



## Weekly Update

Dear school community

It is wonderful to be still writing to you hoping that you are enjoying this sunshine as much as we are here at school! Next week we will complete standardised testing in-school, and will also begin teaching Water Safety as part of National Water Safety Week.

**School Assembly:** It was with great delight that our senior classes, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, assembled in the hall together again for assembly this morning. This was our first one in 2025 and whilst teachers continued their own class or year assemblies during this time, having our children together again was great.

**Write-A-Book winners:** Each year, our 4<sup>th</sup> classes take part in the Blackrock Education Centre's Write-a-Book event. In its 40<sup>th</sup> year, the event sees children become real authors as they plan, write and edit a book before publishing it in the competition. A huge well done to all of our authors in 4<sup>th</sup> class and their teachers, Janet, Eamonn and Christine, for all the hard work that went into this. Congratulations to the authors who were highly commended: Joel, Alexander, Victor, Matthew, Aylah, Ellie, Lucie and Layla and to the overall merit winners: Carla in 4<sup>th</sup> Green and Maxim in 4<sup>th</sup> Blue, both of whom will attend an awards ceremony and have their stories published in this year's compilation.

## Classroom News

**Junior Infants:** We've had a very exciting week in Junior Infants. Over the last few weeks we have had some visitors in our classroom; caterpillars that our now butterflies. We watched them grow, build their cocoons and transform into butterflies. We had a very exciting Thursday afternoon as we released the butterflies into the beautiful outdoors. We've enjoyed learning all about the life cycle and observed each stage closely. This week we all brought in a photo of ourselves when we were babies and explored how we have grown and changed. We will make time line posters next week that include our baby photos, a photo of us now and a drawing of what we would like to be when we grow up

**Senior Infants** have been learning new yard games with 6<sup>th</sup> class and Mercedes. They cannot wait to start playing them in the yard!

**1st Class Green** students have been enjoying the sunshine while practising Rounders in preparation for the upcoming inter-schools competition. With the help of our 6th Class students, the children have been learning the rules, building their skills, and most importantly having fun! In SESE, 1st Class have been busy learning all about materials. The children have really enjoyed discovering where different materials come from and exploring their properties. The class had great fun sorting different objects by material type and creating colourful collages to represent each one.

**2nd Class Blue** have had a very productive week. We have been learning about analogue and digital time, synonyms, Irish verbs, and materials in SESE. In Music, we looked at Sergei Prokofiev's story of Peter and the Wolf. The composer uses different wind instruments to represent the different animals. During the week, we went down to An Choill Bheag to see the pond and the tadpoles. We did art outside and drew pictures of nature. 2<sup>nd</sup> Class are also really enjoying doing GAA with Jack on Fridays.

**3rd class Blue:** We talked about the importance of water safety and why we should follow rules around the water. We also tried on lifejackets and had a discussion around rescue services. Laura brought in

a ring buoy and a throw rope for us to see. We also watched videos of the lifeboat and the coastguard helicopter, we talked together and learnt what they both do to help people on the water. We also learned about the flags we can find on the beach and what each colour flags mean. We are on 4,362 skips. We learned about different games from the past and games we play today, Laura brought in her Nintendo to show us. Indra, Seren, Orla and Fiadh went to Enniscorthy on Thursday for athletics.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Class Green:** This week we looked at the countries and capital cities in Europe. We also started planning our books – everyone had loads of great ideas and we can't wait to start writing them. 6<sup>th</sup> class have also kindly taught us some exciting new games in PE!

**4<sup>th</sup> Class Green:** We did PE on the grass and a tug of war in the field. We are reading Matilda and doing some work on it. We started projects on tourist attractions in Geography and learned about migration of birds. In art we did still life outside.

**4<sup>th</sup> Class Blue:** Some of us went to the Athletics where we got 6 medals while the rest of the class did mega PE and outdoor art. We also got results for our Write a Book competition. 'Silly Sausage' by Maxim was our overall winner! We've had a great week outside playing, learning and skipping! Hopefully, it will be sunny again next week. By Taj

**5<sup>th</sup> Class Green** have been very busy! They have been making cereal box advertisements and practising some public speaking.

