



Rathmichael Parish National School End of Term Newsletter - June 24

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 support you have given to me in my first full year as Principal. I look forward to this continuing next year. Particular thanks to the Miller Family for their wonderful gift to the school to mark the end of their children's time with us. This fantastic sculpture has been placed in the front foyer for all to enjoy.

Please refer to my notes of 23rd May and 19th June for important school information.

Please put the following important dates into your diaries:

Wednesday 28th August – School restarts for 24/25 Academic Year
Saturday 7th September – Parish Fete
Tuesday 24th September - Staff In-Service Training Day – School will be Closed
Friday 11th October – Jersey Day For GOAL

6th Class End of Term Service

My thanks to Mrs Crammond, Rev. Hanily and 6th 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 Sue Melbourne, Yulia Kiriy and Vyvienne Empey for all their hard work in putting this publication together.

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 (1st to 6th 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 – Stretch and Grow classes, Cricket, Basketball,

Circuits, Dance classes, Baseball, Table Tennis and an Obstacle Course (designed and set up by Mrs Bourne). Thanks to Gary for all his work during the week. Everyone really enjoyed getting involved. Thanks to 5th and 6th Class pupils for helping get the school going in the mornings with exercises. If anyone would like to learn more about Baseball or join a team, please follow the link: <https://www.marinersbaseballireland.com/>

My thanks also to Coach Ryan for assisting at 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. Our new additions to Sports Day such as activities which focused on teamwork and throwing events were very well received and brought a different perspective to the day. The Open Day aspect also added to the occasion.

On 5th June, as part of our build up to Sports' Day, children took part in STEM activities, working in teams (from 6th Class to Junior Infants) to make posters and to construct a structure/wrapping for an egg to protect it falling from a height. The children all enjoyed working together and were excited to see the results of the egg drop! These activities highlighted teamwork, positive attitude and inclusiveness, three vital elements that we strive for in Rathmichael, while earning points for their teams. 3rd to 6th Class also took part in a long distance race on 10th June and team points were also awarded.

Thanks to all the Sports coaches who have come into school to take our pupils for PE, GAA and After School Sports – particularly Mrs Harte, Ryan and Steve. Thanks also to Jim Stewart for taking 4th, 5th and 6th Classes for cricket coaching and to Luke Sloyan for his Tag Rugby sessions. We were also delighted to welcome back Claire Dowling this term for Irish Dancing classes.

6th 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.

Hockey Matches were held between Parents and 6th Class pupils on 20th June which was enjoyed by all. Thankfully there were no injuries. 6th Class pupils ran out the winners.

Football Team – huge congratulations to our Football Team who won their Inter Primary League. They were presented with a Cup and their medals after Assembly today.

Football Tournament – 3rd and 4th Classes took part in a tournament organised by Ms Fox and they really enjoyed themselves.

Pupils' Achievements

The Community Games provincial finals took place in Santry recently and one of our pupils, Ella, was part of the winning 100 metre Under 13 mixed relay team who competed for Shankill. This gold medal win secures their place in the national competition in Carlow in August.

Well done to Tom and Nathan C from 3rd Class who were on the winning team in the Cabinteely World Cup tournament finals, held recently.

A number of pupils took part in Park Runs recently – hopefully this will continue over the Summer months.

Workshops/Classes/Tours

There have been a huge variety of Summer School Tours taking place this month. 6th Class went to Carlingford for two days, 4th and 5th Classes went to Clara Lara, 3rd Class went to Dublinia and Viking Splash, 1st and 2nd Classes visited the Butlers Chocolate Warehouse and Croke Park while the two Infant classes travelled to Glenroe Farm. I am very grateful to staff and parents who accompanied them on these tours.

On 10th June, half of 1st and 3rd Classes went on a Buddy Class visit to Shankill Library to learn all about what the library has to offer. They shared a book together and then enjoyed a story, read by the Librarian. The other half of the classes went on 12th June. Thanks to the Library staff for facilitating the visit and to the staff and parents who accompanied them.

On 17th June, 6th Class went to visit Leinster House and Dail Eireann, having been invited by Minister Jennifer Carroll MacNeill, TD. My thanks to Shirley Farrell for providing facilities for them to eat lunch after the trip.

4th Class were visited by representatives of CIH (Children in Hospital), who spoke to them about the work of the independent charity. The class helped put activity packs together which will be distributed to children in hospital to help create a more positive experience for them at a difficult time in their lives.

Two representatives from the RNLI visited 5th and 6th Classes to give water safety talks. They impressed upon the children the need to be cautious around water and also what to do in the event of an incident involving themselves and their friends. This is particularly relevant as we approach the Summer holidays.

