

Not Coming Back?

If you think your son will not be returning to school in September (and you have not already informed us) please contact the school as soon as possible by phone (01) 6293021 or email maynoothbns@yahoo.ie. It is really helpful to us if we have accurate numbers to help us plan ahead for next year.

N.B. If you tell us your son might be leaving and your plans subsequently change, he will NOT lose his place.



Book Rental - Volunteers needed

We are looking for parent volunteers from each class group to help with the book rental scheme. They will be in the school working between 17th June and 21st June. If you can spare an hour or two, your help would be greatly appreciated. Please email the office stating the date and time you are available so that we can compile a timetable. Many hands make light work !



Spreading the pain/payment – School Tours and Booklists

This year the cost of school tours and booklists will be spread over two separate months. Class tours will take place between mid-May and the end of June. Payments for school tours must be made online by 17th May.

Book Rental Scheme/Booklists are normally issued at the beginning of June, so payment for those will be during the first 2 weeks of June.

We hope that this will help to reduce the financial burden normally experienced during June.



Kildare/Mid Leinster Spar FAI Primary 5's Finals



On Wednesday 27th March, the school's 5 aside A Team travelled to Kilcullen for the Kildare Spar FAI Primary 5's Finals. They were drawn in a tough group with the Gaelscoil from Maynooth, Ballymany and Scoil Mochua from Celbridge. In their three very close fought games, the boys got through to the final with a win and two draws to play the gaelscoil from Kilcock in the Kildare final.

The boys got off to a great start in the final by scoring early to go ahead. In the dying seconds Kilcock managed to score an equaliser following a quick counter attack, which forced the game to go to penalties. In a very dramatic and tense penalty shoot-out, Ben Synnott scored the winning spot kick to win the final 3-2. The boys were deservedly crowned Kildare 5 aside champions for 2019. This now meant that the team qualified as county champions to go on and represent Kildare in the Mid Leinster Finals in Portlaoise on May 1st against the county champions from Laois, Offaly and Kilkenny. This was an even higher standard of competition than the Kildare finals and the team gave their absolute all in the four matches they played. Edenderry from Offaly just proved to be too strong on the day, and the team were unlucky to finish as runners up in Mid Leinster. This is an absolutely fantastic achievement and the boys should be extremely proud of their brilliant efforts over the last few months. They have been a pleasure to train and work with since September. The eight boys on the team are now double county champions for 2018/2019, as they were all members of the 11 aside squad that won the Kildare final in Kilcullen last October. Well done boys! A huge thank you to all their parents, who travelled to Kilcullen and Portlaoise, to support them on both days. It is greatly appreciated. *Mr. McGeady and Mr. Davis*

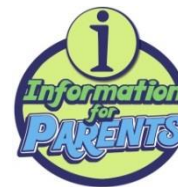
5 Aside Squad Members: Cian O'Donovan, Paul O'Dea, Alex Tilly, Dylan Murray, Aaron Mahoney, Ben Synnott, Finn Geraghty, Joshua Flood.

We are very proud of our soccer team's achievements. They have represented the school with distinction. Congratulations to the team, Mr. McGeady and Mr. Davis.

New Junior Infant School Visits 28th, 29th & 30th May

We will be welcoming our new group of Junior Infants on 28th, 29th and 30th May.

The current Junior Infants will be going home early at **12.10pm** on the days listed below to accommodate these visits.



Ms. Murphy's class	-	Tuesday 28 th May
Ms. Drislane's class	-	Wednesday 29 th May
Ms. Kelly's class	-	Thursday 30 th May

Standardised Testing

Each year the school undertakes standardised testing in Literacy and Numeracy on all pupils from 1st – 6th class. These tests help to assess the children's performance and benchmark this against the national average. The outcomes of these tests are provided on the end of year Report Card.

This year we have moved to a new version of the reading test for 2nd, 4th and 6th classes.

The old version was standardised in 2006 and because the new tests were standardised in 2018 we expect to see changes in individual pupil scores and average scores across the school.



