Dear Parents,

It’s hard to believe that we have begun the last month of the academic year. The children have been very busy with various activities and the time has flown by. Here is a little flavour of what has been happening during May and what to expect for June.

**ACTIVE SCHOOL WEEK**

During the week of 7th May we celebrated all things active. The children played basketball, tug of war, football, skipping and only p.e. homework was given. Even the teachers wore their tracksuits!



**GREEN SCHOOL/GLOBAL GOALS**

On 15th May we celebrated National Walk to school day and well done to those children who continue to walk every Wednesday. On 21st May, a representative group from the Green School Committee attended the Global Goals competition in the Helix. Congratulations to Ms Brocklebank on preparing the children so well and on all her hard work. The children were awarded a second Biodiversity flag in recognition of their project.

**CASH FOR CLOBBER**

A very successful Cash for Clobber event was held on 16th May – we are awaiting details from the company as to how we did. Many thanks to Karen Morton who organises this.

 

**DÁIL VISIT**

On 16th May, 4th and 5th class had a very educational tour of the Dáil courtesy of Ms Catherine Martin T.D.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

On 18th May we had a wonderful celebration of First Holy Communion for 1st and 2nd class. Congratulations to the boys and girls and to their class teacher Mr. Shane Egan. The ceremony, celebrated by Fr. Lyng, was beautiful. Many thanks also to our fantastic choir and Ms Wallnutt for really adding to the sense of occasion with their wonderful singing. The parents acknowledged all the help the children received in preparation for the day from Sr. Anna and also Bernadette Toal the Parish Council worker who does meditation with our pupils.

**SANTRY**

Congratulations to the boys and girls who represented our school in Santry. They did really well and we were very proud of them. Thank you to Mr. Egan for organising the teams and to Mr. Robert Weldon who accompanied the children on the day.

**SCHOOL TOURS**

On 24th May, Junior Infants to Second had a terrific time at the Zoo. On 29th May, third class to sixth had an exciting time at Tayto Park. Thank you to all the parent volunteers who helped out on the day – we couldn’t do it without you!

**BLOOM IN THE PARK**

On 31st May, 3rd and 4th class were invited to Bloom in the Park. Their mini “Butterfly Garden” and project work were displayed in the Bord Bia School Garden. We all had a great day and it was wonderful to see all the “super” gardens.

**SCHOOL CHOIR**

On 27th May, a representative group of children from our school choir performed with the National Children’s Choir in the Concert Hall. It was a wonderfully uplifting evening and I’m sure the parents were extremely proud. Huge congratulations to Ms Wallnutt on the great work she puts in with the choir.

 

**PARENTS’ ASSOCIATION**

The Parents’ Association provided a wonderful reception back at the school after the First Holy Communion ceremony and it really was delicious. Thank you to everyone who baked and donated cakes and to those fantastic parents who hosted on the day. There was a Parents’ Talk on STEM and Transitioning to Secondary on Wednesday 5th June. These talks were really informative and worthwhile. Many thanks to Lisa Murphy for organising the STEM speaker. The Parents’ Association has organised a sponsored walk to take place on 19th June in Marlay Park. We hope that as many of you as possible will be able to support this event. A sincere thank you and well done to Maebh Langford Smith who put in a lot of organisation for all these events and has had a great year as Chairperson of the Association.

**SUMMER BBQ**

There will be a Summer BBQ on 27th June at 12 noon. This was a wonderful success last year and really showcased the great community spirit we have in Edmondstown. We are all looking forward to the day. It will be a nice way to end the year and to celebrate all the hard work and achievements of the children. Thank you once again to the Parents’ Association who are organising this.



**SPORTS DAY:**

Sports Day will be held on 7th June at Three Rock Hockey Grounds starting at 9.30am. Hopefully the sun will shine.

**NEW JUNIOR INFANTS**

Our new cohort of Junior Infants will come to school on 12th June to meet their teacher at 1pm. The Parents’ Association will organise a little cup of tea for their parents. T**he current Junior and Senior Infants will go home at 12 noon on this day**. Thank you for your co-operation.

**STANDARDISED TESTING**

The children have undertaken their Standardised Tests over the past number of days. As you have probably heard in the media, these are new tests and are scored on new norms so there is likely to be a distinct difference in results from previous years. I will send a more detailed note about this shortly.

**FRIENDSHIP WEEK**:

We will celebrate our Annual Friendship Week during the week of 17th – 21st June.

**LIBRARY**

The last day for returning books to the library is Tuesday, 18th June. I would like to thank Maebh Langford Smith, our Librarian, for all her hard work in the library over the past year. Many thanks also to those families who donated books to the library during the year.

 

**SCHOOL REPORTS**

School Reports will go out on Monday 17th June. Please watch out for them in your child’s schoolbag.

**RSE**

Accord will deliver a workshop and talk to 5th and 6th class on 18th June as part of their Relationship and Sexuality Education.

**IT**

We continue our commitment to continually upgrade and maintain the computer facilities in the school. Our bank of laptops is a great help in this regard and we have also purchased two ipads. Thank you to Aodhan and Jenni Cullen who are a great source of expertise in this area.

**STEM**

We have been awarded the STEM plaque of excellence once again. Congratulations to one and all and special thanks to Mr. O’Dwyer who co-ordinates our application. It is great to see the children and teachers so enthusiastic about these important subjects.

**ANNUAL FEIS**

The Annual Feis will take place on Wednesday 19th June. We are looking forward to this enjoyable event and we thank Ms Merrigan for all the work she has done with the children.

**GRADUATION:**

The end of year play for 5th and 6th class will take place on Monday 17th June at 7.30pm. This will be followed immediately by the 6th Class Graduation ceremony. We are sad to say goodbye to this year’s cohort of wonderful children and we will miss them. Some of their parents have a long history with the school and it is a significant milestone for their families. We wish the children well in the next phase of their educational journey.

**SNA ALLOCATION**

We are very sad to report that our SNA allocation has been reduced once again and consequently we will lose Federica. We wish to thank Federica for her wonderful commitment to the children and her great enthusiasm. We wish her the very best in her new school.

**SUMMER HOLIDAYS:**

**Our school will close at 12 noon on Friday 28th June.** I wish to take this opportunity to thank all the staff and teachers for their hard work throughout the year. I thank sincerely our wonderful Parents’ Association for all their fundraising and social activities. Special thanks also to our Board of Management for their dedication and expertise. I also wish to thank you, our parents, for all your support and enthusiasm – it makes our job so much easier! Finally, I would like to wish the boys and girls a wonderful, happy and safe summer. **The school will reopen on Thursday, 29th August.**

**Philomena Cleary**

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

7th June: Sports Day

12th June: Meeting of New Junior Infants: Junior & Senior go home at 12 noon.

17th June: 5th & 6th class play & Graduation Ceremony

19th June: Feis & Sponsored Walk

24th June: Uniform Fundraiser

27th June: Summer BBQ

28th June: School closes for summer holidays at 12 noon.