



As we approach the summer holidays, I wish to take this opportunity to thank all of our school staff for their hard work during the year, ensuring that the children in Ballymurn get the best possible experiences in school. Thank you also to all parents and family members, who are always so supportive of everything we do here. A huge thank you to our Parents' Association for all the fantastic work that they have done during the year, and the Board of Management who have also been very busy behind the scenes. I hope that everybody in our school community enjoys a safe and happy summer break, and to those families who are leaving us for the final time next week, I wish you all the best in the future.

Le dea -ghuí ,
Emer O'Gorman
Príomhoide

Staffing

We are delighted to welcome Ms. Gráinne Kehoe to our permanent teaching staff for next year. Shauna Dunne and Rachel Rath, two of our wonderful SNAs, will also stay on next year covering job share and career break positions.

New Autism Class

We were delighted to recently receive the sanction from the National Council for Special Education to open our second autism class in September 2025. Enrolment for this new class will take place later this year, and we encourage you to let anyone know who may wish to apply for a place for their child.

Reconfiguration Works

We applied for reconfiguration works for the wing to the front right of our school where our autism classes are located and are delighted that this has been approved by the department. This will mean that the facilities in this wing of the school will be completely upgraded for our autism classes. A project management company named KSN Management has been appointed by the Department of Education to oversee this work. They have carried out a viability report and we hope to get confirmation soon that the works will go ahead over the summer.

Additional School Accommodation

We are thrilled to have been granted approval to build additional accommodation in the form of SET rooms, due to the fact that we are losing a number of our current SET rooms to make space for our second autism class. The Board of Management has invited architects to tender for the consultancy role in this building project and hope to see it progress further over the coming months.

Emergency Works

Emergency Floor Replacement Works will take place over the summer holidays in the front right wing of the school. These rooms have suspended timber floors which are collapsing, and need to be completely gutted and new concrete floors. GJM Contracts have been appointed to complete this work over the summer break.

Board of Management

The Annual Report from our Board of Management has been published this week on our school website. This details the work undertaken by the Board during the year.

Green Schools Day of Action

On Friday 14th June we celebrated our Green School Marine Themed Action Day. All the kids wore blue to represent the oceans of the world and we were treated to some very informative presentations about Ocean Life by the Green School Committee members. There were some amazing displays showing how long it takes rubbish to decompose in the oceans and how to prevent ocean pollution for a better future. The whole school came together to sing a few songs at the beginning of the day and spent time learning about the Great Pacific Garbage patch in class. This was a big step towards our application for the Marine Award next year. Well done to all involved.



Active Schools Week

We had an action packed Active Schools Week last week. Pupils in the Junior classes enjoyed gymnastics with Shauna, our SNA who is also an award winning gymnast. 2nd-6th class enjoyed a healthy living workshop provided by Fresh Today, we had Athletics sessions with Sinead Ronan, dance classes with Annemarie Wade, a whole school walk, and a fantastic Sports Day and Splash Day. Many thanks to the staff of the school for making this week so enjoyable for the pupils and thank you to the Parents' Association for the lovely barbecue on Sports Day.

School Tours

All pupils really enjoyed their school tours over the past few weeks. 4th-6th class had a wonderful day in Clara Lara, 2nd and 3rd enjoyed.... And the Junior classes and Crescent Class had another wonderful visit to Woodfield House in Oylegate.

Graduation

6th Class graduation takes place on Monday, June 25th at 7pm. A ceremony for the pupils and their parents will take place in Ballymurn Church, followed by refreshments in the school.



Confirmation

Congratulations to our 5th and 6th class pupils who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday, June 7th. Many thanks to Fr.Finn and their teachers Ms.Kehoe and Ms. Sheehan for preparing the children to receive the sacrament. Thank you also to 2nd, 3rd and 4th class and Ms. Lawlor for the beautiful choir on the day.



Arts & Crafts, Photocopying & Printing Fee

A letter was emailed to all parents last week with the details of an Arts & Crafts, Photocopying & Printing fee that will be due to be paid for all pupils for the 2024/2025 school year. The cost per child is €30 and the fee is due to be paid to the office on or before Friday 14th June 2024.

