



# Scoil Muire Bannrion



**June, 2017**

**Issue: 27**

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## **A Message From Our Principal**

*Welcome to the summer edition of our newsletter. This year has been a very busy year for our school especially with the very exciting news of our reconfiguration for next September. As we draw to the end of a very busy school year we would like to thank all the pupils and parents for making it such a fantastic year. We would also like to thank our wonderful Board of Management and Parents Association for their continued support. To each and every one of our sixth class, we wish you all the very best and every success as you move on to Secondary school and we hope you look back on your time here with fond memories! Finally I would like to wish you all a very enjoyable summer break!*

## **School Reconfiguration**

As you are aware by now, we will become a co-educational school enrolling our first set of Junior Infants in September after being granted permission to do so by the Department of Education and Skills. We are really looking forward to welcoming our new boys and girls to our school. It is fair to say that staff and students alike are eagerly anticipating their first day back to school in September and that is before summer holidays have even started! We are also acutely aware of the historic occasion this will be not only for our school but for the town of Edenderry. We thank you the parents for your continued support in all of our endeavours.

## **School Building**



The Department of Education and Skills have provided our school with a grant to complete Summer Building Works and to upgrade our toilet facilities due to our change in configuration. This will ensure it is a very busy summer here in our school!



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## Active Week

This year our Active Week took place from April 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>. Every day our entire school community enjoyed a variety of exercise based events. During the week our students took part in swimming, boxing, GAA, fitness classes, fun obstacle relays, orienteering and many more activities designed to help keep them fit and healthy and hopefully to become aware of the benefits of regular exercise in their daily lives. During our sports marathon the boys were able to enjoy PE sessions in Gaelic football, tag rugby, basketball, hockey, athletics, Olympic handball, soccer and many more events.



### 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Class Football Blitz

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class boys took part in a football blitz organised by Edenderry GAA on Tuesday, June 19<sup>th</sup> involving all the schools in the town. It was a fantastic day that all of the boys enjoyed. It also provided the boys with the opportunity to test the skills they had been developing in their coaching sessions.

### Sixth Class Hoodies

For the third year in succession our Board of Management have very kindly sponsored hoodies for our sixth class pupils as a lovely memento of their time in our school. Included on the back of the hoodies is each pupil's signature along with their initials on the sleeve. We would like to thank our Board of Management for their generosity.

### John Blong League

The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class boys competed in the John Blong Football League this month. 6 teams and over 60 pupils battled it out to be crowned this year's champions. It turned out to be a very sporting and competitive competition this year with Lennon Ajibola and Ben Whelehan's teams succeeding in reaching the final. The final was a very closely contested affair but in the end it was Lennon Ajibola's team who were victorious. This competition has been running in our school since 1995 and has had some very prestigious winners over that time.



### Soccer Match

The 6<sup>th</sup> class V's Teachers All Star Soccer Match will take place on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June at 1pm (weather permitting). The teachers are favourites this year after making a couple of key signings during the transfer window!

## Specialist Teachers

This term Edenderry's Ciaran Farrell shared his skills and knowledge of football with all classes for a number of weeks once again this term. We would like to thank Ciaran, along with Edenderry GAA, for sharing his knowledge and skills with us and also for the time he spent training the boys. We hope to see him again next year.

## High Jump

One of the highlights of our sporting endeavours each year is the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> class high jump. This year was to be no different with an exhilarating jumping display from a number of boys. A big congratulations to our tied champions Paidí and Lennon!



## Flower Planting

Our school grounds are looking in great condition again this year after Mr Fitzgerald along with help from some students in 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class planted flowers around the trees on Gilroy Avenue and planted window boxes also. They have been busy keeping them watered especially during our fine weather! We were awarded best school grounds last year and hope to be in the running again for this year!



## School Tours

This year all classes explored thrilling and exciting activities on their school tours. Mrs. Fox's and Miss Molloy's class headed to Fantasia WaterPark. There was huge excitement in the morning as the boys made their way from the school to the bus! The Boomerang water ride was the highlight of this tour.

Mr Ryan's, Mr Murphy's and Mr Foran's class had a brilliant day out at Tayto Park where there really was something for everybody to do! The boys were brought on a tour of the factory before being guided through the animal park. The real highlight for most was the Cúchalainn rollercoaster!

Finally, Miss Tyrrell's and Miss Fitzsimon's classes made the long trip to Belmullet where they had the most amazing time! Although the weather was not kind to them their spirits were not dampened in the slightest. A wide variety of activities including coasteering, surfing, kayaking and a mud run were completed and the boys were treated like royalty in the Broadhaven Bay hotel where they even had a disco! Photos from our school tours are available on our school Twitter account.

## Awards

Our 'Annual Awards Day' will take place on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June. The Awards Day always proves to be an exciting day of the year and we are sure this year will be no exception. Choosing the award winners will be



extremely tough as there are many boys in each class whose efforts and achievements this year deserve to be acknowledged. Prizes will be awarded for 'Pupil of the Year' and a 'Special Recognition' award for those boys who have made excellent effort all year. Sporting and artist achievements will also be acknowledged and rewarded.

