



# O'BRENNAN NS NEWSLETTER

May/June 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Happy Holidays! What a year it has been here at O'Brennan National School. we have achieved so much this year setting up our Student Council, achieving our 3rd Active Flag and 11th Discovering Primary Science and Maths award, just to name a few.

Congratulations – to Ms. Méabh Barry who has become a permanent member of our teaching staff.

We wish Mr Sheehy and SNA Sarah all the very best for the coming year as they head off on Career break for the academic year 2022/2023. Thanks to Ms O'Carroll, Ms Sheehan and Ms O'Toole who are finishing up with us today. Wishing you all the best for the future.

In September 2022 we have 7 mainstream classes with 4 S.E.T. (Special Education Teacher) teachers, 6 fulltime SNA's and one parttime SNA allocated for the academic year. These are as follows:

- o Junior Infants – Ms. Carroll
- o Senior Infants – Ms Slattery
- o 1st Class – Ms. Broderick
- o 2nd Class/3rd Class – TBA – covering Mr Sheehy's Career Break for the academic year 2022/2023
- o 3rd Class/4th Class – Ms. Buckley
- o 5th Class – Mrs Corridan
- o 6th Class – Ms Barry
- o ASD class teacher - TBA
  
- o S.E.T – Mr O'Neill
- o S.E.T – Ms Brosnan/ Mrs Costello – Job share for the academic year 2022/2023
- o S.E.T – TBA – covering Mrs O'Shea's maternity leave.

o S.E.T – TBA – covering Ms Sheehy's Parental leave

- o SNA – Regina/Eileen – Job share for the academic year 2022/2023
- o SNA – Ann Marie
- o SNA – Margaret
- o SNA – TBA – covering Sarah's Career Break for the academic year 2022/2023
- o SNA – TBA – covering Job share for the academic year 2022/2023
- o SNA – TBA
- o SNA (part time) - TBA

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful secretary Caroline for doing such a fantastic job in the office.

On behalf of the BOM of O'Brennan National School, I wish to extend thanks and gratitude to our fantastic teaching staff. Each teacher consistently shows dedication, commitment and great interest in all our pupils and their families. They go above and beyond at all times and I wish each of them a relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday.

## 10th Anniversary Celebration

- We had a fantastic celebration here on 16th June celebrating 10 years in our school building. It was a very special day for everyone involved. We had ceremony in the school hall – retelling the history of our build, carrying symbols to the stage and having a ceremony of remembrance followed by the talented Muireann treating us to some beautiful melodies on the harp. Once the ceremony was over, we headed outside to raise our Active flag. Our fun day continued with some fun fair games. It was a great day of celebration.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish pupils, parents, staff and wider school community

a pleasant and restful summer break! We look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday August 29th @9am.

Le gach dea-guí,  
Michelle O' Brien

### **Junior Infants**

Junior Infants had a very busy last term in school. We are so excited about going into Senior Infants!

In Aistear we looked at the Airport and Holidays. Some of the children can't wait until they are going on holidays again. They learned lots of new words such as metal detector, check in desk, arrivals, departures. In role play they transformed the classroom into an airport. Our small world area had a busy airport with planes and helicopters arriving and departing on the run way. We even designed our own passports. The Juniors had great fun on their school tour in MTU. We took part in lots of fun games and bouncing castles. Wrestling, tug of war, racing, the Lego bouncing castle, dodge ball and disco tent were the best part of the school tour.

The highlight for our Junior Infants this term was getting a Bus to the Ballymac GAA pitch and to our weekly swimming lessons. This was the first time most of us were on a bus.

We had students from the National Learning Centre come and help us with our sports day. The children enjoyed ship, shore, deck, bulldog, ski racing, simon says, the obstacle course and time bomb. To top off the day the Juniors had a pizza party.

We had lots of birthdays Alina, Jack S, in May. Sophie H, Conor in June. We want to wish Jessica a very Happy Birthday for July.

Junior Infants had lots of fun for our Schools 10th Birthday Celebration Day in school. The children enjoyed the party bags, birthday cake, the inflatable games, hook a duck, the dancers and connect 4.

When Junior Infants were asked what was the best thing about Junior Infants they said: Aistear, playing in the schoolyard, PE, learning new

things, learning to write, reading books, Art, making new friends, maths, homework, Tricky Word Games, treat days, lunchtime, free play and iPad were among the favourites. Have a Lovely Summer Everyone and all the Best in Senior Infants!!!

