

21.6.2021

### End of Year School Newsletter

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are on the final countdown. I cannot believe that we are finishing on Thursday. Where did the time go? It's been a busy time here during the month of June.

**6<sup>th</sup> class trip to Tannagh Adventure Centre:** On Thursday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils had a very enjoyable day at Tannagh Adventure Centre. Photos were sent to parents on clasdojo. Thanks to Mrs Clarke for organising the trip for the pupils. It was important that they ended their time in Crosserlough by having a special day out together.

**Standardised Tests:** All classes from 1st to 6th have now completed their annual standardised tests. The results of the assessments were on the end of year report which was sent in the post on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> of June. An important reminder to parents not to be overly concerned about test results unless the teacher is.

**Staysafe:** All classes completed the Stay Safe Programme after Easter. Pupils in 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> class were facilitated by an outsider for discreet areas of the RSE programme. Last week a community Garda gave a talk to 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> class on internet safety and cyberbullying. The talk was very informative and the pupils listened attentively to the Garda.

**Active Schools Week:** All pupils participated in outdoor activities with their class from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> of June. On the 9<sup>th</sup> of June each class performed a dance prepared by Mary Farrelly. 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> performed a dance routine from the musical "Grease".

**Sport's Day** – All classes enjoyed their Sport's Day with their class. It was a huge success and the weather held up. Thanks to all the teachers and SNA who organised fun activities for their classes to enjoy.

**School Books and Stationary list for 2021/2022** – Books and stationary to be purchased for next year was sent with school reports to parents on Monday 14th June. All books on the book rental are purchased by the school during the summer and will be distributed to pupils in September. Payment for book rental, art/craft/photocopying and pupil school insurance will be collected in September.

**Picnic Benches** – Finally our colourful picnic benches arrived on Monday. We had hoped they would arrive earlier in June. It is lovely to see our pupils making such great use of our new picnic benches during their lunch breaks. They will be used to facilitate outdoor lessons when the weather is good in September. I wish to thank the Parent's Association for contributing generously to the cost of the picnic benches and school yard markings which were completed in early June.

**Senior girls and boys football league.** The senior boys and girls football leagues were a huge success. Pupils from 3<sup>rd</sup> up to 6<sup>th</sup> participated in the league matches which took place in the afternoons beginning in June. The final of the leagues took place on Friday. Master Mc Dermott kindly offered to referee the two matches. The atmosphere was electric around the school. The captains got behind their teams and encouraged all the players to do their best and that they did. Iris and Grainne were in the girl's final. Grainne's team proved stronger and were the well deserved winners of our first ever girl's football league. Grainne was presented with a cup and all players received medals. Ellen Lynch from 3<sup>rd</sup> class was presented with a new plaque for Most Improved Player for the girl's league. Ellen was surprised and delighted to receive the plaque. The boy's final was very intense. Fian and Zak made it to the final having played and won several games throughout the league. Zak's team looked the stronger in the first half widening the gap between the scores. However, Fian's team showed their determination to narrow the gap and at one stage there was just 1 point between the teams. Zak's team continued to score and were deserving winners of the boy's league. Zak proudly accepted the cup on behalf of his team and all players were presented with medals. Sam Colwell from 4<sup>th</sup> class showed

great improvement throughout the league and was presented with the Most Improved Player plaque which he was thrilled to receive.

**Ice-cream Day** – The children really enjoyed the surprise Ice-cream Day on Friday not to mention the staff. There was a great atmosphere around the school and it was lovely to see so many smiley, happy faces.

**Slán le Ms. Donohoe** – Ms. Donohoe was with us for a year teaching junior and senior infants. We wish her all the best as she finds a job in another school in September. She will be greatly missed.

**6th Class Graduation** Our 6th class graduated from St. Mary's NS on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June. To mark this special occasion, Mrs Clarke and Mrs Farmer organised a special outdoor ceremony at 2.10 pm. Pupils from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class were present. The ceremony began with a welcome from the Principal. Mrs Clarke wished her class well as they progress to secondary school. Each pupil was presented with a Graduation Certificate. Individual Pupils thanked the staff and pupils of Crosserlough for their wonderful 8 years in the school. A group of pupils presented symbols representing their time in school while Conor McGuire confidently explained each symbol. This was followed by a recital of a special poem "Moving On" by Jim Halligan and balloons were released into the air. Finally 6<sup>th</sup> class began a song "I'll be there for you" and were joined by the whole school. It was a very emotional day for our 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils and I wish them every success as they begin the next chapter in their journey of life. We will miss them dearly. Pearse Smith and Neasa Byrd made a pre-recorded video wishing them well. Each pupil received a photo story of their time in Crosserlough. I wish to thank Mrs Geraldine Farmer, Mrs Clarke and 5<sup>th</sup> class pupil, Shauna Walsh, for putting the digital photo story together. I wish to thank the Parent's Association for supplying the balloons. Mrs Acheson made lovely cupcakes for the class and O Reilly's Shop provided crisps and minerals for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class.

We say goodbye to the following students:

Lexi Fannin, Aoibhe Mc Enerney, Iris McEvoy, Grainne Farrelly, Aideen Mc Elroy, Tadhg Rehill, Cillian Walsh, Ben Beckett, Zak Farrell, Adam Whitney, Evan Clarke, Conor McGuire, Fian Smith

Sadly we are also saying farewell to some families who have been part of the school community for a very long time: Lexi Fannin, Aoibhe Mc Enerney, Tadhg Rehill and Ben Beckett. I would like to thank their parents for the support they gave to the school down through the years.

Dates for **First Holy Communion and Confirmation** have been sent to pupils in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class. First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 12 noon. Confirmation will take place on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30 pm. I would ask for families to adhere to Covid-19 guidelines with regards to numbers allowed at religious ceremonies. Mrs Clarke has informed families of this.

After an extraordinary year I wish to thank you all for adhering to the Covid-19 Rules and for your understanding and support throughout the past year. I wish to thank all the staff and our secretary, Bríd, for all their support to me as I took on my new role as Principal. I would also like to thank our cleaner Angela Stuart who cleaned our school thoroughly each evening ensuring COVID-19 was kept out of our school. I sincerely hope we can all have a very enjoyable summer break and be ready and refreshed to return to school on the 1st of September.

Yours Sincerely,

Teresa Galligan

School Principal