

# BAY ESTATE GAZETTE



## *Our School Newsletter*

### Congratulations & Celebrations

We would like to congratulate Mr John Quinn, who after a distinguished teaching career, will be retiring from Scoil Mhuire na nGael this summer. We wish Mr. Quinn the very best in his retirement and hope that he enjoys every moment of it.

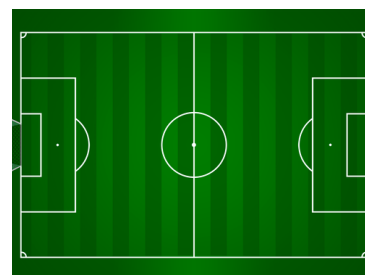


It is also with a heavy heart that we say goodbye and farewell to Mr. Jonathan Lyons. We are delighted to announce that Mr. Lyons has been recently appointed as Principal of St Buite's NS, Tenure. He will take up his new position in September. We wish him the very best of luck in his new role.

To our wonderful cleaner Julianna, thank you so much for all your hard work and commitment during your time here. We wish you every health and happiness in your retirement.

### Development of Playing Field

We are hoping to develop our playing field at the front of the school so that it would be a facility which the teachers and pupils could use all year round. As you can imagine this will be a massive project in terms of planning and finance. We would really love some help and support from our families with this and hope to create a development/fundraising committee early in the new school year to get the project underway. Further details on this will be shared in September.



### Graduation Class of 2023

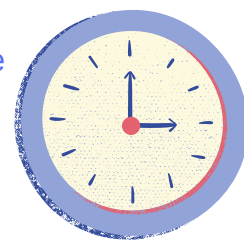
Last evening, the 20th of June, we said farewell to our fantastic 6th class pupils. We sincerely wish them the very best of luck as they transition to secondary school in September.



## School Opening and Closing Times

Thank you to all those who contributed to the feedback regarding our school's opening and closing times. We wish to confirm that the school times are remaining the same for the upcoming academic year. The pupils will walk into their classroom from 8:40am.

As previously advised pupils from 1st - 6th classes may not be accompanied to their classroom by an adult unless prior approval has been granted. Before the school closes on Friday the children will be shown where their new classroom will be. Please note that there is to be no cycling/scooting on school grounds.



## Religious Education

Our Senior Infants and Third classes welcomed the Diocesan Advisor to our school recently. Our pupil's kindness and respect to others was highlighted as a great strength. The children shared their knowledge and understanding of stories, prayer and song.

We had our May Altar in place throughout the month of May which was enjoyed by all of our pupils, staff and visitors to our school.

## KiVa Anti-Bullying

We've come to the end of another successful year of engagement with the KiVa Programme and we continue to be proud to call ourselves a KiVa School. All of our pupils from 1st class to 6th class have been following the appropriate KiVa lesson series, and had the opportunity via an online survey in class, to give their own personal feedback about how they feel it has worked for them during this school year.



## Buddy Reading



Our Senior Infant and 6th Class pupils have been working together this term on a literacy initiative called 'buddy reading'. They have had the opportunity to come together weekly to read to each other, listen to each other's ideas and to share, record and review stories/books.

The children have really enjoyed this opportunity to work with a different age group and it has been a successful confidence building activity. You can see some photos of the fun, interactive and educational activities on the school website.

## Traffic Management



As you are all aware there is considerable traffic outside the school at peak school times (8:30am – 9am, 1:20pm – 1:40pm & 2:20pm – 2:45pm). To help alleviate the congestion we ask that all motorists adhere to a voluntary one way system at these times. We ask that you approach the school from the Avenue Road direction and proceed past the school via Willowdale. Please drive slowly and be mindful of children crossing the road. The safety of our children is paramount. **Please advise your child that they must walk on the footpath, they are not allowed to walk across the carpark.**

**Please note parents are not permitted to drive into the carpark without prior permission to do so.**

Once again we ask that you have consideration for local residents when you park outside the school.

**Please do not block driveways or double park preventing the free flow of traffic through the estate.**

## Green Schools Committee

Our school is delighted and very proud to announce that we have been awarded our very first Green Schools Flag.

Congratulations to all involved, especially to our hard working Green Schools Committee. They are a credit to our school.



## School Closures

**Friday June 23rd** - School Closes at **12 noon** for Summer Break

**This is a free dress day for the pupils.**

**The School will reopen on Wednesday the 30th of August.**

## School Office

The school office will be open from 10am - 1pm from Monday the 26th June until Friday the 7th of July. Contact can be made with the office via phone call to 9336158 or via email at [smgdundalk@gmail.com](mailto:smgdundalk@gmail.com)

The school office will re-open on Wednesday 23rd of August at 9am.





