

NUACHTLITIR #9 MEITHEAMH 2014 JUNE NEWSLETTER #9

Dear Parents,

We have some very important news items in this newsletter - Anti-Bullying Policy, Numeracy Questionnaire, Book Rental Scheme and of course the Summer Fair! It's a busy term for everybody - lots happening and lots to do in our last month! But first of all, congratulations to our 75 sixth class pupils who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on 22nd May. May the Holy Spirit be active in their lives as they near the end of their time in St. Attracta's. All the children were wonderful on the day and well done to all who contributed to making the ceremony - and indeed the day - so beautiful and so memorable. Well done also to the 12 children who committed themselves to becoming pioneers. Perhaps some day they will be like Mr. Molloy, who became a pioneer while in primary school and who recently celebrated 50 years of being a pioneer and is now a Golden Jubilarian!



A full Calendar of Events for the final busy term was issued with the May newsletter and a School Holiday Calendar for 2014/2015 was also issued to all parents and is available from the school office.

Le gach dea ghúí,

Muireann Máirtín, Príomh Oide

PARENTS' QUESTIONNAIRE ON NUMERACY/MATHS

We are currently reviewing the teaching and learning of **Maths** in our school. The numeracy committee would be most grateful for your input in this process. We appeal to all parents to fill out a short online questionnaire, the results of which will remain both anonymous and confidential. Just go to this link: www.surveymonkey.com/s/6VQ5XF6 and please return by **Tuesday 17th June**. A hard copy is also available from your class teacher but we are hoping that as many parents as possible will access the online questionnaire which will only take 5-10 minutes to fill out. Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Your responses will prove invaluable in the positive development of maths teaching and learning in our school and we will then give overall feedback to the parent body.



ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Our new ~~draft~~ anti-bullying policy has been drawn up by the Board of Management of the Senior School based on new guidelines from the Department of Education & Science. But we want your input - please log on to www.sasns.ie where you will find this anti-bullying policy. If you have any views, comments or suggestions, please send them to oifigstattracta@gmail.com or drop a note in to Iníon Uí Mháirtín. The deadline for submissions is **Tuesday 17th June**. Once everybody in the school community has had a chance to contribute their views, the policy will become effective as and from September 2014.

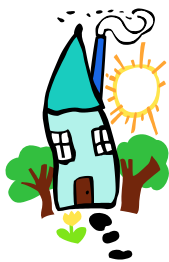


BOOK RENTAL SCHEME



We are in the process of setting up a **Book Rental Scheme** due to start in September 2014. Early next week we will issue a special newsletter explaining the scheme and outlining the anticipated cost savings for parents. In order to facilitate the start-up of the scheme, we will be relying heavily on the generosity of the children donating some school books to the school at the end of this term. But more about that later - please note that if the scheme is successful it will reduce your school book costs significantly every year.

MOVING HOUSE? MOVING SCHOOL?



Parents, please let us know immediately if your child is leaving St. Attracta's Senior School, as we need to update our class lists for September 2014. We have a number of pupils wishing to move into the school and would like to offer them places as soon as possible. Also, if you have a new neighbour or know somebody who has moved into the area and who would like to come to St. Attracta's, please ask them to contact the school office **immediately**.

HANDWRITING COMPETITION



Congratulations to our two overall winners of this year's INTO Handwriting Competition - Daniils Giriks and Zoe Mulvey from Rang 4 - who will attend an awards ceremony in the Glenview Hotel on Monday 16th June. The children displayed an excellent standard of penmanship and we're so proud of them.

ST. ATTRACTA'S FEAST DAY

St. Attracta's Feast Day will be celebrated in the Oratory next Monday morning at 10.00a.m. and all are welcome to celebrate our school and parish feast day with us and with the parish community.



SCIENTISTS LE CHÉILE:



For the eighth year in a row, St. Attracta's Senior School has been awarded the **Science Excellence Award** from Science Foundation Ireland. Well done to the pupils for their scientific activities throughout the year and in particular to Mr. Coughlan - our science co-ordinator - for encouraging us all and for putting together our

application which can be viewed on the website.!

GREEN SCHOOLS VISIT - BIODIVERSITY



Tomorrow - Thursday 12th - we will have our Green Schools renewal visit and this year's theme is Biodiversity. Our Green Schools' Committee along with Ms. Doyle, Ms. Coleman, Ms. Ryan, Mr. Molloy and all pupils and teachers have done amazing work in this area. Feel free to drop in and see the wonderful Habitat Map done by

Ruby Fitzpatrick and Orla Donoghue in Rang 6, not to mention our beautiful Butterfly Garden which is now in full bloom! And let's keep up the Green efforts in all other areas! Also please note that Bike Week takes place from 14th - 22nd June - why not join the National COW day on Wednesday 18th June and help meet the target of 5,000 people cycling to school all over Ireland. Have a look at www.greenschoolsireland.org

UNIFORM SHOP OPEN from 9.00 - 9.30a.m. from Monday 16th - Friday 20th June. Closing date for labels is Tuesday 17th!

