

## Class activities in May / June 2021

**Junior infants** have really enjoyed their dance classes with Lisa, tennis with Dermot and training with Adrian in the month of May. They have been learning all about transport and made their own passports and boarding passes with plans to travel to amazing places like pirate villages, Disneyland and Paris! Our classroom is full of beautiful hot air balloons which will be flying home very soon!

**First class** were very busy learning all about different materials. In science, they experimented to see if different materials dissolved or not. We also looked at where wool comes from and the boys weaved their own mats out of paper. @scienceirl.

The boys in **second class** have been busy preparing for the sacrament of reconciliation. They have made some lovely art pieces and visited St Brendan's Church and met Fr. Anthony. We are reading Horrid Henry's Monster Movie and loving it!! The boys are creating their very own "Jungle Books" – such a talented bunch. Have a lovely long weekend everybody!

**3<sup>rd</sup> class** – For the month of May, we really worked hard. The kids enjoyed learning all about the life cycle of plants and grew their own grass heads which are coming along nicely. We had to give them new hair styles last week. The boys were listening to the story "Under the Hawthorn Tree" and enjoy learning all about the Irish Famine. Have a fantastic Bank Holiday everyone!!

The boys in **4<sup>th</sup> class** are really enjoying the hurling coaching with Adrian. They love the new warm up activities each week as they are really fun and active. Excellent effort and imagination put with writing our stories to be published on our school book. 4<sup>th</sup> are really enjoying their "Life skills" programme each week with Mairead Keavy.

During the month of May, **5<sup>th</sup> class** really enjoyed writing their stories for "The Real Book of Birt". We also used this time to practise our typing skills. We have been using typing.com to help us practice. We are also using all the activities in school at the moment – hurling, athletics and tennis. We have just started cycle training too and we are loving it!

**6<sup>th</sup> class** have had a busy month of May in school. We have really enjoyed getting outside most days for tennis, athletics and hurling. We also got the opportunity to listen to an interview with Rachel Blackmore. She told us to never give up no matter how much times you fail at something. She really is an inspirational person.

**Cairdeas 1** enjoyed the sun-shine by having an ice-cream picnic and are looking forward to lots more! In Maths, we are learning about time and capacity. We are having great fun filling up and pouring out water. Each week we cook delicious treats for ourselves and we even had a big birthday party. In English, we read Going on a Bear hunt then we made a bear hunt map. Every week we have fun with song and dance and playing our percussion instruments. We are feeling very fit as we took part in athletics, tennis, hurling and dance. In Science we are now learning about the life-cycle of a butterfly, we were glued to our visiting reptile zoo over zoom but we prefer dinosaurs! We are thankful to Mr. Crofton and the BOM for all our fabulous new resources and equipment in our room - we're spoilt! Have a great Summer!!

**Cairdeas 2** were busy learning how to tell the time. They enjoyed signing the o'clock song and practised telling the time using clocks. The boys were also busy creating summer crafts for our summer display board. They made butterflies, beach balls and hot air balloons.

**Mr. Kennedy's** class have really been enjoying all the extra-curricular activities that the school has put in place this term. The boys were also busy planting/watering and watching their plants (peas, spinach and salad leaves) germinate and grow. Let's hope the fruits of their labour are tasty.

## St. Brendan's Boys P.S.

May -June 2021



## In-school tour experience 2021

Thanks to our amazing and talented staff for supporting and developing a fun and educational June tour programme and to the families and Board of Management for your support with funding. As you can see from the pictures the range of activities from ice-cream van to Pet farm visit and sports days have allowed all to have fun in what has been a challenging year for our young students. The smiles and laughter have lifted all of our spirits this month!

Exciting news for 2021/2022- our school has been successful in being accepted into the **hot school meals scheme** - From September ALL boys will be getting a hot meal of their choice every school day along with snack and drink. The successful tender ( school food company ) are building a kitchen in school this summer and all parents will be informed of how to order via the FREE PARENTS APP before we return. This is free for all boys in the school and we are grateful for the support from the DES / DSP.

## School end-of-year reports and holidays

School closes this FRIDAY 25th June for summer holidays—Staggered close times same as Easter

Junior Infants—12.10pm

Senior Infants 12.15pm

1st / 3rd / 5th—12.20pm

2nd / 4th / 6th—12.30pm

Class end of year reports for all classes will be sent home with pupils in sealed envelopes on **Monday 21st June**. Class teachers for academic year 21/22 and school calendar for the year will be included in the report. Parent support sheets will accompany reports for classes with standardized test score results. Just a date to note also for families planning their summer- Boys will return to school on Tuesday 31st August 2021.

### End of year school mass

This year sadly we cannot hold our usual gathering of the whole school and parents so we are celebrating a short mass this Wednesday 23rd June at 11.30am via facebook live. Fr Anthony will celebrate with our 6th class boys supporting with readings and prayers and some lovely music from Ms Killeen and Ms Pilkington.

### 6th Class Graduation

We will hold a graduation ceremony for the 25 boys this Wednesday after school. This year's class have been outstanding in their positive attitude to school even through lockdown and we look forward to their inspirational hero speeches at the ceremony.

### Casual—no uniform day.

Thanks to our families for your support of this day—Friday 18th June. We were grateful to Barry Loughnane and Fergal Clarke for coming to the school to give awareness workshops to classes 3rd - 6th about diving and the important role that Offaly search and recovery divers do. A total of € 272 was raised to be split between Offaly search and rescue divers and Offaly hospice.



Great excitement this week ( as if we needed any more 😊 ) with the visit of Offaly hurlers with the Allianz league Division 2 cup !! Thanks to past pupils Eoghan Cahill / Brian Watkins and Morgan Watkins for the training sessions with 4th and 2nd classes - Offaly hurling has a bright future !! 🍀🍀👍

5th and 6th really enjoyed the web chat with Rachel Blackmore as part of 'Inspiring Ireland, Inspiring Students' organised by Tralee Education Centre. Thanks to Mr Cunningham for organising 🍀  
[#inspiringourfuture](#)

Fantastic end to our modern dance programme with Lisa Hogan last week - lovely pictures of each class dance theme from Lisa to link to class also ( see facebook)

We will upload the videos of each class dance to our school YOUTUBE account next week.

Thanks to Offaly county council arts office for their support -keep dancing guys !!

### Parish sacraments 2021- dates and times

Confirmation—Tuesday 6th July at 7.30pm

Communion—Saturday 10th July at 2.00pm

Please follow parish COVID safety guidelines.