Agri Aware and Dole Ireland brought the excitement of Healthy Eating Week directly to our school. Ms Campbell's 3rd class participated in the Incredible Edibles programme and got the opportunity to complete a workshop with Agri Aware on the many ways we can incorporate Fruit and Vegetables into our diet.

Dole Ireland also very kindly organised a fruit delivery for the whole school.

There was also a special guest appearance on the day in the form of top Galway and Kilmacud GAA star Shane Walsh.

## Sports in our School

Well done to the boys basketball team who celebrated a great win against the Redeemer on home soil! The boys were brilliant and played 9 minute quarters which is extraordinary! We had baskets from Michael, Oisin, Harry and a remarkable 3 pointer from James to seal our victory!

Well done to our amazing support who really helped encourage us on the day. Once again, the boys put their hearts and souls on the line for Bay Estate basketball!

Big thanks to Ms. McNally who was a referee on the day too.

Well done also to our amazing girl's basketball team who came second place in the Louth Basketball League. The girls were victorious in their matches against Dulargy, Kilsaran and Stabannon National Schools. They lost by just 2 baskets in the final against Dromiskin. The girls gave their all on the day and they should ALL be very proud of themselves. The girls really enjoyed their day and the parents present were a great support to the girls in the final. It was a wonderful day hosted in Dromiskin's basketball club. Well done girls and congratulations on your silver medals!

A huge thank you to Ms. Cunningham for coaching the girls and boys basketball teams throughout the year.

Well done also to our girls and boys football teams who took part in the Seán Maguire and Jude Gibbs Perpetual Cup competitions. The girls won their matches and retained the Jude Gibbs Perpetual Cup while the boys were beaten in a penalty shoot-out in the final match by St. Josephs NS.

Mr. Lyons and Ms. Craven were extremely proud of both teams performance, attitude and sportsmanship on the day.

Well done to all involved.



## Exploring the locality

Our senior classes recently had the wonderful opportunity to visit some of the facilities available right on our doorstep.

In May the 6th class children joined a guided walking tour to explore the artworks created as part of the SEEK Dundalk Urban Arts festival, where they discovered the history and stories behind the amazing murals that make our town so unique.



In June our 5th classes got the chance to visit the County Museum and participated in a workshop where they learned about the historical development of County Louth from the Stone Age up to the present. They also heard about the history of our local industries and got to see some amazing artefacts on display in the museum collection.



## The Student Council

The Student Council has been very active again this term. They organised the Bay Estate's Got Talent show during lunchtimes for the 5th and 6th classes and this was a huge success.

The Sportathon took place last week and seen the full student body getting involved in sports activities and was a fun-filled day for all.

Congratulations to the Student Council on the events they organised, the money they raised for charity and for the positivity they have brought to Scoil Mhuire na nGael.



## Peace Run 2023

On Thursday 11th May, Scoil Mhuire na nGael were lucky enough to host the Peace Run on its incredible journey from Dublin to Belfast.

They were welcomed by our wonderful Senior Infants and were given a fantastic send off by the whole school.

The Sri Chinmoy Oneness-Home Peace Run is a global torch relay that offers everyone in the world a chance to express their longing for peace.



Since its founding in 1987, the Run has visited almost every country on earth – over 150 nations and territories – and touched the lives of millions of people. Mother Theresa, Nelson Mandela and Muhamad Ali.

## Toy Drive

We are trying to equip our new special classes with toys and would love some help with this. If you have any unwanted toys in good condition and are looking for a new home for them we would be delighted to accept them. The types of toys we seek are teddies, blocks, wooden toys, pre-school toys, dolls houses etc.

Please leave any donations at the office foyer. There will be a container labelled for the same.



## Clothing Collection



Our latest clothing collection raised €913.50 for our school.

Thank you all for your kind donations. We will hold another clothing collection within the first term of the new academic year.



## Donated Uniforms

There will be a display of donated uniforms in the New Halla from Monday the 26th of June to Friday the 7th of July from 10am - 1pm. Please feel free to browse through the uniforms and take whatever you need. Access to these uniforms will be through the side gate into the New Halla.



## Transferring Schools



If for some reason, your child will not be returning to Muire na nGael for the next school year (6th class excluded!), we ask that you please confirm this in writing to the school office @ [smgdundalk@gmail.com](mailto:smgdundalk@gmail.com) as soon as possible.

## School Charges

As you are aware your child's books and copies will be supplied next year under the Government Book Scheme.

We are currently finalising your child's stationery needs and school charges for the upcoming year. A copy of the same will be issued to you in due course. We ask that you use our e-payment facility if at all possible to pay these charges. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.



## Thank You

Finally, a very special thank you to the parents and guardians for your loyal and constant support for all that we do here in Muire na nGael. It has and will continue to be very much appreciated.

Wishing you all and your families a very safe and enjoyable summer break.

