

Class activities in May 2022

Junior Infants have really enjoyed working with the Fifth Class on a number of projects in the month of May. We planted the wildflowers that we had potted in the classroom outside. The Fifth Class boys have also been really good to read stories to the boys in Junior Infants and we've loved being able to work with other classes again. We've been learning about the desert and desert animals and how lucky we are to live in rainy Ireland!!

Senior Infants had a very busy month of May. They took part in the sponsored walk in Birr Castle and had some lovely treats after. They really enjoyed hurling with Adrian and tennis with Dermot. Senior Infants also went on a walk to the park and spotted some butterflies and birds. In art, they painted some lovely butterflies and flowers.

First class had a great month of May. For our Science lesson we made famous bridges out of different materials like blocks, lego and straws. At the end of May, we got some new visitors into the classroom as our live caterpillars arrived. We can't wait to watch them turn into butterflies!! We also had our first ever school choir practice in the hall in preparation for the end of year mass. Thank you to Ms Killeen for a keyboard lesson which the whole class enjoyed.

Second class had an exciting month of May, they celebrated the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. Thank you to Joan, Fr Anthony and Fr Tom for all of their help over the past few months. We also went on our school tour to Birr Outdoor Education Centre which was a great day!!

Third class enjoyed learning all about travel and transport all around the world. They made old fashioned world maps. They went back in time and learned all about the Viking Era. Third class really enjoyed their swimming lessons.

In May **4th Class** did a project on a famous person they admire and presented it to classmates. We also enjoyed painting unusual designs in Art Class. We also enjoyed our sponsored cycle to Lough Boora.

5th Class enjoyed an eventful month of May with robotics, breakfast in the County Arms Hotel, sponsored walk and cycle in Boora, swimming and tennis. We have been writing our narrative stories in English and learning briathra néamhrialta in Irish. We are looking forward to a fun June.

In **Cairdeas 1** we are learning all about money. We have set up our shop and are having great fun playing shop. We are talking about Summer and singing Summer songs. In art we made ice-pops, jelly-fish and bright suns. With our friends in Cairdeas 2, we visited Dooley's Hotel and we think we ate all their chips! Thanks to Ms. Kileen for teaching us to play the keyboards too.

During the month of May, **Cairdeas2** were very busy learning about new life. The boys have been keeping track of Ms Keogh's new puppies by looking at photos and videos. We were so lucky that Ms Keogh brought Sasha the puppy into school and into our classroom. We had great fun playing with Sasha!!

Mr Kennedys class enjoyed cooking, shopping and the playground. They went walking in Birr Castle studying how the flowers had blossomed, leaves had opened and listening quietly to the birds signing.

6th Class Graduation. We will hold a graduation ceremony for the 26 boys on Wednesday 22nd June after school. This year's class have been outstanding in their positive attitude to school and we look forward to their inspirational hero speeches at the ceremony. The boys are proudly carrying on the Hero speech tradition which dates back almost 20 years in 6th class where the boys research a famous person who inspires them and then each boy is given 1-2 minutes of speech to outline why they choose this person and how they inspire them.

St. Brendan's Boys P.S.

May 2022



Cumann na mBunscoil Offaly A champions 2022

Champions !!!!!!!!!!! St Brendan's PS Birr and Gaelscoil Na Laochra Biorra Congratulations to the boys (All 29 of them) who played an amazing game to beat a strong and skilful Rath NS team in Offaly Cumann Na Mbunscoil Division A final - Great start and super performances from our 6th class leaders to lead at half time 2-5 to 0-4 The boys kicked on in second half to put their bodies on the line and deny Rath any momentum . Goals win matches and second half provided these to come out on top in final score 7 -8 to 2-9

Joint captains Robert Landy and Barry Bennett raised the cup to great cheers ! ☆ ☆ ☆ Well done to Mr Kennedy (coach) and Ms Pilkington / Mr Crofton and all the staff who support and promote school hurling along with the excellent groundwork being done on a weekly basis by GDO Adrian Clancy

Thanks to staff /Parents Association St. Brendan's Boys School, Birr, Birr and all the younger boys for the amazing support at St Brendan's Park Birr on a gorgeous pitch by Birr Gaa- Thanks to Declan Cooke for his excellent refereeing and to Declan Ward and his fantastic committee of volunteers at Cumann Na Mbunscoil Offaly Biorra Abu !!

School end-of-year reports and holidays

School closes this TUESDAY 28th June

for summer holidays

—Staggered close times same as Easter

Junior Infants—Senior Infants 12.15pm

1st / 3rd / 5th 2nd / 4th / 6th— 12.30pm

Class end of year reports for all classes will be sent home with pupils in sealed envelopes on **Monday 20th June**. Class teachers for academic year 22/23 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 30th August 2022.

Teaching resources 22/23

We were delighted to secure extra teachers for the academic year ahead in terms of an extra 0.5 SEN support and an extra class teacher. This will bring our school to 9 mainstream teachers for next year which will mean lower pupil teacher ratios in some classes (split class) and will give all the boys a fantastic opportunity for academic and holistic development next year.

Athletics team

Our 5th and 6th class participated in the Colin Dunne Field and Track Athletics recently in Tullamore. They represented our school with great effort and pride. Thanks to class teacher and Ms Makim for going on the day.

Well done boys!



End of year school mass

This year we are delighted to again invite the school community / parents to join us in celebrating our end of year school mass on Thursday 23rd June at 1pm. The mass will hopefully be outside (weather permit) and ALL boys will go home 2pm that day. Fr Anthony will celebrate for us and the theme of the mass is JOY.

Summer camps.

The school is delighted to run these programmes again this summer. The SP is now running for the 7th year and is a great support to the boys who are eligible. All places are now filled and the staff look forward to a fun and exciting programme.

Summer Programme- 3 weeks starting Monday 8th August

Lit / Num summer camp- 1 week starting Monday 22nd August.

FYI—Lisa Hogan (Gravity Dance) is running kids summer camps out of our school this July—Please contact Lisa for details and Bookings

Parents Association

Thank you to our amazing parents for a fab cake sale by our Parents Association- The event returned to our school after an absence of 3 years ! Huge success in the school and the draw was very popular also- 3 winners were Joey / Sam and Cillian .

Thanks to the parents and volunteers who came in on the day to help out and support our school.

Final amount raised was €820 which goes to support school activities for the boys.