## Bouncing Castle

There was great excitement in our school on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June when we had a bouncing castle for the day. Each class had the opportunity to go out and race through the obstacle filled bouncing castle as quick as they could. It was a real treat for the boys whose behaviour has been excellent all year!



## Sports Day

On Tuesday June 13<sup>th</sup>, we had our Annual Sports Day. Everybody had a brilliant day taking part in lots of different fun events. Everybody showed a very sporting attitude and realised that the most important part of the day was the taking part and making sure fun was had! Every boy has received a participation medal and those who were lucky enough to win an event received a certificate.



## Ice Cream Day

As part of our Sports Day Mrs O' Neill always organises an Ice-Cream Fun Day to raise funds for Down Syndrome Ireland. It was great to have Mrs O' Neill back in our school on the day along with members of our Parents Association who helped to organise the day. A big thank you to all the children who donated generously on the day. Photos of the day can be found on our school Twitter account.



## Switch Over to Secondary

As part of our 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils preparation for Secondary School they took part in a switch over to secondary school programme which is designed to ease the transition for our students. This is organised by Edenderry School Completion and is hugely beneficial in preparing our students for the demands of second level.

## Communion Class of 2017

This year our second class children received their Holy Communion on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2017. This was a very special day for the school. A great day was had by all! We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents and teachers involved in preparing the children for the 'Do this in Memory' masses which were held throughout the year!



## Confirmation Class of 2017

Congratulations to the 6<sup>th</sup> class boys who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2017. It was a very special, spiritual and enjoyable occasion. The graduation mass for 6<sup>th</sup> class took place on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June. All the staff of Scoil Muire Banríon would like to take this opportunity to wish all the 6<sup>th</sup> class boys all the best for the future. They will be missed greatly!



## Intercultural Day

We held a massively successful Intercultural Day in our school on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May. It was brilliant to see people from so many different countries become involved in the day. We held a short performance in our school hall where our children performed a number of traditional songs as well as providing information about their native countries. Many of our students came to school in traditional dress on the day.

We would like to thank all of the parents who brought in native dishes on the day. It was a fantastic occasion and continues to be one of the highlights of our school year.



## Faithful Fields Jersey Day

We held a jersey day for Offaly GAA's 'Faithful Fields' project. It was great to see so many people supporting their county with their Offaly GAA jerseys on.

## Football Darts

Every class had the opportunity to attend the Youth Café to have a go at their inflatable football darts game. It was a brilliant activity and all the boys had lots of fun testing their accuracy!

## Literacy Improvements

Throughout the past number of years we have been focusing on improving the literacy and numeracy standards in our school. This has been a hugely beneficial process and one that we are still working very hard on. We have looked at different writing genres throughout the year and some children had their work published in the newsletter or posted on our 'Incredible Writing' noticeboard in school. We would encourage all parents to foster a love of reading in their children. Regular trips to the library and reading stories to them can really help with this.

## Non Uniform Day

Our school will be holding a non uniform day on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June for the 'Help NidaHug Heal'. All money raised on the day will go towards this fund. Nida is a native of Edenderry and has been hugely involved in the community through Little Wishes and Nida Huggers. If you would like to donate to this fundraising campaign she has set up a gofund me page 'Help NidaHug Heal'.

# School Year 2017-2018

Scoil Muire Banríon will reopen on 31<sup>st</sup> August for the coming school year. A full school calendar for next year is available on our school website and on our school Twitter account. It will be distributed to our students in September.

## Booklists

Classes met their new teachers on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Each child received their booklist on the day. A copy of all booklists will be available to be downloaded from our school website also. We provide a book rental service for all classes and we urge all parents to avail of this as it will result in significant cost savings. Please note that some children may be on an individual booklist and if you think this may be the case please contact the school to obtain a copy of this booklist.

## School Reports & Standardised Tests

School Reports have been sent out on the week of June 19<sup>th</sup>. If you have not received your child's school report please contact the school. The results of your child's standardised tests are also included in the school report. If you have any queries regarding your child's school report please arrange to see your child's teacher.

## Lost Property

Any coats/jumpers that have been left behind since September are going to be left in the school office. Please call to the school office on Thursday or Friday to check for any items our child may have lost.

## Education Passport

Tips for parents on how you can improve and support your child's learning are available on [helpmykidslearn.ie](http://helpmykidslearn.ie). You can visit the parents section of the NCCA website also to obtain more information about helping your child to learn.

## YouTube

Our end of year video featuring a quick look back at all of our fantastic achievements over the 2016/2017 school year is available on our school YouTube channel (Edenderry BNS). We also have a video which looks back at our 6<sup>th</sup> Class time in our school.

## School Website and Twitter!

Check out our fantastic website for updates on school events, pictures and news at [www.edenderrybns.ie](http://www.edenderrybns.ie)

Don't forget you can also follow us on **Twitter** for all the latest news at [www.twitter.com/EdenderryBNS](https://www.twitter.com/EdenderryBNS)



All the staff of Scoil Muire Banríon are very proud of all our students for their fantastic success and achievements this year. We would like to wish all our students a safe and happy summer and we hope for continued success in 2017-2018.

# Some snapshots from our year!





