



June

NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents, Guardians, and Friends of St. Cronan's JNS.,

As we approach the end of another incredible school year, we take this moment to reflect on the wonderful journey we've shared together. It's truly amazing how quickly time has passed, with the laughter and learning of our children filling the corridors from September through to these (I wish I could say sunny!) June days. This year has been one of growth and achievement, brimming with memorable events and milestones. From exciting classroom projects to fun-filled Christmas shows, St. Patrick's Day Parades, active week and of course Grandparent's Day, our children have demonstrated remarkable enthusiasm and dedication. We've witnessed their talents blossoming in art, music, sports, and academics, making us proud of their hard work and progress.

We also celebrate the collective efforts of our dedicated staff, supportive parents, and enthusiastic volunteers who have contributed immensely to our vibrant school community. Your unwavering support has been the cornerstone of our success, fostering an environment where every child can thrive and fulfil our cherished school motto "To be the Best that we can Be."

As we prepare to bid farewell to this school year, let's cherish the memories we've created and look forward to the adventures that lie ahead. We hope you enjoy this edition of our newsletter, filled with highlights and achievements that showcase the spirit of St. Cronan's JNS.

Thank you for being a part of our journey. We wish you all a restful and enjoyable summer break.

Warm regards,
Edel Blake

Saying Goodbye

Saying Goodbye is always hard. We cherish every single child in our school and their family as members of our School Community. We know some children are moving areas, counties and even countries and will sadly have to leave us. If you know your child won't be returning to St. Cronan's JNS in August, can you please let the office know at info@stcronansjns.ie - we would like the opportunity to say goodbye to our leavers properly.

A Message to our 2nd Class - The Class of 2024

To our amazing 2nd Class Superstars,

When you are as old as I am (in 100 years time!) you will realise how fast time goes and to me it only feels like yesterday since we welcomed you into our school. I am so happy that we had 4 years together. When I look back at the Class of 2024 I will always remember how brave you all were as Junior Infants. You came to our school in September 2020, you or your parents had no opportunity to visit us before your first day and all the adults in school were wearing masks. This was a lot of change for any little Junior Infant to experience but not for the Class of 2024. You took it all in your stride and reminded me that not even a worldwide pandemic can break the community spirit of our lovely school.

We have a beautiful Graduation planned for you next week but before that I want to say to every single one of you - thank you. Thank you for the love and kindness you have brought to our school. Thank you for all the beautiful drawings you gave me and for sharing your news - good and bad. Thank you for being fantastic 2nd class buddies to our Junior Infants.

As a very wise bear said "How lucky am I to have something that makes saying Goodbye so hard." I know you will all love your new school and please keep in touch (children and parents) - you will always have a place in our school's heart. Have a great summer! Keep reading lots of books!

Mrs. Blake

Hot Meals

The Hot Meals are going really well. It is so lovely to hear the children discuss their food and to see them eat together as a little community. Don't forget that you can turn the calendar off for days that you know your child won't be in. Each meal costs 3.20 so turning on the holiday calendar saves this money.



Attendance

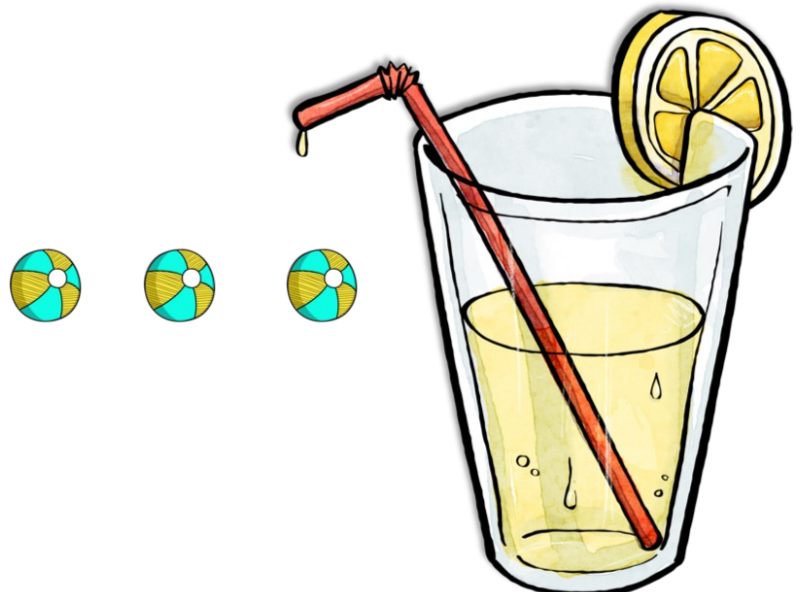
In September I highlighted that we were targeting attendance for the school year 2023 - 2024. Attendance levels have been lower since the Covid-19 pandemic. I am aware that it is hard to get the balance right, we don't want sick children coming to school but we do encourage children to be a HERO - Here, Ready, Everyday, Ontime. One way to improve attendance is to ensure children come to school before/after appointments if possible. This year we improved our attendance in the months of: August, September, October, November, December, January, March, April and June! Well done everybody. I hope we can keep these good habits for next year.

Board of Management

Darren Mc Allen has been the Parent's Representative on the Board of Management since 2021. We has been a great member of the BOM. From September he will no longer have any children in St. Cronan's JNS so will unfortunately have to step-down. We will be looking to recruit a new male parent to the BOM in September.

BOM Thanks

The Board of Management was delighted that the wonderful Rainbows Programme returned to the school this year. They would like to thank the 3 staff members who gave their own personal time to train for and deliver the programme in Term 3. Thanks to Mrs. Boylan, Angela and Leon and to all the families who participated.



The Future is Bright

Following interviews, we have a full compliment of fully qualified teachers ready to begin the school year in August. In this current climate teacher recruitment and retention is difficult but it is testament to our lovely school community, especially our fantastic children that year after year we hold a full set of staff when many schools don't.

We have a fantastic school leadership team of Assistant Principals and they have been working so hard to ensure 2024/2025 will be another wonderful year.

*We have been awarded Musician in residence grant from Fingal County Council.

*We have been awarded a BLAST - Artist in Residency award from the Department of Education.

*We have been selected for a CLIL (Content and Language in Learning) project. Some classes will be learning a 2nd subject such as PE as Gaeilge.

*We have been awarded a grant from DAA to invest in our school garden - creating an interactive, sensory planting plan.

Well done to all on the leadership team for these successes.

Sundries Charges

The charges for art and crafts and IT etc. are now up on Aladdin. I understand the cost of living is rising everywhere but please pay them as soon as you can so we can purchase materials for next year. Budgets for schools are getting tighter and tighter as you can read [here](#).



BOM Agreed Report - May

- 1) The Board of Management note that the free book scheme grant has been paid. They are disappointed to see the reduction of 16 euro per child for a Junior School that is more dependent on workbooks for young learners.
- 2) It was with great delight that we saw the container in place for the Hot Meals Scheme and hear how it is ready to be launched at the end of May.
- 3) The Board of Management welcome the installation of a Free Little Library in the main door entrance and thank Dave and Lorraine for creating it.

