



URLINGFORD NATIONAL SCHOOL

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May/ June Newsletter



First Communion

We were very proud of our 2nd class children on 12th May as they made their First Holy Communion. A huge thanks has to go to everyone who made it such a special day; especially parents, teachers, the school choir and Fr Ollie of course!

School of Excellence Maths Award

Four of the teaching staff took part in a Maths Course in Kilkenny Education Centre which led to the school taking part in The School of Excellence Maths Awards. On 19th May, a group of 4th and 5th Class pupils, accompanied by Ms Teehan headed to WIT for a workshop concentrating on Maths Games. The school also invested in the ISAK9 Maths programme and the senior classes used the set to great effect throughout the year. Well done all!

STEM Showcase

Sixth Class were busy all year as part of the STEM Project organised by Coláiste Mhuire in conjunction with 5 local primary schools - Johnstown, Cullohill, Gortnahoe, Galmoy and ourselves. Lots of STEM work was completed by 6th class culminating with a great day at the STEM Showcase in Coláiste Mhuire. A big thanks to Mr John Dunne of Coláiste Mhuire and well done to 6th Class and Ms McHugh for a great presentation at the Showcase.

Graduation

It is with a sad heart we say goodbye to our 6th class students. They have grown with us over the past eight years and we have been privileged to have been part of their journey. We wish them all the best as they move forward into the next chapter of their lives.

To bless their journey forward we held a graduation ceremony in St Patrick's Church Graine on 24th of June after which there was refreshments and entertainment for the students and their families. Beir Bua agus Beannacht.



Swim Gala

An eighteen strong team headed to the Country Schools Swim Gala in The Watershed, Kilkenny. All swam excellently on the day in what is a very competitive gala. Darragh Cleere (3rd Class) won gold in the Under 9 Freestyle, Pádraig Kavanagh (3rd) won bronze in the Under 10 Freestyle and Mark Dunphy (6th) won silver in the Under 13 Breastroke. Well done to the whole team who represented their school so well.

New School Building

The plans for the new school building are gone to the DES and we hope to move to planning permission over the summer break.

A 6th Green Flag

On 23rd May Ms Teehan and three committee members, Abbi O'Brien, Ruth Moriarty and Róisín Wall, attended the Green Flag Awards Ceremony where Urlingford NS was presented with its 6th Green Flag for Global Citizenship - Litter and Waste. On 17th June the school held a Green Flag raising ceremony where the founder members of Urlingford Tidy Towns raised the flag for the children and parents present. What a great achievement for the children. Well done to all.

Sports Day

After being rained out on June 13th, Sports Day took place on Monday 17th. Mr Doyle again organised a great day's sprinting, running, novelties and relays. At the end of our closest ever Sports Day, the decision on winners came down to the last relay race where the Red team edged out the Blue team by just 2 points!! Greens came third and Whites fourth!

Hurling and Camogie

Both school leagues are in their final stages with 48 boys and 32 girls taking part. Great games have been played and the winners will be known by the end of Tues 25th! Well done to Oisín Deegan, 6th Class, who represented Kilkenny in the Leinster Lift and Strike Hurling Competition this year. And hard luck to the Girls' Camogie team who lost out to Thomastown in the Roinn B Shield Final played in Freshford.

School Fundraising | Split the Pot

The Parents' Council would like to thank everyone who supported the recent Split the Pot. With your help we raised €1850.60, which will go to fitting 5 more classrooms with new noticeboards. That's 9 classrooms this year!

Health Promoting Schools

The HPS had a hugely busy year and this culminated in a super Active School Week from June 10th to 14th. Each morning, where possible, the children began the day with a fun wake up and shake up session in the yard. We had a lovely afternoon in the Emeralds GAA Field to start the week and all classes worked hard on the Cheerleader song which was given the full Flashdance treatment in a whole school performance. Ms Ahern taught each class some Bowka moves and her mam Debbie came up and conducted a whole school Bowka Class which was great fun. There was running and skipping as the classes skipped over 10000 collective skips every day of the week.

We also received six sets of bottles, rugby balls and bags from the Aldi Competition. We sent a bag and a bottle set to the youngest hurling and camogie players.

The committee have also worked to provide *Buddy Benches* - seating for the infants which will be in place for September. Well done to the HPS and their leaders, Ms Cowhig and Ms Delaney.



