



## **Rathmichael Parish National School End of Term Newsletter - June 23**

Dear Parents,

As we reach the last day of this academic year, I want to take this opportunity to thank the whole school community – staff, parents and pupils for all your consideration and co-operation – thank you for the welcome you have given to me in my first term as Principal. I look forward to your continued support next year.

Please refer to my notes of 12<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> June for important school information.

### **6<sup>th</sup> Class End of Term Service**

My thanks to Mrs Crammond, Rev. Hanily and 6<sup>th</sup> Class for an excellent End of Term Service. It was wonderful to see how the children have grown up and matured and are now ready to move on to Secondary School. They leave the school with amazing memories of their time in Rathmichael.

The Yearbooks have been presented to the class and these are a beautifully produced record of their time in Rathmichael, full of wonderful pictures, memories and aspirations. A huge thanks to Grace Kelly, Hannah Harty and Liza Mitton for all their hard work in organising this publication. Liza has also taken the most amazing photographs throughout the year so I would like to thank her for this.

### **End of Term Service**

We had a lovely End of Term Service this morning – Naomi Clarkson always comes up with amazing programmes and it really adds to the occasion. It was wonderful to have Mrs. Crawford and Mrs. Senior there to present special trophies. It was great to see so many parents in attendance.

### **Music/Spanish Classes**

My thanks to both Naomi Clarkson (All Classes) and Antoinette Uhlar (1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Classes) for all their hard work and enthusiasm with the children during the year.

### **Active Week/Sports Day/Physical Activities**

A huge thanks to Mrs Bourne for her help in planning and organising this year's Active Week. There have been a whole range of activities – P.E., Cricket, Stretch and Grow classes, Irish Dancing, GAA, an Obstacle Course (designed and set up by Mrs Bourne) and Zumba. Thanks to Gary for all his work during the week. Everyone really enjoyed getting involved. Thanks to Kelly Robinson and the teachers for helping get the school going in the mornings with exercises. Thanks also to Mrs Crammond for organizing the Table Tennis nets and equipment – this was a great addition to the week.

My thanks also to Aaron (Oreo) and Ryan for Sports' Day which was a huge success. It was fantastic to be able to have all the parents, grandparents and past pupils with us for the day. Thanks

to the parents/past pupils who helped on the day and especially to the PTA and their band of volunteers who provided food and refreshments throughout the event. Well done to all the pupils who took part and congratulations to all the winners. Cups were also presented to those pupils who have both excelled in their respective sports and have also proven to be helpful and encouraging to their classmates.

Particular congratulations to Georgie B who was the recipient of “The Griffin Cup”, given to the school by former Games Co-ordinators, in Ms. Griffin’s name and presented to the Sportsperson of the Year in 6<sup>th</sup> Class – a very worthy winner. We were delighted that Ms. Griffin was able to join us for the occasion.

Thanks to all the Sports coaches who have come into school to take our pupils for PE, GAA and After School Sports – particularly Aaron, Ryan and Steve. We look forward to seeing you back again next year. Thanks also to Jim Stewart for taking 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Classes for cricket coaching and to Andrew Egan for his Tag Rugby sessions. We were also delighted to welcome back Claire Dowling this term for Irish Dancing classes.

Bookings for After School Sports for next year will open online during the Summer on the [www.southsideschoolsports.com](http://www.southsideschoolsports.com) website.

6<sup>th</sup> Class Tennis in Shankill Tennis Club concluded earlier in the month. My thanks to the Shankill coach, Arek, for taking the sessions, to Mrs Crammond and Trish for organizing and to parents for accompanying them to the Club and supervising. The children all enjoyed this experience.

Blitzs – On 7<sup>th</sup> June, 5<sup>th</sup> Class took part in a Cricket Blitz with other primary schools and were very successful, winning 5 out of 8 games. The children all enjoyed the experience. Thanks to those parents who were taxi drivers and supervisors on the day. On 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Classes took part in a GAA Blitz, with other local schools. The girls’ team won, retaining their trophy from last year and the boys won a plaque for the school – a fantastic achievement and well done to everyone who took part. My thanks to teachers and parents for accompanying them.