Rackard League

At the start of May the girls competed in the Rackard League camogie competition. They played Kennedy Park school away in a knockout match. Unfortunately Kennedy Park were a very strong side and our girls were beaten on this occasion. Despite playing against a strong team of predominantly 6th class girls our girls fought so hard throughout the match. For the 4th and 5th class girls it was great to get a chance to play Rackard League before competing again next year. Best of luck to the 6th class girls in their future sporting ventures in secondary school and well done on all your sporting achievements to date.

The Boy's Rackard League has come to an end. They had an intense yet brilliant game in Marshalstown on the 23rd of May. The boys played fantastically in a very lengthy game as it went to extra time three times. The game was still level at the end of the third extra time and it was decided that the next score would win the game. Moments later Crossabeg Ballymurn got the final and winning score. It was a very memorable game that sent the boys into the Roinn D quarter final. The boys weren't as fortunate in the quarter final against Kennedy Park at home in Ballymurn, which knocked them out of the league. It was a great few months with super participation and effort from the boys. A thank you to Niall McCauley for help with training sessions and games. Also big thank you to everyone for organising lifts to away as well as home games for the boys.

Enrolment

Our enrolment process for September 2024 has now concluded but we are still taking enrolments for our mainstream classes.

Morning Supervision- School gates do not open until 9.10am, and no pupils should be on the premises before this. Morning supervision is outdoors, and on wet days, children must wait in the shelter until school opens at 9.20am.

Parking- Please remember to park with care on the street outside the school. Do not double park or block access to staff cars. The car park spaces provided are for staff use and the school bus only. We also ask that people please do not park directly opposite the school, as our bus for pupils with Special Educational Needs parks there. Please do not park in these spaces when dropping off or collecting your child from school. Please be conscious of how/where you park, taking the children's safety into account at all times.

Communication - Parents are reminded that if you have a concern/issue which you would like to raise with the school; you must make an appointment to speak to your child's teacher, through the school office.

Dates / Upcoming Events:

June

- 24th June - Monday 6th Class Graduation 7pm
- 26th June - School Closes at 12.15pm for Summer Holidays

August

- 26th August - Staff return and school office reopens
- 27th August - School reopens for pupils at 9.20am and new infants at 10am

Class Reports

Ms O'Gorman's Junior & Senior Infants

We have had a wonderful Term 3 in Junior and Senior Infants.

We covered the themes of 'Siopadóireacht', 'An Teilifís' agus 'An Trá' sa Ghaeilge, learning lots of new vocabulary and songs in each area. I am so impressed with the children's proficiency in using the language at the end of this school year, and look forward to seeing them all build on this next year.

Our Aistear themes have been 'The Construction Site', 'The Garden Centre' and 'The Beach'. Our learning has been integrated around these themes and the children have produced fabulous artwork in each area, using the mediums of clay, construction, paint and drawing. Everyone really enjoyed the role play areas in each theme, and recently, when weather allowed, we were able to take our beach and construction themed play outside in the afternoons.

In Science, the children have been learning all about the strand of energy and forces, and heating and cooling. They have constructed tinfoil boats, and done experiments based on floating and sinking

and learned to recognise the differences between hot and cold in terms of weather, food, water and the body.

We have worked on data in Maths and also been renewing our focus on number, and addition and the use of number lines and forming numbers.

The children have really enjoyed participating in paired reading with their partners in 4th and 5th class, and I encourage them to keep up their reading at home over the summer. We have been doing lots of descriptive and recount writing and the children are looking forward to bringing these pieces of work home over the next while.

I wish all Junior and Senior Infants and their families a lovely summer break.

Ms Lawlor's Senior Infants & 1st Class

May and June have gone by too fast in our classroom and the children are now very much looking forward to their long summer holiday ahead. We are currently enjoying Active Schools Week and the children had fun on our recent school tour to Woodfield House where they painted, made giant bubbles, dressed scarecrows, made butter, listened to a funny story and lots more.