Slán agus Beannacht

We are sad that we have to say Slán agus Beannacht to Mr Eamonn McGrath, who leaves our school this summer after two years on staff. Mr McGrath is moving to a permanent position in Castletown, Co Laois, and Urlingford's loss is Castletown's gain.

Outside the classroom, he has given generously of his time in the past two years to the football and hurling teams, boys and girls, and has helped to run the School Leagues superbly. Go n-éirí ádh leat, Mr McGrath. We will miss you.

Ms Ryan's Class

Juniors accompanied Senior Infants to Parson's Green for their school tour and had a fabulous day. June has been a very exciting month with our first Active School week. We particularly enjoyed Sports Day and the moves for Cheerleader. We also took part in the '10 @ 10' exercises. At 10 o'clock every morning we did 10 minutes of exercise and we're feeling fit for our holidays. A big thank you to Ms Dwan who filled in for Ms Ryan while she was out!

Mr Doyle's & Ms Ahern's Classes

The Senior Infant tour to Parson's Green was a great success. The horse and trap rides with Tyson were great fun, as were the boat rides.

Sports Day was really good and everyone had fun!



Ms Cowhig's Class

First Class had a fantastic day out on tour to Rancho Reilly's; riding donkeys and ponies, holding lizards and snakes! We have really enjoyed all the activities during Active School Week especially the Flashdance to Cheerleader! We love getting fitter and healthier.

Ms Rooney's Class

We really enjoyed our First Holy Communion Day. All the preparation paid off for a beautiful day. We completed our 'Incredible Edibles' project and submitted it to Agri-Aware. We are delighted to have received a silver certificate for our efforts. As part of this project we visited the allotments in Urlingford and Ines showed us lots of veg and fruit growing. Our tour to Rancho Reillys in Carlow was fun and active. We went on pony rides, barrel tractor rides and got to pet snakes, lizards and rabbits!!

Ms O'Meara's Class

We are really enjoying making models of Kilkenny Castle in Art! We recently went on our school tour there. We got a wonderful surprise on Tuesday when Erin's grandad visited our school and we were allowed go out and look at his steam engine. 5 children in our class were in the swim gala. 4 girls (Ruth, Erin, Aoife & Brona) did a dance for the whole school during active schools week. They were excellent. We also had a visit from our local fire service who told us all about fire safety at home!

Mr McGrath's Class

We completed projects on the counties of Munster and our favourite animals. We tested out our new school rugby balls and worked on our passing skills during Active Schools Week. We had two great days on school tour visiting Kilkenny Castle and Dunmore Cave. Fourth Class got to join Ms Teehan's class for coaching with Brían Ryan and Mr McGrath!

Ms Teehan's Class

We completed projects for the Maths Excellence Award, concentrating on the games' aspect. The children also made a fun Maths Trail. We enjoyed doing a project on China and enjoyed our fabric collage in art. We loved Active Schools' week and we had coaching from Brían Ryan and Mr McGrath for seven weeks.

Ms McGovern's Class

We all completed individual projects exploring life 'Through the Ages'. Lots of areas were covered! Some of our class attended the Maths Excellence Project in WIT. Our school tour to Adventure World in UL with sixth class was a great day out. We did a Land Art Project, using nature to create Land Art. We made a Maths Trail all around the school. Great fun was had by the class with 'Wake up and Shake up' and Bowka during Active Schools Week. The children also loved getting the chance to code with MicroBit. Two pupils took part in the Swim Gala and for our last week, we are sharing our talents with everyone in the class.

Ms McHugh's Class

Sixth Class have had a very busy last term. We presented our projects at the STEM Showcase in Coláiste Mhuire and we used our new knowledge to work with 1st class in different stations. We hosted our annual cake sale for charity this week and raised €460. We have our Graduation Mass and Talent Show on June 24th! We had great fun on our school tour to UL with 5th Class. We are just finishing our papier maché Hot Air Balloons project. Seven children went to the swim gala!

Relay for Life | Irish Cancer Society - Coffee morning & disco

A coffee morning will take place this Wednesday 26th June in the Mill Family Resource Centre in aid of the Irish Cancer Society and Dad's Army. There will also be an end of year school disco on Thursday 27th June from 7 - 9pm for the same causes. Relay for Life is a 24 hour of events across the country celebrating survivors and remembering those lost to cancer.



Summer Holidays

The school closes on 27th June at 12 noon. We wish everyone a very safe, happy and fun-filled summer.