Miss Carroll & Sarah

### **Senior Infants**

As we know summer is a very busy time for the honey bee, however he isn't the only one! To say Senior Infants has been a hive of activity is an understatement. We learned about the honey bee for World Bee day and created some honeycombs in Art. In Aistear we have had a very busy few months learning all about life in the Zoo, Farm animals, Birthday parties and Camping! We even had a visit from two husky dogs, Oisín L's chicks and Ryan's new puppy, Max. Our school tour to MTU was very exciting, we had great fun at our school sports day and even had pizzas delivered to school! Swimming on Wednesdays was very enjoyable and by the end of the six weeks our swimming skills have certainly improved. We celebrated our school turning 10 years old. It was a great day. We had cake, and goodie bags and played games outside all day. We celebrated several birthdays in our classroom also. Billy and Cara in May. Oisín B in June. We want to wish Timmy, Ryan and Charlie a very Happy Birthday for July. It has been a pleasure teaching Senior Infants this year. They are wonderful children and I am very proud of them and hope they are proud of themselves also. Many thanks to all the parents and guardians for all your support during the year. I wish you all a lovely summer break and look forward to seeing everyone in September.

Ms. Slattery

### **First / Second Class**

First and Second Class have had a very busy time in May and June. Our second class celebrated their First Holy Communion in May. They did some wonderful communion art displays. The

boys and girls did so well and we had some fun and a cake back at the school to celebrate. We have been doing some fun activities like magnet experiments, chemical reactions to blow up balloons, learning all about the honey bee and pollination and going on a wild flower hunt. In Art, we made some lovely cotton wool ice creams and sandcastles. We have been learning all about water safety to get ready for our summer holidays. Enjoy the break everyone!

Ms. Broderick & Margaret

### Second/Third Class

All in second and third class are really looking forward to their summer break after what was a busy year. The children really enjoyed their school tour to Banna this year and had an action packed day. This was followed by the school sports day where the NLN came in to run various activities. The children really enjoyed it.

The 2nd class celebrated their first holy communion this year and they put a lot of effort into it – Well done! We had a little party back in the school for the children. The active school committee have been busy working on our Active flag and we were delighted to receive it last week.

We have shared a lot of laughs and jokes this year and I wish all the pupils the best as they move on.

Enjoy the summer holidays and stay safe!

Mr. Sheehy & Eileen

### Fourth Class

As our School Year comes an end, we in 4th had a blast, especially our last term.

Firstly, we wrote letters to Listellick and we now have pen-pals. Our School Tour was to Cappanalea. We really enjoyed rock climbing, kayaking and orienteering.

This year we focused a lot of creating fun movies and we used Stop-go Motion. We

divided into groups and made The Three little pigs (adaptation) short films in English and as gaeilge.

We had so much sport this term from swimming, football blitz, in school soccer tournaments, cricket, and active schools' weeks. For active schools' week, we simply couldn't pick one but the Zumba was hilarious.

We enjoyed making bread rolls in class with plain flour, yeast, salt and lukewarm water. To finish 4th class, we are reading the novel I am Malala, this is a true story and we recommend everyone to read this.

Have a safe and happy summer, all the best ranga 4.



Ms. Buckley & Regina

### Fifth Class

As another school year comes to a close, we look back on a Term 3 which was chock-a-block with sports related activities!

Active week was very enjoyable with Zumba, Badminton, soccer and the return of swimming lessons. A special thanks to the National Learning Network for organising a fantastic Sports Day. Pupils enjoyed four sessions on how to play cricket with Arsalan from Munster Cricket. Another highlight of Term 3 was our school tour to Cappanalea Outdoor Education Centre. 5th class pupils enjoyed a Hike to Knock Michael.

We celebrated an important milestone in O' Brennan's history having been in situ in our fabulous building now for 10 years! We created

drawings of the school building/our school crest and used tinfoil prints to create colourful backgrounds.

Another great experience was the Ballymacelligott schools' Football Blitz held on June 17th. Pupils got creative designing and making games with levers in our last S.T.E.M project of the year.

You've been a great bunch! Well done on your hard work! Keep cheering each other on!

Wishing you all a wonderful summer break!

Ms Corridan & Regina

### **Sixth Class**

We have had an extraordinarily busy final term in 6th Class! May and June have been action packed with trips and events and lots of fun!

One highlight from the last few weeks has been the Junior Entrepreneur Project. We have just finished selling 'The O'Brennan Cookbook 2022' that the boys and girls made and sold as part of JEP. The class have worked so hard from writing the recipes to designing the book, organising finances and marketing the product. We would like to say a massive thank you to all who supported the project.

