

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTER- EST:

- Mr Foley and Mrs Kehily are retiring
- Visit of the Road Safety Authority
- After School Activities
- Munster come to visit
- Green schools report
- School Tours

Wishing You All an Enjoyable Summer Break

Imagine, the summer is upon us already. I just do not know where the time goes. We are after a very busy year and we all looking forward to the holidays.

On behalf of the Board of Management and all of the staff of our school, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your wonderful support throughout the year. It is without question a most vital component of your son's education— a positive relationship between home and school. Teachers value parental support and we really do appreciate the

work you do in making our job that bit easier.

It would be remiss of me if I did not take this opportunity to thank all the staff members for their wonderful dedication. I see first hand everyday the amount of work that is done in all of the classrooms and it certainly makes me proud when I see the level of respect that is mutually shared between the staff and students of our school. The staff of this school have a tradition of giving 'beyond the call of duty' and I certainly do not see this changing anytime soon.



I would also like to thank the Parents Association for their efforts since the start of the year. The committee do a wonderful job and are never found wanting in terms of supporting the school. I would especially like to thank those parents who helped out with the various events we ran throughout the year.

I wish you all a lovely holiday and look forward to working with you all next term.

Thank You Mrs Kehily

Mrs Kehily, after 37 years of unwavering service has decided to retire from teaching. Mrs Kehily has spent all of her career in our school and she certainly will be sadly missed by all of us.

Eileen is probably most remembered by her many years as a teacher in junior infants. Year after year, parents cajoled principals so as to ensure that

their son would be given the best possible start to their education by obtaining a seat in Mrs Kehily's class. Eileen was always a favourite with our past pupils on their return to the school, whereby they would seek out Eileen and fondly reminisce about events that happened in juniors.

Eileen in later years immersed herself in special

education and was a wonderful resource teacher here. Added to that, she also became Deputy Principal on Mr Lynch's retirement.

We will all miss her greatly here, we thank her for her wonderful service to the school and we wish her many years of health and happiness in her retirement.

School Hurling Team

Our school hurling team has very recently completed their fixtures in the Sciath na Scol hurling competition. Mr McCarthy and Brendan put a lot of work into the team and the boys certainly did the school proud.

We played matches against Scoil Eoin, Scoil na nÓg, Carrigaline, Whitechurch, St Patricks, and Watergrasshill. In all of these games we performed very well and the team certainly got great enjoyment.

In many of these matches we had some wonderful performances and some moments that certainly stick out in the memory. We think many of our players will be very good hurlers as they grow up and we would really urge them to stick at the training that comes with being the best you can be.

On behalf of all of the boys, I would like to thank Brendan and Mr McCarthy for their wonderful dedication and expertise.



After School Activities

Tennis

Tennis has proved to be very popular as part of our after-school programme this past year. 30 boys every term have benefited from the expert coaching on offer. All of them find the sessions to be great fun. It is envisaged that we will continue to run this programme next year.



Basketball



Basketball has been on offer every Tuesday to the boys from 1st to 6th class. Miss O Callaghan has been delighted with the progress the boys have been making. We have entered a number of blitzes and the boys represented the school very well in them. We look forward to next year and would encourage even more boys to play.

Band

Our school band is after many years reached a stage where we enter the unknown. Mr Fennell and Mr Foley will both have retired, Miss Finnegan, who has done a wonderful job this year, sadly leaves us, so we must find a new volunteer to continue on this great school tradition. As soon as we have some white smoke, we will let you know.



Cycling Safety

Through the Road Safety section of the Cork City Council, we managed to organise a cycling safety course for our boys in fifth class. We discovered that many of the boys had bicycles but many of them were not sure of the rules of the road and certainly there were some boys who needed more confidence when cycling on the road.

Every Thursday in April and May, the boys of 5th class received a break from the

class and were the envy of the school as they pedalled away around the school yard. After a few short weeks, the difference in their attitude to cycling had to be seen to be believed.

On behalf of all of the boys, I would like to put on record my thanks to our instructor John and those in the RSA for making this wonderful programme available to us. It certainly is a valuable tool in ensuring the safety of our children on our roads.

Mr Foley's Play

Once again, Mr Foley has come back from the All Ireland Drama competition with honours. His play, Plum ag cosaint an óir was highly acclaimed by the judges and won silverware. Mr Foley's class had a wonderful time preparing for this competition and took top marks at county and provincial level. On behalf of the pupils of his class, thank you Mr Foley.



Visit of the Road Safety Authority



The Road Safety Authority arrived in June with their Street Shuttle (right) and their Street Scape mat (left) so as to teach the boys about safety on our roads. The boys really enjoyed these highly interactive lessons and we believe the message received is invaluable to all of our students. Thank you to Shane and all at the RSA.



