



Final Newsletter June 2019

We have come to the end of another school year and we wish everyone a happy and enjoyable summer and let's hope the sun shines for us all, all children who were in today, will be marked present tomorrow, so don't worry about an **absence tomorrow, we will close at 11:45a.m.**

A huge thanks to all our families for their support, partnership, kind words and gifts this past week, it is lovely for our staff to feel appreciated. A sad farewell to Miss Kelly, but we wish her all the luck in the world on her new adventure.

We look forward to seeing all the **P2-7 children on Friday 30th August for a half day.** We wish all the summer birthday children a happy birthday and we hope they got their certificates this week!!

School Improvement Overview 2018/19 and how you can continue to foster the children's learning over the summer.

This year the staff developed a number of key areas in the nursery and primary to improve the learning and teaching within our classes.

Literacy: the implementation of the Literacy Task Board has seen a sharp focus used to develop our children's ability to apply their knowledge and skills through good Quality comprehension passages and writing tasks. This has shown to have impacted on the children's reading and writing ability. We hope to continue to see an impact in the coming school year. Please continue to encourage your child to read over the summer, whether it is an adult reading a bedtime story, no matter their age, all children love to be read to and do try and keep screen time down to a minimum, even when on an iPad get them to research the News, or give them a topic to research, which may interest them. The more they are immersed in language the more progress and confidence we will see with their literacy skills.

Numeracy: the school focus has been on the development of Mental maths strategies and problem solving. Children are becoming more confident in their age appropriate ability to use their mathematical knowledge to solve a problem using a range of steps to complete tasks. Over the summer, give them simple problems to complete, such as adding up a shopping bill, working out percentages off in the summer sales, or in simple language for younger children, tell them a price for example a paddling pool was £15, but it is now £4 cheaper, what would it cost now? Be creative and help keep their mental strategies ticking.

Play based learning: there is nothing better than play for a purpose. So encourage the children to play and explore outdoors, give them paints, water or sand, let them help with the garden and hunt for minibeasts. Encourage exercise, riding bikes, skipping, good old fashioned street games. Fresh air is a tonic for children and adults as it helps with mental health and social skills, so go on walks, explore your local area. Trips around the city, or if you are lucky enough to be getting away on a holiday, give the children the chance to explore and learn about wherever they visit.



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Take on board the targets your child's teacher included in their school reports, the teachers have given a lot of thought to how your child can make improvements, so think of ways to develop those targets over the summer.

And finally remember, *"Never stop learning because life never stops teaching."*

A letter to everyone from Sister Mark in Guatemala

Greetings of peace and all that is good,

I am deeply grateful to you and to all those who helped raise such an amount of money for our mission here in Central America. It will undoubtedly be used to great advantage to help those in need. It is not easy for children to raise funds these days with so many demands on finances and I know that this could never have been accomplished without the good support of all the school community, including your good principal, staff, parents, children and friends.

This year the money will go towards 2 projects:

- 1, Providing chairs and tables for the children in the school for disabled people in El Salvador.*
- 2, Providing training so that some poor women in Guatemala will be able to gain a small income through the production of crafts.*

When we get things underway I will send you some photographs and if you wish I could visit the school and speak to some of the children at the end of September.

Please convey my sincere thanks to all those who participated in the various activities that will enable us to help others with great needs.

I wish all of you a well-deserved rest and a pleasant summer holiday.

With sincere thanks,

Blessings, Sister Mark

Superstars for June	Headteacher Awards
Sarah Caldwell, Micheal Jordan and Conor lavery	P1 Colm Donnelly for being such a happy man around school
Olivia Teesdale, Eve Sheilds and Paul McDaniel	P2 Emily Doran Hughes for being such a kind playtime friend
Shona Britton, Logan McDonald and Alicia McKenna	P3 Corey James McKeever for being such a gentleman
Cara Steele, Leah Brennan and Maurica L'Estrange	P4 Cian Reynolds and Arter Devine for sporting achievements in gaelic football and soccer this year outside school
P5SMcC whole class, Lexi Harbinson, Toni Harbinson, Odhran Harrison and Stiofan Matthews	P5 Jessica Doone for being such a friendly young lady
Tiernan Foster Mooney, Cain Harbinson and Dara McConkey	P6 Lucas Larmour Murphy for his exceptional manners