In English lessons we have been reading some summer themed stories such as The Lighthouse Keeper's Rescue and Mr. Turkey's Sandtastic Beach Day. Our role-play area has been transformed from a garda station to a tropical beach. The children are learning about human made and natural features of a beach along with staying safe on the beach. This theme ties in with An Trá in Irish.

In history lessons we are learning about stories from other countries. We chose a story from Italy which is a legend about how blackbirds got their black feathers; maybe your child could retell this story to you! We hope to read a few myths and legends from Ireland over the next week too. In art there have been lots of lovely art projects such as constructing a lighthouse with junk and a squabbling seagull, all of which will be making their way home this week.

I would like to wish Rang 1 the very best as they go on to 2nd Class. I've really enjoyed teaching them all over the past 2 years and I'll look forward to seeing Senior Infants again in 1st class at the end of August. Have a lovely summer everyone!

Ms Sutton's 2nd & 3rd Class

We have had a very fun and active May and June in 2nd and 3rd Class.

In English we have been working hard on our spellings and the children have been taking part in a Spelling Bee. They have enjoyed being challenged with the most commonly misspelt words. It has been a great way for the whole class to practice their spellings together. We have also been working on poetry and the children have composed some lovely poems about themselves.

We are currently revising our tables and the children have enjoyed playing Kahoot quiz games to work on their speed and accuracy of tables. We also focused on 3D shapes and telling the time.

Our Gaeilge theme has been An Samhradh and the children wrote and decorated their own Cartai phoist.

Our SESE project work was based on the Rainforest and the children really enjoyed learning about the different layers of the rainforests. They completed projects on the various and unique animals found in rainforests and produced beautiful art and project work.

Of course our recent school tour was definitely the highlight for a lot of children as they had a fabulous active day in Carlow IT at the Just 4 fun camp. It was a great day and I would like to compliment both classes on their lovely manners and behavior on the day.

They children also received lots of compliments for their beautiful singing in the choir for the Confirmation. Well done to them for all their practice and hard work on the day.

Finally I want to wish everyone a wonderful Summer full of fun and hopefully lots of sunshine.

Ms Kehoe's 4th & 5th Class

The past two months have been very busy in school and in the 4th and 5th classroom.

The fifth class prepared for the confirmation. They worked on some beautiful art work which was hung in the church as part of the preparations for the day also. They received the sacrament of confirmation on the 7th of June. Well done to all in 5th and 6th class. 4th class performed beautifully in the school choir on the day also. They were joined by 2nd and 3rd class. A big thank you to them, they sounded wonderful during the ceremony.

We had a fantastic day out in Clara Lara, in Wicklow, for the senior school tour. It seemed to be very well enjoyed by the pupils. The weather stayed dry and fine which was a bonus too!

5th class had another day out in the Ferns Centre of excellence. They got involved in a Gaelic Football tournament. Both fifth and sixth went and two teams were made. It was a very active day out.

We explored Global warming and the impact it is making on our planet. Approaching the Green School Action Day we looked a lot at Marine life and the importance of protecting our oceans. We looked the Great Pacific Garbage patch and how garbage patches are formed in oceans from currents.

In art the pupils made fish out of colouring pipe cleaners, beads, string, ribbon and googly eyes. They are hung in the hall along with the rest of the school's marine art. Well done to those on the Green School committee for organising a lovely day and decorating the hall.

To link with the Green School Action day, in English we read explanation texts on the whale family and cetaceans. We did some writing activities alongside the text.

In Geography we commenced an end of year project on a country of choice. The pupils are individually working on these projects and we hope to get them finished and presented before the academic year is finished.

We are having a fun, active final full week! Active week is in full motion and we are getting outdoors for plenty of exercise, group activities, fresh air and fun.

This year has flew by, just a few days left in 4th and 5th class before we break for the summer! I hope everyone has a fantastic summer holiday whatever you are up to. Hopefully the sun comes and stays!