Red Day for Munster

Munster Rugby arrived to school during the week leading up to the Magners League Grand final. Donncha O Callaghan (past pupil) and Ian Nagle from the club's first team called in and gave the boys an inside into life as a professional rugby player. They were greeted by a sea of red and Munster mania.

We ran a competition for the best dressed supporter and Donncha presented Hugh Hoare (Miss Dodd's) and Aidan Dunne (Mr McConnell) with prizes of tickets to the match and complimentary entry to the Munster Summer camp to both boys respectively. We thank both Ian and Donncha for taking the time to call



Graduation Classes

It is that time of the year again when we say goodbye to a whole cohort of Spioraid Naoimh students. Both Mr O Callaghan and Mrs Egan have had a wonderful year with sixth class. I can honestly say that this year's sixth class have been wonderful role models for our school and are certainly a credit to their teachers and their families. We wish them the very best in their secondary education and their future careers. They know that in

Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh, the values we have nurtured will be very important to them over the next number of years. I look forward to meeting these boys in the years to come, their futures have the real possibility of being very bright indeed. We celebrated their graduation with a mass in the church with Canon O Dalaigh and a get together in the school hall afterwards. Thank you to all of the parents who helped out on the night.

Thank You

We are very sorry to see a number of our teachers leave us this Summer. Two very popular permanent members of staff Miss Finnegan and Miss O Donovan had to unfortunately relinquish their posts here whilst all of our temporary teachers will have to wait until September to see if they can find employment here or elsewhere. These are very tough times for schools in terms of organisation but more importantly, times are very tough on young talented teachers trying to find employment at present. We sincerely thank these members of staff for the wonderful contributions they have made to life in our school.

Communion

There was great excitement in second class for the First Holy Communion. Our boys were brilliant and they all looked splendid in our new Communion blazers. I would like to say a big thank you to Miss Nelligan and Mr McConnell for all their hard work in preparing the boys for this very special sacrament. Thank you too, to the Parents Association for their work on the day .



Confirmation

Our Confirmation was held earlier in the year and was celebrated by Bishop Buckley. We had a wonderful day and all the months of preparation certainly paid off. Our boys were a credit to their families and to our school. I would like to put on record, on behalf of the pupils, our thanks to Mrs Egan and Mr O Callaghan for all their work with the Confirmation classes throughout the year. Our thanks also to Canon O Dálaigh for all his guidance and assistance with regard to the sacraments.



Sponsored Walk and The Fun Day

Our Sponsored walk took place on the 22nd of June. The route included a walk down to Murphy's Farm and back through the CIT, about 3 miles in total. This year the funds gathered from the walk were used to purchase a new scheme of English books for the school.

On our return to school, the boys had a fun day, where we had many bouncy castles, tug of war and fun events organized. A great day was had by all. We thank you for your support and generosity once again. It is very much appreciated.



Art Classes

Wonderful Fun at Art Class



Miss Desmond and Miss Kelly have been doing a wonderful job with our art class as part of our after schools programme. These classes have been very popular this year, and like the computer class, they are a first for our school. The boys who participated got the opportunity to experience areas of art that they might not come across in the art curriculum. The product from their work has been outstanding and certainly the feedback from the classes has been very popular. Thank you to Miss Desmond and Miss Kelly for their time and expertise. It is very much appreciated.

Thank You Mr Foley

Some of you may be aware of impending retirement of Mr Foley. Mr Foley has given 37 years of unwavering and loyal service to the children of Bishopstown. Many of our past pupils would have many wonderful memories of being in Mr Foley's class. Mr Foley would have engrained into all of his students the necessity for working consistently well and doing your best at all times. Outside of the everyday curriculum, many students benefited from Mr Foley's knowledge of music, his love for our native

language and of course his marvelous ability to script and produce drama. Year upon year, Mr Foley and his class would head off on a campaign to land All Ireland honours in drama competitions for our school. Year upon year, they would return successful. These drama campaigns brought huge excitement to the class but also brought a level of class spirit, personal development and unity that would have to be seen to be believed. On all our behalf, I wish Mr Foley the very best

on his retirement. Mr Foley has totally given of himself to this school. As a past pupil of the school, Mr Foley began work here oblivious to what he would achieve by the end of his career. He proved himself to be a wonderful colleague, a marvelous teacher and a role model to all of his students. We could only marvel at his level of dedication and commitment and certainly when it came to getting something done, nobody had to ask him twice. Next September will just not be the same.

