



Weekly Update

Dear school community,

As we head into our break, we would like to wish all our pupils and staff a well-deserved week of rest and relaxation. It has been an extraordinarily busy five weeks since we came back after the Spring break, but the atmosphere of hard work, combined with fun and enthusiasm has been felt in every corner of our school, inside and out.

We will reopen on Monday 9th June at 8.40am, with an early closure on that day at 12pm to facilitate the school's Bí Cineálta training.

Classroom News

Junior Infants thoroughly enjoyed their 'water theme' this week. They created 'under the sea' pictures and built Lego™ boats to test their buoyancy and used ink and water to make 'marble pictures'. They were also very engaged in testing to see how much water could fit into different sized containers and then ordering them in terms of capacity! It wasn't all hard work though; they also got to make jellyfish for creative play and had free water play when all the work was done.

Senior Infants also enjoyed an aquatic themed week! They completed a fun experiment by making tinfoil boats and testing them by seeing how many coins they could each carry! They also enjoyed some heart-warming stories to support the theme; including The Snail and the Whale, Rainbow Fish, Elmer and the Whales and Sharing a Shell. Senior infants outdid themselves this week by skipping (virtually) to Stockholm! Well done everyone.

1st Class had a fantastic week. In SESE, the children learnt about nature and native Irish birds. The class is really enjoying their theme '*Ag Siopadoireacht*' and even created their own '*Siopa bréagán*'. Lots of fun and creativity on display! In maths, they explored 'weight' and using real life objects to compare and measure. Denise's class were busy learning about water safety this week and have lots of takeaways from that ahead of the Summer months. They are also loving their rounders practice and revisited the topic of 'money' in maths which they really enjoyed.

2nd Class continued their learning on Microsoft 365. They can now insert pictures, edit their text and check for spelling suggestions. In music, they loved listening to different pieces of music and discussing the emotions each evoked. Friendly debate ensued on the relative merits of Minecraft versus Lego; and in English, the class enjoyed writing stories about super heroes and villains. 2nd class green are thoroughly enjoying their GAA training with Jack. This complimented the big focus on handwriting this week at which everyone excelled in their efforts. The highlight for 2nd green was winning the green boot after months of effort after accumulating a massive score of 18! Well done everyone.

3rd Class enjoyed lots of variety this week. Between, working on their science experiment, which they named 'dancing raisins', refining their basketball skills, learning about transport from days gone by and starting their paper plate aquarium, there wasn't a dull moment. They were delighted to finish writing their own stories and are working towards writing and illustrating their own books.

4th Class had a busy week this week. In maths, they learnt about area in geometry and made their own area characters on square paper. They continued working on their *taitneamh* projects, learnt all about

adverbs and got to enjoy a trip out of school to Wicklow Library for the wonderful 'fighting words' workshop.

5th Class Amid learning all about capacity in maths and making travel brochures in English, 5th class enjoyed, an otherwise, very creative week this week. They did some fun fork painting in art!; drama games on Wednesday, and collaborating with each other to choose a song for their end of year assembly.

6th Classes were busy doing history and geography projects this week. They also had a very good in-class discussion about the dangers associated with inland and marine waterways. 6th class also finished their graduation portraits! It won't be long now...

Green Schools' News

The winners of the Golden Boot this week are:

Seniors: 4th class Blue and Juniors are 2nd Class Green.

Well done to all who walked, cycled, scooted, took the bus or carpooled this week.

The Green Schools Committee really enjoyed their trip to Kilmacurragh Botanical Gardens on Monday. The rain stayed off for them which enabled them to enjoy learning about the many special trees and shrubs on offer in this gorgeous environment. One Japanese specimen tree in particular delighted, due to what appeared to be the many apparent trunks that form part of a singular beautiful tree. They also noted the yew tree and its poisonous berries.

What's happening in our school week commencing 9th June?

Monday 9th June: Half day for whole school 12pm

School Tours continue as follows:

- Tuesday 10th June; 2nd class visit Wells House and 6th Class attend Alive Outside
- Wednesday 11th June; Senior Infants visit Kia Ora Farm
- Thursday 12th June; Senior classes Sports Day, weather permitting.
- Friday 13th June; Janet's class Fighting Words in Wicklow Library and Junior Sports Day, weather permitting (JI – 2nd classes)


Sports Updates

Reminder: Sports Days Provisional dates: Senior Sports Day will take place on Thursday, 12th June off-site at Wicklow Rugby Grounds. Please email us at 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 (JI – 2nd classes) on Friday, 13th June at the school.

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


Tennis: congratulations our 6th class children who took part in the annual Wicklow Schools Tennis Tournament. A fantastic day was had by all! One of our teams did brilliantly, by finishing in second place; missing out on first place by just one point. Congratulations to Ben, Hunter, Matthew, Charlie, Fraya, Olive, Danice and Pradyun. They aced it!

 **Bike to School Day** – Tuesday, 17th June will be a day to get on your bikes and cycle to school. More info when we get back to school after the break!

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, compiled by Mark, a 6th class student council member:

"We skipped around Europe and beyond again this week. It has been a great experience and a good way to get exercise. Our total skips this week was 74,370! We can't believe it's our last week. Even though the challenge is over, I think we will all continue to skip when we can".


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

Home Based Summer Programme details for 2025 have been announced by the Department of Education and all families with a child/ren eligible to avail of this scheme should have received an email from the school today. Any queries on this should be emailed to: info@wicklowetns.com marked FAO Mercedes/Denise ASAP.


Junior Infants 2025-26 – This week, we were delighted to be joined by our incoming junior infants' students and their parents / guardians. They were excited to see inside our school, and to meet some of the teachers who look forward to welcoming them in August.

Reminders:

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

 **SCHOOL TOURS** All school tours are booked and will continue on the 10th June with 2nd class trip to Wells House and 6th class trip to Alive Outside.

Thank you to all who have already paid for their tours. **Reminder: all payments need to be paid in full by the end of today, Friday 30th May.**

 **5th Class families** received an email about the traditional hosting of the Graduation for our 6th class families. If you can help on the night of the 24th, please email info@wicklowetns.com for the attention of Alma.

PTA Quiz – The PTA would like to thank all who attended and helped out with the annual quiz recently. A fantastic €724.13 was made on the night for the school. The winning team was Eric Barnes with his teammates Harris, Ross, Conor.

! FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES !

Monday 2nd June – Bank Holiday – School Closed

Tuesday 3rd – Friday 6th June – Mid-term break. School Closed

Monday 9th June – Half-Day closure at 12 pm for the whole school for *Bí Cineálta* staff training

Thursday, 12th June – Senior Sports' Day (off-site)

Friday, 13th June – Junior Sports' Day

Tuesday, 17th June – Bike to School Day

Tues, 24th June – 6th Class Graduation (evening)

Thurs, 26th June – Early school closure for end of year