Many tests become easier over time, as the content becomes more familiar. Recent studies have also shown that children in Ireland are performing increasingly well in reading and mathematics generally. A combination of these factors means that it is no longer as useful to compare the achievement of children today with the reference groups used for older tests. The New Drumcondra Primary Tests were piloted in spring 2017, and were standardised on a national sample of pupils in spring 2018.

So, if a child receives a score in the 'average' range on the New Drumcondra Primary Reading Test, their score is 'average' relative to the national sample of pupils at their class level who took that test in 2018. Due to the mismatch in achievement levels between old and new reference groups used to standardise tests, some changes in scores are expected nationally with the introduction of the new tests. Any change in scores for an individual child could arise because of a real change in their achievement, or changes in teaching practice. However, at the point of transition from older tests to new ones, change is more likely to occur because it is now possible to compare the child's achievement to that of an up-to-date reference group.

Kool Kids Summer Camp

A Great place to have FUN and meet new FRIENDS!

Kool Kids Summer Camp for both boys and girls from Junior Infants to 6th Class will take place from Monday 1st July - Friday 5th July from 10am – 3pm. Cost is €80 per child with a €10 reduction for each additional sibling. Lots of activities: sports, arts & craft, cooking and much more! Book early to avoid disappointment! For more information collect a brochure from the school's lobby, visit www.maynoothbns.ie or contact Ms. Kelly in the school. Incoming Junior Infants welcome!



Sponsored Walk and Family Fun Day



Our Sponsored walk and Family Fun Day took place last Sunday. Luckily, we had great weather for the event and everyone seemed to really enjoy the occasion. Enormous thanks must go to the P.T.A. committee and the volunteers who organised such an enjoyable day.

Children must return their sponsorship cards by **Monday 20th May**. Each card returned will be entered in a draw for a new bike. The draw will take place on **Tuesday 21st May** and the lucky winner can collect their prize from Maynooth Cycles.

1 Kilometre Race

As part of the Sponsored Walk, boys from 4th, 5th and 6th classes were invited to take part in a 1Km fun race. It's always a highly competitive event, so congratulations to the prize winners and everyone who took part.



1k Fun Run results.

- 1st - Daibhi Reynolds (6th Class Mr.McGeady)
- 2nd - Joseph O'Connor (4th Class Mr.Downes)
- 3rd - John Villu Burke (6th Class Mr. McGeady)
- Highest Scoring Class – (6th Class Mr. McGeady)
- Most Finishers – (5th Class, Ms. Lillis)

Hurling/Football



The Under 10's football team have progressed through the rounds and they are playing in the Semi-Final today against Ballymany. Best of luck today boys. Under 13 hurlers and footballers have started their league campaigns. Both teams have gotten off to a flying start so watch this space for their progress.

Bikes and Scooters

As the days get warmer, many boys are cycling or using their scooters to get to school. Please ensure your bike/scooter is securely locked with a proper lock when you arrive to school.

Reminder – School Closure for Election 24th May.

Maynooth GAA - Football Championship Preview

There is a great event happening in the Glen Royal Hotel, tomorrow Friday @ 8:30pm. Why not go along and support Maynooth GAA for their "Football Championship Preview" night. There will be a lively panel discussion on this year's championship and panellists include Alan Brogan, David Coldrick, Maurice Deegan, Dessie Dolan, Paul Earley, Frankie Dolan and many more..... Tickets cost just €20 and are available from Karen on 087 2272343



Dates for your Diary

Friday 24th May	School Closure for Referendum and Elections
Monday 3rd June	Public Holiday – School Closed
Tuesday 4th June	School Closed
Wednesday 5th June	School Closed
Thursday 13th June	Sports Day (Option 1)
Friday 14th June	Sports Day (Option 2)
Thursday 20th June	Sports Day (Option 3)
Friday, 28th June	Close at 12 Noon for Summer Holidays