School Tours

All of our classes went on school tour this term. Our juniors headed to Leahys Farm in Dungourney and had a marvellous fun filled day. Senior Infants headed to Fota Island whilst first class had great fun in Super Nova. Second class visited the Garda station in Cobh and stopped off in Go Safari on the way home. Third class travelled to Carrig na bhFear activity centre whilst fourth class had mighty fun at the Let's Go activity camp in

Spioraid Naoimh on tour

Trabeg Sports Centre. Sixth class went on their annual trip to the cinema and to leisureworld for soccer matches. Overall, our pupils really look forward to going on tours, we try our best to make them as cost effective as possible. We look on them as a reward for all the hard work during the year.

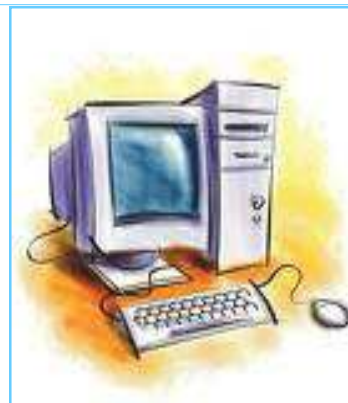


Computer classes were a marvellous success.

Computer Classes

Miss Harney and Miss O Neill have been very busy every Wednesday after school with their computer classes. These have been a first for our school and proven to be very popular indeed. The class has been offered on a rotation basis, from 2nd class up to 6th class. The boys have been in-

troduced to many different areas of information technology and have become familiar with many different pieces of software. Certainly, one would have to say that these classes have been a brilliant success. Our thanks goes to Miss Harney and Miss O Neill for all their hard work and expertise.



Green School Team Visits the Dáil

On the 31st of May, 20 boys headed for the Dáil to meet local TD Jerry Buttimer. Jerry recently came to school to raise our 2nd Green Flag and proceeded to invite Mrs Egan and her Green School Team to Dublin. It was an opportunity too good to refuse and with

the generous help of a parent, we, along with the girl's school, organized a bus to Dublin. A wonderful day was had by all. Our trip included a stop-off at the Botanic Gardens and a guided tour of Croke Park. The highlight of the day was of course our trip

to the Dáil and the marvellous reception we received from Deputy Buttimer. We would like to put on record our thanks to Jerry and to all who travelled on the day. It was the highlight of the year for many of the boys who travelled, I overheard one boy say it was



Chess

Our annual chess competition took place again this year. This event is kindly run by Mr Lynch. For those of you who may not be aware, but Mr Lynch is a former deputy principal of our school. It says a lot about our school and about our teachers that they still are willing to help out, even after many years of retirement. The competition this year was close, with Allan Barry winning the 5th/6th competition and Kevin Delaney winning the

3/4th competition.



Allan Barry and Kevin Delaney win the school chess competitions

Easter Raffle

The Parents Association annual Easter Raffle was held again this past Easter. This raffle raises funds for the Parents Association and we thank you for supporting it. There were individual winners in each class and there were 3 overall winners in the big school draw.



Athletics

Our Athletics team, under the expert guidance of Mr Fennell, recently participated in the annual County Sports in Pairc Uí Chaoimh. Many of our team members were very close to winning honours and certainly the whole team represented the school extremely well at

the event.

A special word of thanks for Mr Fennell, who gave of his valuable free time to come in everyday to train the boys. Again, it signals the spirit within our school that former teachers are willing to give of their time to help out. This hopefully will continue well



The School Library

On behalf of the school, my sincere thanks to the parents association for their wonderful work in redecorating our school library. The transformation would have to be seen to be believed. Special thanks to Ger and Ann Keating and to John Ryan who went beyond the call of duty in making sure that the end product would

turnout the way it did. Thank you too, to all of the parents who donated books for the library. It certainly shows what can be done with us all working together, the library now is a place we can be very proud of. I think our boys will be very comfortable there from here on in. Thank you to all who contributed.



School Closures: 2011/2012

School Opening :	Tuesday 30 th August 2011
Staff Meeting:	To be advised
Mid-Term Break:	From Monday 31 st Oct – Friday 4 th Nov. 2011 (inclusive).
Parent/Teacher Meetings:	16 th & 17 th November 2011
Closed:	Thursday 8 th December 2011
Christmas Holidays:	From Friday 23 rd Dec. 2011 – Friday 6 th Jan. 2012 (inclusive). Closing 1.00 p.m. 22 nd December 2011
Staff Meeting:	To be advised:
Mid-Term Break:	Monday 13 th February – Friday 17 th Feb. 2012 (inclusive).
Closed:	Monday 19 th March 2012
Easter Holidays:	From Mon. Apr 2 nd -- Fri. Apr. 13 th 2012
Closed:	Monday May 7 th 2012 (Bank Holiday)
Holy Communion:	To be advised
Confirmation:	To be advised...School will be closed
Staff Meeting:	To be advised
Closed:	Monday June 4 th (Bank Holiday)
Closing for Summer Holidays:	Friday June 29 th 2012

The Term in Pictures