



Summer Newsletter 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is hard to believe that we are near the end of yet another unusual school year. We are grateful that our school has been kept safe through the diligence and dedication of our whole school community. We faced new challenges, we adapted to new ways of teaching and learning, and we rose to all that was asked of us. Thank you to all our staff for their diligence and commitment to our pupils and school.

A sincere thank you to the Board of Management, Parents' Association, parish community, parents and families who continuously support this school.

Best wishes to our 6th class pupils on the next step of their journey. Thank you for the contributions they have made to our school and may life be kind to them all.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a very happy and healthy summer holiday and look forward to seeing you back in school on Tuesday the 31st of August.

Le gach dea ghuí,

Helen Molloy (Principal)

IMPORTANT

Please continue to respect our Covid 19 Response Plan that has been devised to ensure the safety of all our pupils and staff. Therefore, please remember the following:

- ❖ Do not send your child to school if they are unwell, have been in contact with a suspected or confirmed case of Covid 19 or showing signs of Covid 19.
- ❖ Notify the school of any change in contact number or address.
- ❖ Follow Public Health Advice and Government Guidelines.

Return to School Declaration Form for illness or other reasons

- ❖ In the event of your child being absent please email your class teacher to inform them of their absence and email the Return to School Declaration Form before they return to school. Your class teacher will forward the form to you.

What is Happening.....

Carlow GAA

The Sound Supporters Initiative 'Be sound, Be silent' was run by the Carlow GAA this term and our 3rd, 4th and 5th classes participated in it. As a gesture of appreciation, the Carlow GAA Games Team arranged a Sports Day for our pupils in Rathvilly GAA pitch on Thursday 10th of June. A great time was had by all.

School Outings

This year we will be having local school outings in line with public health advice and of course are all weather dependent. Further details will be forwarded by your child's class teacher.

Sports Day

We are planning our School Sports Day for Friday the 18th of June. This again is all weather dependent, but we hope that the sun will shine on us that day.

End of Year Mass

Fr Mc Evoy will celebrate Mass for the end of this academic year on Monday morning the 28th of June. All are welcome to view via webcam link which can be found on the parish website.

Graduation

The final months of the academic year are a time of excitement and occasion for all children and in particular our pupils in sixth class, as they look forward with anticipation and celebration to the traditional rites of passage which generally include extra-curricular and co-curricular activities as well as ceremonies to mark the end of the school year.

While it will not be possible for us to carry these out in the traditional format again this year, we are delighted to hold this ceremony in our school. Unfortunately, even though there has been a further easing of restrictions, we are not in a position to facilitate the attendance of parents or other family members. The core objective of any decision for holding a ceremony, is that any activity is operated in a safe manner and must adhere to public health advice. Date: Monday 28th of June at 7pm.

Our Book Project

A special mention must be made of all the budding authors, historians and illustrators in 3rd Class. This term they compiled, edited and produced a book on Rathvilly and all that is good about it. Well done Mr O Toole and 3rd Class. Copies can be ordered from 3rd Class.

Transition Programme

On Wednesday 9th of June two members of the Tullow Area School Completion Programme delivered a practical session for our 6th class pupils. This was an opportunity for our pupils to ask questions and have their concerns addressed as they prepare for secondary school.

Literacy

This year we have invested significantly in a new Reading Scheme, Literacy Programmes, Supplementary Readers and Class Novels to enhance the literacy skills of our pupils. The cost of these schemes and programmes has been considerable and has been reflected in the school fee charges.

Community Garden

We are looking for families to volunteer and help with the school area in the Community Garden this summer. Please contact Mrs Molloy as soon as possible if you are interested. This is a great opportunity to be involved in a very worthwhile school/community project.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Tuesday: Basketball 2nd to 6th class

Thursday: Zumba Junior Infants to 6th class

Upcoming events and dates to remember

June 16th School Outings for Junior Infants to 5th Class

June 18th Sports Day for all classes.

June 23rd School Outing for 6th Class

June 28th End of Year Mass

June 28th 6th Class Graduation

June Wednesday 30th Summer Holidays (Staggered times will be given prior to Wednesday 30th)

Late Applications

Parents who still wish to enrol their children for September 2021 may contact our school reception by emailing rathvilly.ns@gmail.com or calling 059 9161304

Reminder

- In order to maintain the safety and efficiency of our traffic management system please only drop and go **in the bus parking area**. This is to safeguard your 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 ALL CHILDREN'S SAFETY.**
- **Please be aware that our school grounds are private property and not for use after school hours.**

Thought for the day: The grass is always greener where you water it.