Hockey Matches were held between Parents and 6<sup>th</sup> Class pupils on 26<sup>th</sup> June which was enjoyed by all. Thankfully there were no injuries and honours were declared even.

**Football Team** – huge congratulations to our Football Team who won their Inter Primary League without losing a match and who were presented with their medals after Assembly today.

### **Pupils’ Achievements**

Tennis – congratulations to Rathmichael pupils and past pupils who played on successful Shankill Tennis Club teams in the Leinster Junior League: Mary-Kate C and Daisy O who played on the Under18, Division 3 team that beat Malahide in the finals and Lainey, Gerry, Indie, Cameron and Max who were on the Under 12 Mixed Team who were runners up in the Division 3 final against Rathgar.

Write a Book Competition – congratulations to Alex O’B who was awarded a merit prize for his book “The Curious Cases” – well done Alex.

Well done to Lainey who won the Dublin Under 12 Long Throw in the Community Games. She will now represent the county in the All Irelands in August.

### **Workshops/Classes**

On 9<sup>th</sup> June, a 6<sup>th</sup> Class group and our Green School Committee went to Booterstown Wetlands for a Seashore Safari, as part of a Marine Institute sponsored Explorers Education Programme. They all

enjoyed learning about the marine life on our seashores and found lots of interesting shells and crustaceans

### **Swimming in 2023/24**

Due to an increase in the costs of bus hire, we have made the decision to have 8 sessions of swimming in DLR Loughlinstown next year, with two classes swimming per term. We will still have the 11.00 a.m. to 12 noon swim slot.

### **Open Day**

We had a very successful Open Day on 14<sup>th</sup> June. Parents and pupils were delighted to be able to come into school to view work undertaken and to talk to teachers. My thanks to all the staff for the hard work and effort put in for the day. There was a lovely atmosphere around the school. Thanks also to Mrs Lewis and the Choir for entertaining everyone so beautifully.

### **Hawaiian Day**

On 8<sup>th</sup> June, the PTA Committee organized a fun day for the whole school. This was Hawaiian themed and everyone got into the spirit of the occasion with colourful shirts, grass skirts, and lei garlands. The children had a wonderful time limbo and hula dancing and eating hot dogs. There was a real festival atmosphere to the day. Thanks to the PTA Committee for all its hard work and creativity.

### **Summer Dance**

The PTA Committee, assisted by staff and parents, ran a very successful Summer Dance on 22<sup>nd</sup> June for 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class pupils in the School Hall. The children all enjoyed themselves and there were some great dance moves on show. Thanks to Sam Stott, the DJ, for the music. One point to make is that in line with school policy, the taking of videos/photos on mobile phones is strictly prohibited and mobile phones should not be brought to school events. Any brought will be confiscated and given back at the end of the function.

### **Presentations to Pupils**

The Character Cup for the 5<sup>th</sup> Class pupil who has over the course of the year been caring and helpful towards both teacher and fellow pupils, was awarded to Elliot. The Wise Owl Trophy, awarded to a pupil in 3<sup>rd</sup> Class who has been enthusiastic, willing and very cooperative, was awarded to Kate. These children display those qualities that we in Rathmichael try and instill in our pupils – good behaviour, positive attitude and courtesy, so congratulations to the two of them. Mrs Senior gave the school a cup to be presented to a child who excelled in the Arts and this was awarded to Jasmine in 6<sup>th</sup> Class – congratulations Jasmine. The Hazel Crawford Environmental Trophy which is presented to a 4<sup>th</sup> Class pupil for his/her commitment, interest and involvement in the environment has this year been awarded to Grisha – well done Grisha.

### **Wellbeing**

The theme for June is Gratitude – being grateful for another school year, recognition of what has been learnt through the year, and bring happy with what has been achieved. The children completed a daily gratitude list.

### **End of Term Reports/School Books for 2023/24**

These reports have been issued in line with the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) template. Please see my note of 22<sup>nd</sup> June in relation to Schoolbooks for next year. In line with that note, please ensure that your child comes to school next year with the stationery items stipulated for their class.