SPORTS BULLETIN!

MEDALS GALORE!

A big 'bualadh bos' for all our athletes who represented us at the Cumann na mBunscoil Athletics event which took place in Santry over the last few weeks. Each year we competed at the event and ran our hearts out but this year we're delighted to report



that we achieved great success. In late May, Shane Gleeson and Thomas Barry both brought home silver medals in the middle distance races while our relay team of Claudia Moran, Elizabeth Ndudi, Fathia Garffus, Elyse Malone and Alix White

came home with bronze medals. Well done to all of them and hip hip hurrah!

Thanks a million to Damien Moran and Eric Cullen who came down at lunchtime twice a week to train the children and to give them that competitive edge. A thousand thanks also to Ms. Clifford who organised it all and to all the teachers who gave up their lunchtimes to help train and supervise the pupils.

SOCCER



Thanks to all the teachers who are organising our lunchtime soccer league which is now in its final stages. The finals take place tomorrow Thursday 12th and it promises to be a great day! Both Junior and Senior matches will take place in the afternoon. Thanks to the DFRC



who have given us access to their astro-turf pitches to run our lunchtime soccer league.

JACK'S TRIATHLON NEWS



Triathlons are competitions that take place all over Ireland and in other countries. In the competition you have to do a swim, a cycle and a run. The amount you do is based on your age, e.g. 7-9 year olds do a 100m swim, a 1km cycle and a 1km run while 11-13 year olds do a

300m swim, a 2km cycle and a 2km run. Triathlons are really fun and I enjoy doing them. Last Sunday I completed one of these triathlons in Co. Galway. There were about 20 - 25 other kids in my age group and I completed it in 40 minutes! Triathlons are great and they're also good for your fitness & health. ~ Jack McNally (Rang 6)

BALLINTEER ST. JOHN'S BLITZES

Congratulations to all our pupils who participated in the Ballinteer St. John's Blitz two weeks ago and did us proud. Their GAA skills and behaviour were outstanding. The Boys' Junior Football Team were outright winners and the girls' Camogie Team were runners-up. Maith sibh go léir!



SKIPATHON:



Our annual **Skipathon** is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 25th June at 11.00a.m. All children are asked to contribute €2 or more if they wish and I know the Irish Heart Foundation will be thrilled with the money brought in by the pupils. Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir!

END OF YEAR LIBRARY RETURNS

It's that time of year when we need to re-organise our library for the new school year and therefore we ask all children to return all library books by Tuesday 17th June. Any lost or damaged books will have to be replaced. So make sure any book that is out in your name comes back to us!



RAINBOWS

We had a fabulous Rainbows fundraiser some weeks ago and we managed to raise a whopping €1038 for this very worthy cause. St. Attracta's Senior School will be a dedicated Rainbows Site from September 2014. We hope to be in a position to facilitate any children attending either of our two schools, and other children in the surrounding area who may have suffered a recent loss. Look out for further information about the Rainbows Programme. Signs will also be posted on the entrance door.



ATTENTION ALL PARENTS OF 6th CLASS PUPILS

The date of our annual end of year Thanksgiving Evening starting with Mass has been changed to Tuesday 24th June owing to circumstances beyond our control. We look forward to meeting you all for our last big occasion together. Ask your child for a message sent home today!

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

We will close for the summer holiday on Friday 27th June at 12 o'clock but there's lots happening between now and then and we'll be in touch with you again next week with all the end of year news.



SUMMER FAIR – COME ON DOWN!!!



The Summer Fair is just around the corner - it will take place on Sunday 15th June from 12.00 noon - 4.00p.m. We're still looking for parental help so if you can help on the day or indeed setting up on the day before, please return the slip of paper below to the class teacher by tomorrow. Somebody will give you a call to let you know what needs to be done. An hour or

two of your time will make all the difference and we thank you in advance!!!!



SUMMER FAIR 2014

I can help at the following times: (Tick just one or as many as you like)

Saturday (setting up)	Please tick	Sunday (at stalls etc.)	Please tick
10.00 - 11.00		12.00 - 1.00	
11.00 - 12.00		1.00 - 2.00	
12.00 - 1.00		2.00 - 3.00	
1.00 - 2.00		3.00 - 4.00	

My name: _____ My contact number: _____

