

May 2023

Newsletter

**Sponsored Walk:** Thanks to everyone who sponsored the children in the recent Sponsored Walk. Over 4000 thousand euro was raised. This money is earmarked for covering the cost of the new yard markings and the purchase of stop the ball nets for the basketball/soccer area which the older children use at break time.

**Music Generation:** For the entire year, David Crowe from Music Generation, Longford has been working with the children from Junior Infants to 6<sup>th</sup> class. They have been learning to play the ukulele. The classes are coming to an end in May. During the first week of June, a performance by all the classes is planned and parents are invited to attend. Hopefully the weather will be good and the event can take place outdoors. Exact details about day/date/time will be available closer to the event. The Board of Management have covered the entire cost of all the music lessons since we started working with Longford Music Generation. This means every child has had the opportunity to experience learning how to play a musical instrument. David has made the experience very enjoyable and positive. Hopefully some of the children will now continue their musical journey with the ukulele or indeed another instrument.

**County Relay Races:** Well done to all the children who participated in the relay races on Friday April, 21<sup>st</sup> at Newtownforbes GAA centre. The girls team from 3<sup>rd</sup> class managed to win silver medals in a highly competitive race. This is an annual event and hopefully we will be back next year to compete again.

**Cumann na mBunscol competition:** The Girls and Mixed teams are very active at the moment in this football competition. Thanks to Mr O'Rourke, Ms Duffy and Mr Rock for training the teams and accompanying them to the matches each week.

**Primary Planet/Newsflash:** If your child is going to be in Second to Sixth class next September, you will be receiving a form in relation to ordering this publication for the coming school year. The magazines are published monthly. They contain a very interesting mix of articles on many subjects ranging from farming, music, sport, geography, politics to book and movie reviews and monthly competitions. All the articles are relatively short and there is something to appeal to even the most reluctant reader. The order forms will be in your child's folder and should be paid for by Friday if you are interested

**Multigrade policy:** This policy has been reviewed for the coming school year and was ratified by the BoM at its most recent meeting on March 30<sup>th</sup>. It is available for you to read on the school website.

**Stay Safe Programme:** Over the past few months the children in all classes have been doing the Stay Safe Programme. Please make sure to ask your child about what they are learning. It is important children have one phone number which they can remember in the event of getting lost/separated from family in any situation. It might also be helpful to write a phone number on an inside label of a jacket etc if children can't remember the number.

**Drumcondra Tests:** The standardised tests will be taking place during the coming weeks in this month of May. Please make sure your child is in school on time. If your child has an essential appointment and must leave early, please make sure to inform your child's teacher well in advance so this doesn't clash with testing schedule. Standardised test take place from 2<sup>nd</sup> class upwards and the children in 1<sup>st</sup> do screening tests. Results of standardised tests will be included in your child's report card later in June.

**Attendance:** As per the Attendance Policy please note the following:

- In order to minimise the disruption to teaching and learning, if you need to collect your child for an urgent appointment, please make sure to schedule collection for the break times ie 10:50 to 11:10 am or 12:50 to 1:10pm.
- Previously, we had a sign in/sign out book when your child was arriving late or leaving early whatever the reason. As we are now using the Aladdin Connect App, parents must notify the school via the App when their child is going to be **absent, late arriving or early leaving** before 2:50 pm. This notification must be sent in **by 9:10 am** on the day **VIA THE APP** and include time of arrival/departure and reason for same. All absences, whether whole day or part of a day must be accounted for due to Safeguarding obligations.

**School Closure:** The school will be closed on Friday June 23<sup>rd</sup> for further staff training in the new Primary Language Curriculum.

**MMR and 4 in 1 Vaccinations:** The HSE have been in touch with the school to say these vaccinations will be taking place on the premises in Tuesday May 16<sup>th</sup> starting at 11:30 am. The HSE will be in touch with all parents in relation to this matter.

**First Confessions:** First Confessions will be taking place in Moyne Church on Tuesday May 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. First Communion will be taking place on Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup> at 11 am. Mr Rock will be in touch closer to these events with more details.

Used clothing collection: There will be a collection in mid June and we will let you know closer to the time when you can drop donations at the school.

**Board of Management Report:**

- The Relaxation Room is up and running and all costs associated with it have been paid by the BoM
- Policies ratified at meeting: Administration of medicine, Multi Grade class