

## **Scoil Inse Rátha**

### **Déan do Dhícheall**

#### **Newsletter June 2025**

#### **Dear Parents,**

We have reached the end of another fabulous year in our school. Our children and staff have worked exceptionally hard towards the common goal of helping our students to reach their potential in a safe and happy environment. We have seen and experienced lots of little victories during the year where a child makes progress in an area where they were previously struggling. This is the most rewarding part of our job. Our parents, Parents Association, Board of Management, local community, Little Island Community Association, Leaside, Erin's Own, CPSMA, IPPN, INTO and many others have all helped us to negotiate another year. Thank you for the part you have played in our journey this year. You have helped to make our school a better place.

June has been a very busy month and has involved several events.

#### **Italian:**

Ms. Ginevra has been teaching Italian to 6<sup>th</sup> Class during the year. This month they have had a few special events. At the start of the month, they had an Italian breakfast to experience the different foods and a little cappuccino! The Italian Department in UCC invited the class to the college for a graduation ceremony and tour to recognise the work they have done during the year. Finally, on their school graduation day, they held an Italian fashion show. They dressed as characters or things from Italy and spoke about them in Italian to their families. It was a lovely way to finish out their year. Thank you to Ms. Ginevra for her hard work and dedication in providing this opportunity for the class.

#### **6<sup>th</sup> Class Graduation:**

6<sup>th</sup> Class graduated from primary school last week. They have been a special group and it has been my privilege to have taught them this year. As a staff, we are very proud of the young people they have grown into during their time in our school. We wish them well in the future and are confident that they will do very well in secondary school. Their families have a lot to be proud of and I would like to thank them for their support over the years, particularly the families who are finished with us.

#### **New Junior Infants:**

As one group finish the next generation are getting ready to join our school. We met with our new parents and children this month and are looking forward to them joining our school community. There was a lovely buzz and energy in the room when the new children were in for their Induction Day so we can't wait to get started!

#### **NRG Xpress:**

NRG Xpress has sponsored our school jerseys for a number of years and have always been great supporters of our school. This month 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> classes were invited down for a fundamental movement session along with a healthy eating seminar. We are very grateful for their on-going support and interest in our school.

#### **School Tours:**

Each class has been on a school tour in the last month. A lot of planning and consideration goes into making these tours happen and they can be expensive. Thank you to the staff who prepared for the tours and to our parents for supporting them. There is a lot of learning and development that takes place on a tour. Children are out of their comfort zone and have to manage their own gear and lunches. They have to deal with different teachers/facilitators, manage in a new environment and cope with different rules and expectations. They also have to read the social situations and figure out what is appropriate and how to get their needs met. This all happens under the careful guidance of the staff but there is a lot of learning. We have wonderful students so we are always able to undertake these trips without having to worry about their behaviour. At the end of every tour we get complimented on how good our students are and we are very proud of them.

### **3D Printer:**

Stryker loaned us a 3D Printer during the year. 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class undertook different projects during the year to produce various prints. This was a wonderful opportunity for our students to experience this technology. They were able to design, problem solve and create prints with very little guidance from us and it was amazing to see what they could produce. Thank you to Stryker for providing this opportunity.

### **Sports Day:**

One of the highlights of the year is our annual sports day. This year was another success. Thank you to the staff who made it possible, to the children for making it so much fun, to our Parents Association for providing fruit and medals, to our families for attending and adding to the atmosphere and to our past pupils for coming and for being such good fun during the soccer match at the end of the day.

### **Coffee Morning:**

We held a coffee morning and cake sale to raise money for Breast Cancer Ireland. We raised more than €2,600! Thank you to everyone who supported us by donating and/or baking cakes etc. We were blown away by the generosity of our community. Thank you to all of the local businesses who supported us with milk, cups, sugar, cakes etc, especially Crush Coffee, Centra, Spar and Coffee Corner.

### **Superstars and Ice Cream Van:**

This week we held our Superstars sports. This involves teams made up of children from each class with 6<sup>th</sup> Class acting as team captains. Each team earns points at each station doing various fun activities. It is a very special day where we can see our community come together and play together. Thank you to our Parents Association for organising the ice cream van – it was a big hit!

### **Staff for next year:**

Here is our team for next year:

**Secretary:** Jacinta Flannery

**Caretaker:** Denis Buckley

**Junior Infants:** Susan Lynch

**Senior Infants:** Laura Ginevra

**1<sup>st</sup> Class:** Louise Morgan

**2<sup>nd</sup> Class:** Valerie McGrath

**3<sup>rd</sup> Class:** Sarah Buckley

**4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Class:** Audrey Roche

**6<sup>th</sup> Class:** Clare Harrington

**SET Team:** Gillian Diamond, Nuala Murray, Gráinne Duggan/ Gráinne Quaid (job share), Miriam Hennessy, Julie Neville/Estelle Cassidy (job share), Micheál Rea

**SNAs:** Siobhán Collins, Mary Clifford, Aoife Glavin, Tara Coomey, Cecile Brookes

Due to changes in staffing and associated Department of Education rules, I will not be teaching a class next year. I will be dividing my time between the office and support teaching. It has been a pleasure teaching 6<sup>th</sup> Class over the last four years and I will miss that part of my job. Thank you to the children and families who made it so special.

**Summer Works:**

We have a busy summer ahead with a full schedule of work to be carried out. We are to divide two rooms to create 4 rooms. This will allow us to create a sensory room and repurpose Room 1 and my office. We have painting, maintenance, computer servicing and deep cleaning to carry out as well.

**Summer Contact:**

The school phone will be monitored during the summer but not daily. Myself and Jacinta will be back in school from Monday August 25<sup>th</sup>. If you need anything outside of these dates email [principal@littleislands.com](mailto:principal@littleislands.com). I will monitor emails occasionally during the holidays and will respond as soon as I can.

That's all for now. Thank you for all the presents, kind wishes and cards we have all received. Working with your children is a pleasure but it is always lovely to hear nice things!

Thank you to everyone for an amazing year – especially our wonderful children who make the magic happen every day!

Have a wonderful and safe summer!

All the best,

Micheál Rea

**Up Coming Events:**

**26<sup>th</sup> June:** school closes for all classes at 12.15pm

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August:** school reopens for all classes. (normal hours)