**5<sup>th</sup> Class Blue:** On Friday we split up into our table groups and presented our 'Dragon's Den' projects that we had been working on to the 'Dragons'. We all really enjoyed this project and hope some of our inventions come to life! In maths we have been learning all about 3-D shapes and equations, we wrote letters in English and played percussion instruments in music. In P.E we played no mans land and it was really fun! Compiled by Paige and Zara

### **6<sup>th</sup> Classes**

The Artist in Residence programme will conclude with 6<sup>th</sup> class this week. This has been a wonderful opportunity for the children to work with an artist, and we are all eagerly awaiting a full report from them. Thank you to teachers Christine, Paul, Edele and Rory for all they have done to support this project.

6<sup>th</sup> Class Green skipped to Astana in Kazakhstan this week and have been doing lots of revision and getting ready for graduation. They say they are 'having a blast'!

### **Standardised Testing**

Standardised testing began this week for our 1<sup>st</sup> classes without any issue.

All classes from 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class will complete their testing this week, 19<sup>th</sup> May. As we timetable tests for the morning, we would ask that an extra special effort is made to have all children in on time and ready to begin on those days. If you are aware of an unavoidable reason for your child being late or absent that week, please can you let us know? Thank you.


### **Green Schools' Committee News**


The winners of the Golden Boot this week are: Senior Infants Blue (Rafe's class) and 4<sup>th</sup> Class Blue (Janet's class). Well done to all who walked, cycled, scooted, took the bus or carpooled this week.

### **Sports Updates**

**Reminder: Sports Days Provisional dates:** Senior Sports Day will take place on Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> June off-site at Wicklow Rugby Grounds. Please email us at [info@wicklowetns.com](mailto:info@wicklowetns.com) with Senior Sports' Day volunteer in the subject line if you can help on the day. Thanks to all who have already volunteered. Junior Sports Day (J1 – 2<sup>nd</sup> classes) on Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> June at the school.

Both dates are dependent on the weather, with decisions being made closer to the time to cancel if necessary.

 **Bike to School Day** – Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> June is still our provisional day for this event, again weather permitting. More information to follow.


 **Athletics:** 32 children from our 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> classes represented the school admirably in Enniscorthy yesterday in the Primary Schools' Track and Field event. Accompanied by Rafe and Aidan they all competed well and reports of the spirit of 'sportpersonship', cooperation, grit and determination were wonderful to hear. Children from 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> class competed in a range of running events and in javelin, long jump and high jump. Not only did we win a number of medals but the attitude, commitment and behaviour of our young athletes was first class!

However, participation and personal bests are just as important, so well done to all athletes who tried-out and who took part in this activity. We are very proud of you all. Thank you also to parents Janice and Siobhán for volunteering and helping with this.

### **Skip Around Europe Challenge**

The student council are helping Rafe and Edele coordinate and tally the skipping challenge. Here is their report from this week:

We have had another super week of skipping. Last week we totalled 56,023 skips as a school and this week we have done even better with a total of 73,725 skips. We would like to give a special mention to Janet's 4<sup>th</sup> class who had a great week managing 15,589 skips! It has been so lovely to get outside in the beautiful sunshine and count our skips as we complete challenges to skip to various cities around the world.

 **GAA** Jack from the local GAA club continues to teach GAA skills to our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes this term on Fridays. We'll look forward to hearing from them in the coming weeks about the skills they are learning!

### **Reminders:**

We have a large bike rack that is locked throughout the school day and would ask that all bikes are safely placed here each morning and not anywhere else. Two scooter racks at the front of the school are also available for scooters.

Please continue to observe the set-down and collection procedures at the front of the school at drop-off and collection, and remember to be courteous to one another at all times. Thank you.

**6<sup>th</sup> Class Reminder– Graduation Contribution Payment** – if you haven't already done so, please can you pay the contribution towards the graduation events by Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> June. Thank you.

### **SCHOOL TOURS**

**School Tours** – All school tours are booked. **Thank you to all who have already paid for their tours.**

**Reminder: outstanding tour payments need to be paid in full by Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May.**

Details of how to order school photos attached.

**Message from HSE** – please see the attached document from HSE about their podcast series for parents/guardians

### **! FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES !**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Bank Holiday – School Closed

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June – Mid-term break. School Closed

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June – Half-Day closure for *Bí Cineálta* staff training

Tues, 24<sup>th</sup> June – 6<sup>th</sup> Class Graduation (evening)

Thurs, 26<sup>th</sup> June – Early school closure for end of year