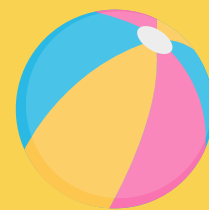




ST. MARNOCK'S N.S.



MESSAGE FROM MS TRIMBLE

Welcome to the Summer edition of the St. Marnock's NS school newsletter! You can read all about the amazing sporting success of our pupils in Gaelic football and hurling, soccer and golf. The Colour Clash 'Red vs Blue' Sports Week proved to be a very inclusive sporting event last week as every child in the school took part, playing and having fun together on their teams culminating in an ice-cream van visit at the end of the week thanks to our Parents' Association.

I know that you're all aware that Deirdre Johnson, our very capable and efficient secretary, will be retiring at the end of this school year after more than 42.5 years in our school. Deirdre has played an invaluable and integral role in the life of St. Marnock's NS during all of those years. She has always been hugely committed and dedicated to our school and has shown great interest in the children and families who have passed through its doors. Deirdre will be greatly missed by children, staff, parents and the Board of Management alike. Thank you Deirdre for your unprecedented and unparalleled contribution to St. Marnock's NS, you've been an amazing secretary and we wish you well in your retirement!

We are delighted to welcome Regina Harnett to the role of full time secretary from the beginning of the next school year. Regina is well known to most of you as she has been job sharing with Deirdre as secretary for the last three years.

Congratulations to our 6th class 2024 pupils who graduated from St. Marnock's NS on Wednesday 26th June. This is a very special milestone in their lives and we are particularly proud of them and the contribution they have made to our school during their time here. We presented our 6th class pupils with a beautifully produced Graduation Yearbook as a gift from our school's Board of Management. Thanks also to our Parents' Association for gifting them a St. Marnock's hoodie which they have been wearing during the last number of weeks in school. We wish all of our 6th class pupils the best of luck as they embark upon the next exciting adventure in their lives in secondary school!

As this is the final newsletter of this school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our fantastic staff for all their hard work and commitment to your children during this school year. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated team of teachers and SNAs so thanks to each and every one of them!

We wish you and all your families a happy, safe and healthy summer and we look forward to welcoming you back on the first day of the new term on Thursday 29th August.

Enjoy our newsletter and have a great summer!

Bain taitneamh as ár Nuachtlitir agus bíodh Samhradh iontach agaibh!

Sinéad Trimble



UPCOMING EVENTS

- The school will close for the summer holidays at 12pm on Friday 28th June.
- Children may wear their own clothes on the last day of term, Friday 28th June

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

- A big thank you to Jenny O' Connor, Sinéad McGowan and all the Parents' Association team for all of their hard work as volunteers in our new school library and also for their great support with fundraising this year.
- Thanks to the P.A. for organising an ice-cream visit to the school at the end of Sports Week on 21st June. It was a great and memorable end to Sports' Week for everyone!

NOTE TO PARENTS

- Thank you to all parents who supported the P.A. Table Quiz School Fundraiser on Saturday 15th June. Special thanks to local businesses and Malahide Golf Club for donating prizes and hosting the event.
- Thanks to everyone who recently contributed to our Voluntary Contributions via Aladdin. You still have time to pay if you can. Any donation is acceptable and may be made via the Aladdin Connect App



F.A.I. SCHOOLS 1st DIVISION WINNERS!

In the first year for St. Marnock's to field association football teams, the boys' team came out as worthy winners of the F.A.I. schools Fingal division one final against Lusk SNS on Wednesday 19th June. The team, managed and coached by Mr. Cooper played brilliantly individually and as a team. Right from the kick-off, they exerted serious pressure on the Lusk defence with searching balls from midfield through to Max Guyot and Rory Smullen. The defence, with notable performances by Kian Rooney and Oisin McCormack were solid and unphased by some early attacks by Lusk SNS. Max Guyot took the ball around the Lusk goalkeeper after about fifteen minutes and scored the opening goal. He followed this up with his second goal shortly before half time. The second half saw St. Marnock's keep up the pressure with more chances for goals. Students from Sixth and Fifth classes who were in attendance chanted and cheered from the sideline and all the way home on the bus. It was a great way to close out the sporting year in St. Marnock's.



DEIRDRE'S RETIREMENT

Last week we marked the beginning of the end of the career of Deirdre Johnson in St. Marnock's NS. Deirdre has been secretary in the school for four decades and has worked under three different principals. She has been an amazing asset to the school and her depth of knowledge and skill knows no bounds.



Last Thursday, Deirdre came into school and began work in her office on the school reports as she does at this time every year. Little did she know that we had been rehearsing a song written by Mary Kenealy in her honour for the last three weeks. Speakers and microphones were set up out in the back yard and musicians and the choir got into position. All the children and teachers in the school filed out and took their positions in the audience. A special seat was arranged for Deirdre so she could savour the show.

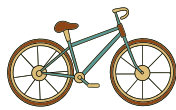


At the last minute, Deirdre, still not knowing what was about to happen was escorted from her office to the back through a guard of honour consisting of the Sixth class children. When she was seated, Ms. Trimble made a touching speech thanking Deirdre for her years of service to the school. Then the musicians, Mr. Maughan, Ms. Kenealy and Ms. Murphy played the opening bars to the song "All the Ways". When the whole school started to sing, the effect was amazing. What a great tribute to Deirdre after all her years of service to St. Marnock's N.S.