We had very successful African Drumming workshops for all the classes on 14th June where the children learnt about rhythm and the basics of drumming. They really enjoyed themselves and joined in with great energy and enthusiasm.

We welcomed our incoming Junior Infants and their parents on 7th June for a children's Teddy Bears' Picnic and parents' information session. The children were very excited to meet their teacher and visit their classroom.

Jersey Day

The children looked so colourful in their club jerseys on Friday 21st June. We will be holding a Jersey Day for GOAL in October – more information to follow on our return to school in the Autumn.

Swimming in 2024/25

Due to an increase in the costs of the Pool and teachers, our swimming sessions will remain at 8 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.

Hawaiian Day

On 7th 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 20th June for 4th, 5th and 6th 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. The pupils' behaviour was exemplary and this added to the enjoyment of the evening – thank you to all.

Presentations to Pupils

The Character Cup for the 5th Class pupil who has over the course of the year been caring and helpful towards both teacher and fellow pupils, was awarded to Robyn. The Wise Owl Trophy, awarded to a pupil in 3rd Class who has been enthusiastic, willing and very cooperative, was jointly awarded to Poppy and Alanna. 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 three of them. Mrs Senior's Arts' Cup was jointly awarded to Poppy and Sofia in 6th Class – congratulations to both of them. The Hazel Crawford Environmental Trophy which is presented to a 4th Class pupil for his/her commitment, interest and involvement in the environment has this year been awarded to Alex – well done Alex. Congratulations to Lainey H 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 6th Class – a very worthy winner. We were delighted that Ms. Griffin was able to join us last Friday to present the cup in person.

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 2024/25

These reports have been issued via Aladdin Connect, in line with the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) template. Please see my note of 23rd May in relation to Schoolbooks for next year. Please see attached a note of stationery items required – 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	Harry	Sonya	Teddy	Aoife
Sen Infs	Maksym	Naomi	Oisín	Karolina
1 st Class	Ellis	Pia	Ben	Harper
2 nd Class	Jesse	Rebekah	Jordi	Leah
3 rd Class	Elliott	Chloe	Nathan G	Erin
4 th Class	Luke	Saoirse	Cillian	Katie
5 th Class	Harry	Sofia K	Stanley	Sofia RW
6 th Class	Jonah	Sofia	Alex	Ella

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	Eleanor
Senior Infants	Marilia
1st Class	Sadie
2nd Class	Rory
3 rd Class	Ethan
4 th Class	Zach
5 th Class	Tom
6 th Class	Elliot

Shankill Library

Please find attached a note from Ms. Armstrong relating to the Summer Stars National Reading Programme, together with information on Shankill Library.

The Lunch Bag

Please find attached a flyer from the Lunch Bag.

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 via the Aladdin App.

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. 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, in the evenings between 7 p.m. and 9.00 p.m from 2nd to 5th September inclusive.

We have been asked to pass on a request to you from the **Country Fayre** stall:

“Work is well underway on the Country Fayre stall in anticipation of the Rathmicheal Fete this September!

We would be grateful for any baked cakes, pies, traybakes, fruit loaves or cupcakes in September for our stall in the Burton Hall. We are particularly in need of savoury dishes, however, like lasagnes, stir fries, curry, fish pies, quiches and pasta bakes.

If anyone has fruit in their garden that they would be willing to donate for jam or empty egg cartons, they would be greatly appreciated.

Finally, we are always in need of volunteers to sell on the day in the Burton Hall. Please feel free to text either Kate McCauley at 0894696708 or Heather Chawke at 0868204165 if you feel that you can help in any way.”

Scout Group: Please find attached a message from the 36th Dublin (Rathmichael) Scout group who are recruiting at all ages for next year.

Charity Events

On Saturday 29th June from 12 noon to 4 p.m. three gardens in Shankill will be open to the public to raise funds for St. Joseph's Shankill. This is weather permitting (otherwise it will be 6th July at the same time). The gardens in question are Nos 107, 106 and 99 Eaton Wood Grove (D18F2R8). There will be a €5 entry fee to cover all three gardens (please use side entrance only to all three) and there will be refreshments served, plants for sale and a raffle. Parking is limited.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a healthy and safe Summer. To our departing 6th 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 McKenna, our shared SET, who has been a made a huge contribution to the school and has worked so hard with all the children this year - we wish her well for the future.

I would also like to wish Claire Goudie all the very best for her Summer wedding to David – I hope they have a wonderful day and an amazing future together.

Naomi Rousseau, Principal
26th June 2024

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.