## Summer Handwriting Competition

Well done to all the children for making such a huge effort with their handwriting. In particular congratulations to our winners and most improved:

Class	Best		Most Improved	
	Boy	Girl	Boy	Girl
Jun Infs	Michael	Naomi	Leo	Sadhbh
Sen Infs	Ellis	Robin A	William	Ellen
1 <sup>st</sup> Class	Erik	Sophie B	Jett	Phoebe N
2 <sup>nd</sup> Class	Fionn	Alanna	Alex	Sienna
3 <sup>rd</sup> Class	Drake	Vicky	Jared	Grace
4 <sup>th</sup> Class	Jamie J	Zoe	Milo	Shona
5 <sup>th</sup> Class	Tian You	Annabel	Geordan	Ava
6 <sup>th</sup> Class	Ollie	Lucy L	Gerry	Sophie

## Sportsperson of the Month Award/Physical Activities

Many congratulations to the following people who have been awarded the Sportsperson of the Month Award. These people, while not only being very capable at sport, have been considerate and sporting towards their fellow pupils and shown respect for their coaches:

Junior Infants	Kai
Senior Infants	Sadhbh
1 <sup>st</sup> Class	Noah
2 <sup>nd</sup> Class	Aili
3 <sup>rd</sup> Class	Luke
4 <sup>th</sup> Class	Jamie J
5 <sup>th</sup> Class	Jack
6 <sup>th</sup> Class	Sophie

**Name Tags:** please remember if you are purchasing name tags for your children's uniforms/coats etc from My Name Tags.ie, to include the School Id of 1233, to enable the school to receive a percentage of the expenditure. Without the ID the company will not be able to donate to the school.

## Uniforms

Anyone wishing to purchase uniforms should email their order to school (there is also an Order Form on the School Website (under Ordering, drop down menu). The Order Form will come into the school email address. Trish will gather items together to give out on our return. Payment should be made online to the No 2 account.

## Summer Camps

Aaron's Camp: from 5<sup>th</sup> July to 18<sup>th</sup> August. Contact Aaron directly on [aaronscamps2019@gmail.com](mailto:aaronscamps2019@gmail.com)

Stretch n Grow will hold a week's camp in the School Hall from 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> August, for younger children. Anyone interested should contact Jenna at [sngdublin@gmail.com](mailto:sngdublin@gmail.com) or 0879493059.

## Parish/Parish Fete

If any parent is in a position to volunteer to help on the day on a stall or selling raffle tickets, please contact David Simmons at [simmons.david289@gmail.com](mailto:simmons.david289@gmail.com). Also please remember to gather up items over the Summer months for the Fete. You will be able to drop items up to school on our return, from 30<sup>th</sup> August.

Parish Get Together BBQ in the Rectory Garden – 15<sup>th</sup> July at 7 p.m. A separate note has been sent to parishioners. Tickets are available from Danielle Bruton and Fiona Ashe.

Pencil Cases for Kenya – thanks to everyone who has supported this initiative by bringing in filled pencil cases and/or making cash donations. The Parish team are very grateful and they will make a huge difference to the children of Wandech Primary School in the Diocese of Maseno North.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a healthy and safe Summer. To our departing 6<sup>th</sup> Class pupils, I would like to wish you all the very best as you leave us to start secondary school. I hope that you depart with happy memories of your time in Rathmichael. I would also like to wish all the very best to those families leaving us from other classes. We are sad to say goodbye to Ms O'Rourke who has been a wonderful addition to the staff and who has worked so hard with 5<sup>th</sup> Class this year and also to Ms Hickey, who has been working in SET this term – the children have all benefitted from her enthusiasm and commitment. We have had the advantage of having Ms. Houlden, a shared teacher, in SET and she too has made a huge contribution to the school - we wish them well for the future.

Naomi Rousseau, Principal  
28<sup>th</sup> June 2023

#### **P.T.A. Notes**

The P.T.A. Committee would like to thank you all for your support and generosity over the year – thank you so much.

We look forward to more exciting events in the coming year but for now have an enjoyable Summer.