



April Newsletter 2019

St Patrick's NS, Rathvilly, Co Carlow

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back after the Easter break and I hope that everyone is well rested and ready for the summer term in St Patrick's NS. This term is packed with lots of learning, activities and events. Thank you for your continued support and especially for using the new traffic management system correctly. This will ensure the flow of traffic in the mornings but more importantly the safety of our children at all times.

Kind regards,

Helen Molloy (Principal)

Confirmation

Congratulations to all the 6th class pupils who were confirmed on the 11th of April in St Patrick's Church, Rathvilly. Bishop Nulty officiated on the day and the chosen theme was 'Let your light so shine'. Thank you to Fr. Mc Evoy, Fr O' Brien, the Parish Team, 6th class teacher (Miss Donegan), parents and all who prepared the pupils for this special day. A special mention to 4th class school choir, Miss Birch and Gillian Curran who provided such beautiful singing and music.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

This was a great success with lots of activities and events. More details can be found on our website with results of pupils who participated in competitions and there is also a drama performed by 1st class. Sincere thanks to all the teachers in school who supported the children in their efforts and especially to Mrs Gavin who co-ordinated and organised all of the activities. Go raibh míle maith agaibh.

WORLD BOOK DAY Celebrations at St Patrick's NS

Our pupils thoroughly enjoyed the designated reading area to celebrate "World Book Day" recently. The children found the event a very enjoyable experience. Thanks to Mrs Cullen for organising this event.

Computer Classes

Coding and Scratch are the programmes which 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th classes are working on every Monday and Thursday for the next few weeks. Ms Nora Kavanagh delivers this programme to our pupils.

FAI SPAR 5's Soccer Tournament CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST OF LUCK

Well done to DJ Carroll, Robert Coleman, Bryce Gardiner, Rory Gavin, Ian Flemming, Noah Byrne, Shane Dunne and Alex Byrne who participated in the FAI SPAR 5's Primary School Soccer Tournament in Tullow on 3rd of April.

Congratulations to Emily Lawler, Ruby Collier, Shauna Nolan, Amalita O Donoghue, Leila Colfer, Gemma O' Halloran, Alexa Smith, Kia Dunne who qualified on the day and won in their division the following week (the day before their Confirmation). Best wishes as they head to Bunclody to represent the school in the **South Leinster Finals** on Tuesday 30th April. Many thanks to Mrs Gavin

Music Generation

The real benefits of this scheme is truly coming to light when you stand in the school yard in the morning and the 5th class pupils take out their instruments before school and start playing together without any adult prompting or instruction. The infant parents have been entertained with renditions of the Rathlin Bog and..... Well done 5th Class.

Our Green School's Code

'REDUCE DRASTIC PLASTIC AND MAKE OUR SCHOOL FANTASTIC'

Thank you to parents and pupils who have been making a huge effort to reduce and even eliminate Single Use Plastics in lunch boxes. Our class surveys are showing amazing results and all for the good of the environment and the world we live in.

New Woodland Sign: This colourful information sign has been erected in our woodland area. Have a look next time you are in our school. This area has also been enhanced by the addition of a new bench made by Willie Gardiner using pallets. Many thanks to Willie and the Tidy Town's Committee for donating this bench to the school.

6th Class Presentations on Single Use Plastics: The pupils in all the classes enjoyed the informative and interesting presentation made by the senior pupils on this topic. We look forward to some more in the future.

New Raised Beds: These have been bought for the garden area near the staff car park. It is planned to grow bee and insect friendly plants in these beds along with a heather bed by the fence. Runner beans and sunflowers may also make an appearance

Thank you: A big thank you to Miss Birch and Miss Whelan who have kindly offered to be part of the Green School's Team. Miss Birch will coordinate the Committee Meetings and Miss Whelan will handle all PR matters. Their assistance and expertise is greatly appreciated.

Many thanks to Ms Joyce who maintains our flower beds and school grounds so beautifully. Also a special mention to Ms Finlay for her tireless and motivational work for St Patrick's NS Green School Committee.

Reminders

Please take note of the following **Health and Safety** issues:

- Parking outside the school has been improved by a **new one way set down system in the bus parking area**. This is to safeguard our children at a very busy time of the school day and improve traffic flow.
- **IMPORTANT- PLEASE DO NOT DO A U TURN AT THE SET DOWN AREA AND HAVE KIND REGARD FOR OUR CHILDREN'S SAFETY.**
- We would kindly ask that **dogs or any animal are not brought on to the school grounds** for Health and Safety reasons.

Dates to remember

- **Monday 6th May** School Closed- Bank Holiday
- **Friday 10th May** Parents' Coffee Morning 9.30am
- **Friday 10th May** Parents' Association Table Quiz
- **Sunday 19th May** First Holy Communion
- **Thursday 23rd May** Parents' Association Bag Packing
- **Friday 24th May** School Closed-Local and European Elections
- **Monday 27th-31st May** Testing