



Newsletter June 2024

Welcome to our final newsletter of the 2023/24 school year. It has been a jam packed year and the final term did not disappoint.

JEP Company Room 16: Custom Bottles

On behalf of Ms Moore and 6th Class we would like to say a huge thank you for supporting our business 'Custom Bottles' over the past number of weeks. We are overwhelmed by the wonderful support and encouragement we received from parents, guardians, family members and friends throughout this week. We hope you are enjoying our custom made bottles.

JEP Global Garden Room 14 A

Ms Lawlor and the students in Room 14A would like to thank everyone who supported their enterprise Global Gardens. Global Garden was chosen as our business to tackle global warming and environmental issues.

Global Garden made and sold 'plant bundles'. You could order any three herbs). They sowed and maintained the plants until they were ready to collect. The three plants will come in a reusable plastic container. We hope everyone who purchased these enjoys fresh herbs for the Summer. Thank you.



Room 15 Junior Entrepreneur Programme - Blind Bags

After coming up with several great business ideas, all of our groups faced the Dragon's Den to present their ideas. But it was 2 groups in particular that impressed the Dragons with fantastic ingenuity, huge profit projections and mass appeal within our target audience. Blind Bags and Slimetastic couldn't be separated and so one of our Dragons, Mr McCabe, recommended we combine the 2 groups and The Blind Bags Co. was formed.

After some more market research and product refining, our production was underway and we targeted a May launch date. Due to delays in shipping, and our Confirmation, this date was delayed until 28th May. However, on launch the product has been hugely successful.

Each blind bag consists of one container of Slimetastic Slime, and 8 other fun items from a range of Pokemon/Match Attax cards, glow sticks, slap bands, slinkys, mini cars and so many more.

Thankfully, the Blind Bags have sold out and the class made a nice profit. They've enjoyed a tasty lunch in Willows Cafe, an ice cream party, meal deals from Applegreen and lots of other little treats, as well as plenty of free samples. It was a hugely enjoyable experience for all of Room 15 and maybe the very start of successful enterprises among our talented class!



Cumann na mBunscol Boys and Girls Division 1

Champions:

Well, what a year it has been for sport in St. Mary's N.S. From rounders to volleyball, from soccer to cross country athletics, it has been a hugely enjoyable and successful year for all the sports people wearing the St. Mary's colours.

Nonemoreso than with gaelic football, where both our boys and girls contested the Division 1 Cumann na mBunscol county finals on Tuesday 11th June.

Our girls made their way to the final with hard fought wins over Mullagh, Bailieboro and Kingscourt. In the final, they met a tough Butlersbridge NS side, where scores were at a premium. Taking a 2 points to 1 lead into the second half, the girls dug deep and pulled away in the closing minutes to win the title with a 7 points to 1 win.

The boys also beat Mullagh, Bailieboro and Kingscourt on their way to the final. There they faced a good St. Michael's NS, Cootehill, team. They won out 6-7 to 1-3 on the day.

It was the first time that St. Mary's have won the boys/girls 'double' since 2014 and is a fantastic achievement by the boys and girls.



Jersey Sponsorship:

We would like to thank Ramor United, Fleetwood Paints and Seán McEvoy Accountants for kindly sponsoring the school this year with 2 new sets of jerseys. We'd particularly like to thank Ógie Farrelly, Karen Brady, (both Ramor United) and Imelda Tuite (Fleetwood Paints).

FAI 5-a-side Soccer Competitions:



Our school competed in the Cavan 5-a-side soccer tournament in Bailieboro Celtic grounds with both boys and girls teams making the County Final.

Here the girls acquitted themselves brilliantly but lost out to some great opposition. However, the boys stormed through beating Ballyjamesduff and St. Felim's, Cavan, to take the county title. A great achievement again.

From there, these boys represented Cavan in Ulster, where they defeated St. Mary's, Monaghan Town, and

Scoil Íosagáin, Buncrana, before meeting Illistrin NS in the Ulster final.

After a tense first half, the teams went in level, but Illistrin came out on top in the end with a couple of top-class goals.

Rounders

Congratulations to the pupils who represented our school for the Cumann na mBunscol Rounders blitz held in Breffni Park on 27th May. This was a really enjoyable day. We thank the team coaches - Ms Kelly and Ms Moore.

The School Choir & Trad Band

Choir and band practices continued in the final term led by Mr Jude Collins. The talented groups of singers and musicians delighted audiences during our First Communion ceremony and Safe Routes & Rain Garden Opening Ceremony. We thank them for their dedication, practice and time.