Ms Sheehan's 5th & 6th Class

The last two months we have been very busy with preparations for the Confirmation, which turned out to be a great day on June 7th. We all enjoyed a retreat to Ballyvaloo Centre in early May and since then the children have been involved in lots of artwork and spiritual development.

In English we were reading the novel *Tom's Midnight Garden* and working on Explanation and Procedural Genres. The kids have enjoyed been paired up with Senior Infants and 1st class for Buddy Reading sessions. Topics of Shape & Space, Algebra, Capacity, Chance and Problem Solving to name but a few have been explored in Maths. The Recorder skills have been improving greatly and we now have some very proficient musicians among us! We have been focussing on Marine Life and environmental topics as we prepared for our Marine Action Day on June 14th. All the classes showcased some wonderful artwork on the day and we enjoyed performing some topical songs together.

Well being Day on Monday 20th May, our attendance at a GAA Blitz on Tuesday 28th May as well as our school tour to Clara Lara on May 31st were some other highlights for the children. Active week was another very enjoyable experience for everyone and we finish the year on a very positive note. Here's to fun-filled Summer break ahead!

Crescent Class

The Crescent Class have been very busy over the past two months. Our theme for May was 'fairytales' and we enjoyed playing dress-up, making a huge beanstalk and testing out Goldilocks porridge! In June, we have been learning all about summer. We have been learning how the weather changes and the different clothes we wear in summer. The children have been looking at posters and answering questions about them by writing, typing or using their devices.

The children thoroughly enjoyed their recent school tour to Woodfield House where they were painting, decorating scarecrows and playing drums. We had a great day at Sports Day participating in lots of races and enjoying a picnic on the field. Our favourite day of the year is upon us today though and I know we are going to have the best day for Splash Day! I hope all of the children have a lovely summer break and I look forward to welcoming them back at the end of August.

Finally, everyone in the Crescent Class are very sad to be saying goodbye to James V as he moves on to secondary school. James has been with us since the very beginning of the Crescent Class and we will be very sad for him to leave us. We all know, however, that he is ready for his big move and that he will have a fantastic time in his new secondary school. We look forward to seeing him visit our school from time to time to hear about his new adventures. Best of luck James V from everyone in the Crescent Class.

Community News



NUTTY SCIENTISTS WEXFORD

SUMMER CAMPS

Wexford St Josephs Community Centre

July 1st - 4th 9.30-12.30pm
August 19th -23rd 9.30-12.30pm

Gorey School of Art

July 8th to 12th 9.30 - 12.30
August 6th to 9th 9.30 - 12.30

The Colour Club Arklow

August 7th to 9th 10am - 1pm

Waterford Academy
of Music and Arts (WAMA)

July 8th to 12th 9.30 - 12.30
July 29th to August 2nd 9.30 - 12.30

Carlow Eire og Clubhouse

July 22nd to 26th 9.30 - 12.30

Enniscorthy Presentation Centre

Jul 1st - 4th 9.30-12.30pm

Kilkenny Loretto
Secondary School

July 29th to August 2nd 10am - 1pm

Rosslare Community Centre

August 6th to 9th 9.30 - 12.30pm
August 12th to 16th 9.30 - 12.30pm

Camps Pricing:
3 x days = €80
4 x days = €100
5x days = €120

For Bookings
www.nuttyscientists.com/wexford
087 911 6117
wexford@nuttyscientists.com

nuttyscientists.com

NUTTY JURASSIC CAMP



PROGRAMS:

- ☞ Geological Time Travel
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- ☞ Making Fossils
- ☞ Dino diorama
- ☞ Pangea Panic
- ☞ Dino Anatomy
- ☞ ...and more

**JOIN US IN THIS AMAZING
ADVENTURE IN WHICH WE'LL
STOMP THROUGH TIME
LEARNING ABOUT THESE
INCREDIBLE REPTILES.**



**Blackwater, Co. Wexford
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**DRUM
LESSONS**



**All Ages!
First Lesson
Free!**

**Please contact
Billy Hinksmon:**



Take a photo!



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whinksmon@gmail.com