After this, it was time for a dance and a version of 90's dance anthem "Freed from Desire" (renamed as "Free to Retire") was performed and a troupe of dancers performed a special dance for the occasion. Again the effect was great as the whole school sang along and danced to the tune.

Deirdre only has a few more days of work in the school remaining and the staff will give her a proper Marnock's send off on Friday 28th June with a party in her honour.





BLING YOUR BIKE



There have been a growing number of children cycling to school in St. Marnock's in recent years. Bike Week is a way for Fingal County Council to promote sustainable and healthy means of transport in the area. Every year, they hold a "Bling your Bike" competition for the children in the local schools. It was great to see the children of St. Marnock's enter into the spirit of the event by decorating their bikes with all sorts of colourful streamers, balloons and glitter.



SCHOOL CHOIR 2024



This year's school choir performed brilliantly at both the Confirmation and Communion ceremonies in St. Anne's church this year. The choir was composed of children from sixth, fifth and fourth classes. They had been practicing since late January and showed great commitment and a willingness to learn. This was especially evident at the two First Holy Communion ceremonies on Saturday 18th May where the choir sang at both. Many people commented on how much their singing enhanced the Confirmation and Communion ceremonies. Well done to Mr. Maghan, Ms. Curtin and Ms. B. Phelan for leading the school choir.



SWAP SHOP PROJECT



The Sixth classes took part in a Swap Shop Project organised by Ms. Whelan in conjunction with Fingal County Council and Circular Fashion Ireland. Carrie Anne, the founder of Circular Fashion Ireland came to the school to help organise it and to talk to the students. Children who wanted to take part brought in some items of clothing that they no longer wear to swap with each other. The idea is to combat "fast fashion" where people buy cheaply made clothes and only wear them a few times before disposing of them. This is not environmentally friendly or sustainable. It was a great success and lots of children came away delighted with the new items of clothing they had acquired.



FILIP BOTELLIER'S MUSICAL SUCCESS



Filip Bottelier from Ms. Dillon's Fifth class had a very successful musical year this year. He won first place in recorder at Feis Ceoil for under 12 years of age category and got commended in the junior saxophone competition that was opened to everyone under age of 18. He also won two under 12 categories for piano and wind instrument (participating with saxophone) in Sutton Park Young Musician competition. Well done Filip for doing so well!



SPORTS WEEK



Last week was Sports Week in St. Marnock's. All classes in the school were split into red and blue teams to compete against each other in various sports. Children were encouraged to dress up in red or blue coloured clothing and posters were displayed around the school. Included events were basketball, football, dodgeball, capture the flag, novelty relays, sprints and more. Winners of these events were given points on a virtual leader board and classes could keep an eye on who was in the lead. The blues were announced as the ultimate winners at the end of the week. The Parents' Association organised for an ice-cream van to visit the school on the Friday and every child got an ice-cream to round up a great week of fun and sport.



GOLF CHAMPIONS



Pitch and Putt is very popular here in St. Marnock's with children typically arriving with clubs on a Wednesday to go and play in the local Portmarnock Pitch and Putt club after school. Three St. Marnock's students and members of this club, Max Guyot, Kai Foran and Cian Foran competed in the Dublin under 13 Strokeplay Pitch n Putt Championships at Glenville Pitch & Putt club on 18th May. The boys played brilliantly and they filled the three top slots: Max Guyot 1st, Kai Foran 2nd and Cian Foran 3rd. Well done boys!



PLEASE NOTE

The health and safety of all our school community is of paramount importance to us. Please be extra vigilant and careful when parking your car and entering / exiting the church car park by car at school arrival and dismissal times. The Board of Management and the P.A. will be highlighting an awareness campaign about this health and safety issue at the start of the next school year. Further details to follow in September.



GOLFING SUCCESS



Hugo Gibbons from Ms. Dillon's Fifth class represented St. Marnock's in the Irish Junior Open School's Cup at Greystones Golf Club this Monday. He competed against 110 golfers from all over the country and after playing brilliantly, finished third overall. Hugo has been involved in many golf competitions in his golfing career to date and his handicap is 10.4.



MORE FOOTBALL SUCCESS



Congratulations to three of our Fifth class boys, Lennon Donnelly, Max Bamford and Senan Ryan whose Portmarnock AFC under 11 team won the Paddy Brennan cup in the Athletic Union League a few weeks ago. The final was a brilliant match between two terrific teams with Portmarnock AFC under 11s securing a dramatic 2-1 victory over Stella Maris football club in extra time.



THIRD CLASS DEBATING



Ms. Kenealy's, Ms. Power's and Ms. McDonnell's classes recently participated in a debate with the motion "Children these days are more interested in screens than sports". The debate took place in the hall and was attended by students from third to sixth classes. There was some great public speaking and persuasive language skills on show on both the proposition and opposition sides. The actual debate was followed by contributions from the floor which led to some lively and entertaining interchanges between students. Ms. Kenealy rounded off proceedings by highlighting good debating skills and awarding prizes to contributors.

