents, before we can roll it out fully. Our aim is to share the excellent work being done in our school as widely as possible. Our Instagram account is: LittleIslandNS. Please follow and encourage others to follow. We won't follow back so your personal material won't be shared across the school platform.

**Summer Holidays:**

After the 30<sup>th</sup> June the school phone will not be monitored. I will keep any eye on my emails during the summer so if you need anything please email [principal@littleislandns.com](mailto:principal@littleislandns.com). I will get back to you as soon as I can. I will be away from the 15<sup>th</sup> Aug to the 28<sup>th</sup> Aug so will be unavailable.

That's all for now. Thank you for another great year in Little Island NS. I hope you all have a wonderful and safe summer.

All the best,

Micheál Rea

**Up Coming Events:**

27<sup>th</sup> June: school closes at 12.15pm for summer holidays

30<sup>th</sup> August: school reopens for new school year.