At the beginning of June we also held a Bake Off in the school hall to celebrate the cookbook. The boys and girls divided into 5 teams and each group chose and baked a recipe from the cookbook. Ms O'Brien, Ms Slattery and Caroline were the judges and tasted each dish (macaroons, chocolate chip cupcakes, chocolate chip cookies, chocolate orange brownies and Victoria sponge cake) to pick the winner (chocolate chip cupcakes) !!

On June 8th we had our school tour to UL. We had a very busy day and the boys and girls enjoyed a wide range of activities on the Sports Campus including orienteering, obstacle courses, waterslides and swimming. Before leaving Limerick, we stopped off in Supermacs for some food!

Other activities we have enjoyed in recent weeks include the 10 Year Birthday Celebrations for our school, the sports day organised by National Learning Network, a hike up Knockmichael, a football blitz with Clogher NS, Nohoval NS, and Flemby NS organised by Ballymac GAA, a trip to Bowling Buddies to celebrate JEP, cricket classes every Tuesday and an FAI 5 a side in-school tournament organised by Mr O'Neill.

Finally on Tuesday 21st we celebrated the end of the boys and girls 8 years in O'Brennan at the 6th Class Graduation Ceremony. Thank you to Fr Walsh for celebrating the occasion with us and to all the parents and family members who joined on the day. It was a fabulous end to the boys and girls time in O'Brennan.

As we finish off the school year and head into the holidays, we say goodbye to 32 wonderful students in sixth class. I wish the class of 2022 all the best as they begin their secondary school adventure. A big thank you to all the parents for their support with school work, homework and all the extra events, trips and activities this term! Enjoy the summer holidays and the very best of luck in the future!

Ms Barry & Anne Marie

### **Dates / Upcoming Events:**

Dates / Upcoming Events:

- o School re-opens for all children (Senior Infants – 6th Class) on Monday 29th August at 9.00am.
- o Incoming Junior Infants shall commence school on Monday 29th August at 9.30am.
- o Our school calendar for 2022/2023 is now available on our school website

[www.obrennans.ie](http://www.obrennans.ie)





### **Active School Update**

The children really enjoyed our sports day organised by the national learning network. This year the active school committee worked really hard to achieve our 3<sup>rd</sup> Active Flag which was raised on our 10-year celebration day. A new active walkway was opened and the children came up with a slogan for it – “Walk and talk or run for fun”. Thanks to the student on the committee for all your work this year – it has been a pleasure. Thanks to Sean, Abby, Gearoid, Doireann, Gerard, Sophie, Rory, Aoibhinn, Gearoid and Michelle.



### **Green School Update**

Thanks to all the pupils on the Green school committee for all your hard work this year. We are

looking forward to working on our next green flag next year.

### **Student Council**

The student council had a very busy year, beginning in early November when the elections were held. Shane, Éabha, James, Michael, Ashling, Dara and Jessica were elected as members of the O'Brennan Student Council for the 2021/2022 school year. We met regularly and organised fundraisers to buy new goals for the yard. We held a no uniform day and then organised an Easter themed bake sale and raffle! We ordered the goals and hopefully they will be ready for the new school year! Thank you to everyone who supported the events during the year!!

### **Our School Choir**

After two long years of Covid restrictions, we were delighted to welcome our choir back in April. It was lovely to hear the children's sweet melodies fill the corridors once again. Under the direction of Ms Brosnan, our choir had lots of fun meeting for weekly rehearsals in the halla since April in preparation for our new school building's 10th Birthday Celebration recently. They performed two songs- 'We're so Proud of our School' and 'It's Time to Celebrate'. This event was particularly special for our choir as it first began by performing for the official opening of our new school building. The girls had lots of fun during rehearsals calculating how young they would have been at the time, or whether they were even born yet! Well done to all involved 🎵🎵

### **Discover Primary Science and Maths Award**

We were delighted to receive our 11th Discover Primary Science and Maths Award this month in recognition of every classes' STEM work this year. The adjudicators congratulated our pupils for engaging enthusiastically in hands-on investigations and developing skills through a

variety of STEM activities. They were very impressed with the creativity and technology skills pupils showed in designing and making using recycled material and in our participation in lots of interactive webinars during Science Week. The adjudicators also commended our teachers for the fantastic work they are doing in developing learners' STEM skills. They acknowledged there is great potential in our O'Brennan pupils to become scientists and engineers!



June 2022