Green School Committee

St Mary's N.S. Green School committee along with Mrs Boyle and Mrs Smith decided to plant our own school garden at the front of the school. We planted some pollinators as a source of pollen and nectar for our bees, which ties in with our theme of Biodiversity. We also planted some plants to stimulate our senses of touch and smell like Lavender and Angel wings and finally lots of other plants to add a pop of colour. A special word of thanks to OC Paving for the kind donation of paving stones to use in our garden.



Safe Routes to School Official Opening

Minister of State at the Department of Transport and at the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, Jack Chambers TD joined Cathaoirleach of Cavan County Council, Councillor Philip Brady, in officially opening the “Safe Routes to School” scheme at our school on Monday, 20th May.

This project was developed by The Active Travel team and focuses on creating a Safe School Zone, front of school treatment, access to park & stride facilities, linking footpaths, junction improvement and raised pedestrian crossings.

A unique feature of the scheme is the incorporation of a rain garden, which also promotes the understanding and appreciation of diversity among students. The Green School Student Committee were involved in this project.

Well done to all students and staff who spoke, presented and performed for the audience.

.Active Week 2024

This is a highly anticipated event on our school calendar and 2024’s Active Week did not disappoint. During this week, students easily obtained their 60 minutes of physical activity for healthier lives. A huge congratulations to the students for their amazing energy this week and to the staff for their commitment to getting everyone active as much as possible. Coordination of the week’s events is led by Ms Claire Galligan and is much appreciated.

Student Committee

Seven students - two from each 6th class and our 6th class student in The DEN- were voted to represent the student voice as the Student Council. This group of seven students worked tirelessly to maintain St Mary’s FM each week and undertake extra responsibilities around the school. Thank you Lucy, Daniel, Sarah, Jokubas, Kate, Isla and Sam - you all did a fantastic job throughout the year!

Sixth Class Graduation

At graduation time, we think of our pupils in sixth class in a special way and wish them every blessing in the days, months and years ahead. This milestone event will take place on Wednesday 19th June. It is always a special moment in our school calendar. All staff in St Mary's bid our wonderful sixth class students a fond farewell. We thank you all for being fantastic role models to the younger pupils of our school and we wish you all the very best in secondary school.

First Holy Communion

First Holy Communion took place in Mary Immaculate Church on the 4th May 2024 in two separate ceremonies. As always, it is lovely to celebrate these special occasions with students and their families. We thank the second class staff Ms O Connell, Caroline, Sandra, Ms Goldrick, Ms Gilcreest, Louise, Ms Olwill and Ms Boyle for their work in preparing for this special day.

School Tours

Students enjoyed school tours this year. Tours ranged from trips to Mellows, The Crystal Maze, Fort Lucan and Emerald Park. These experiences were enjoyed students and staff alike.

Art BLAST Project

During the Summer term our DEN class participated in the "Blast" (Bringing Local Artists and Schools Together) initiative. Funded by Monaghan Education Centre, the award winning Cavan based sculptor Marie Smith worked with the children over a 6 week period using Clay and a range of Clay modeling techniques. They used the school garden as inspiration for their work, and produced some beautiful sculptures. The project will conclude with an exhibition / party for parents, artist and children to celebrate together, on June 20th next.

Summer Stars Reading Programme

Summer Reading Summer Stars is the national annual reading incentive programme run in all public libraries across Ireland, from the middle of June until the end of August. It encourages children to keep reading during the school holidays and is available free of charge. More details at the following link:

<https://www.librariesireland.ie/services/right-to-read/summer-stars/more-about-summer-stars>

Laethanta Saoire

The school will close on Friday, 21st of June for the Summer holidays and will reopen again on Wednesday 28th of August for all pupils.

On Friday 21st June the following collection times will apply:

- Junior and Senior Infants – Collection time @ 12:00 midday
- 1st – 6th Class – Collection time @ 12:10pm

All collection points remain the same as usual.

On the last day of the Summer term, pupils are welcome to wear clothes other than their school uniform - if they so wish, making sure to wear something that is 'school appropriate' and also weather appropriate, safe and manageable for playtime in the yard.

Ag obair as láimhe a céile

As always we extend sincere thanks to all in our school community for your ongoing support for all school activities.

Finally, we wish everyone an enjoyable summer break.

Bain taitneamh as na laethanta saoire.

The staff of St. Mary's

