

**MAYNOOTH BOYS' NATIONAL SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER**

Newsletter 6

4th June 2021

June 2021

We are well into the summer season here at St. Mary's BNS and the school is abuzz with school tours, sports days, graduation and fun summer activities. It has been the strangest of years with Covid related matters and the building project starting but we are delighted to be able to bring some bit of normality back to school life with our summer activities. Hopefully we get good weather and everyone enjoys the rest of the term.

Mr. Kirwan

Staff News

Congratulations to Ms S. Murphy on the birth of her daughter Molly. We wish Ms. Murphy and her family all the best in the weeks ahead.

Sports Day



Our Annual Sports Day will take place on **Friday 11th June** (alternative dates in case of inclement weather are 18th and 21st June). Boys from Junior Infants to 2nd Class attend school as normal for their sports day and boys from 3rd Class to 6th Class will have their sports day in the North Kildare Club. **Please note changes to drop-off and collection times for pupils in 1st – 6th Class.**



	Junior & Senior Infants	1 st & 2 nd Class	3 rd & 4 th Class	5 th & 6 th Class
Sports Day Location	St. Mary's BNS	St. Mary's BNS	North Kildare Rugby Club	North Kildare Rugby Club
Arrival Time	9.05 – 9.15am	9.05 – 9.15am	9.10 – 9.20am	9.20 – 9.30am
Collection Time	1.55pm	2.40pm	2.50pm	3.00pm

Siblings split between the groups of 3rd/4th and 5th/6th classes, can be dropped off and collected at the time assigned to the older sibling. There should be sufficient time between drop-offs and collections at the school and North Kildare for travel between both locations.

Pupils who travel to/from school by bus will be dropped to and collected from the school or North Kildare.

Please ensure your son has plenty of sunscreen on and an extra bottle of water.

Please ensure to take extra care when dropping and collecting on this day, as the grounds in both locations will be extremely busy. We would like it to be a very enjoyable day without any accidents. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated. Remember sunscreen and extra water!

We are very grateful to the North Kildare Club for allowing us continued use of their premises, it is hard to imagine holding Sports Day without their support.

School Tours

School tours are in full swing at the moment. We are delighted to have been in a position to hold the tours this year. We are very lucky with our location that we have so many amenities at our disposal. Behind the scenes a huge amount of work has gone into planning activities for each class, and a special word of thanks must go to Ms. Gunn, Ms. Sims, Ms. O'Mahoney and Ms. S Murphy in this regard. We are very grateful to Maynooth GAA & Maynooth University for allowing the use of their grounds and to Mr. Downes for returning to Maynooth BNS to give local history tours for some of the classes. Hopefully the sun continues to shine on the boys during their tours.



The full list of tours are as follows:-

Junior Infants	Nore Valley Mobile Farm, GAA & more	Friday 4 th June
Senior Infants	Nore Valley Mobile Farm, GAA & more	Friday 4 th June
1 st Class	Drumming workshop, GAA & more	Thursday 3 rd June
2 nd Class	Magic Show, History Tour & more	Tuesday 1 st June
3 rd Class	Magic show, History Tour & more	Wednesday 16 th June
4 th Class	Drumming workshop, Football Blitz & more	Thursday 3 rd June
5 th Class	Kairos Tour, Football Blitz & more	Thursday 17 th June
6 th Class	Driving Range, Maynooth College & more	Thursday 10 th June

Has your son Book Rental Scheme books?

In a few weeks' time, your son's school books in the Book Rental Scheme will be collected to be organised for next year's classes. If any books are missing, or in poor condition, you will be required to replace/pay for them. Please carry out some "maintenance work" to ensure the books are in good condition. We do not collect workbooks, but text books in classes from 3rd – 6th and readers in Junior Infants to 2nd Class are collected. Please take a few minutes to check the cover and spine of your son's books and, if needs be, remove any pencil marks from inside the book also.



Board of Management Accounts

The Board of Management accounts for the 2019/2020 school year were certified and approved by the Board of Management during the recent school closure this year. The Financial Report to Parents, which is a summary statement for the school year, is available on request from the office.

School Reports

School reports will be made available to parents on Aladdin Connect before the end of the school year. We will notify parents of their availability in due course.

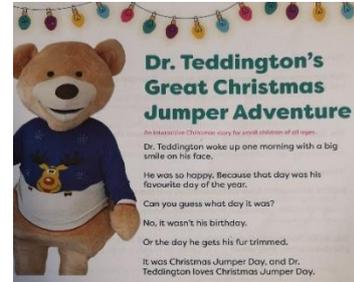
Standardised tests 2021

Drumcondra and Sigma-T standardised tests have been completed and the results will be included in the report cards. It is important to put the results in the context of a very different year where pupils have missed out on a large amount of in-person teaching and learning. Inevitably, this will have some effect on the outcomes of standardised testing. Additionally, the school has moved to an updated and newly standardised version of Drumcondra Literacy tests for all classes in 2021/2022. The re-standardisation will have an affect the outcome some Drumcondra tests. A change in test scores for individual pupils could be as a result of a real change in their achievement, however, as this year sees us transition from older tests to new ones, change is more likely to occur because pupil achievement is now measured against an up-to-date reference group.

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 office as soon as possible by phone (01) 6293021 or email schooloffice@maynoothbns.ie. It is really helpful to us if we have accurate numbers in planning 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.



CMRF Jumper Day

Congratulations to all of the pupils and parents of St. Mary's Boys' NS who contributed to this year's fundraiser for Crumlin's Children's Health Foundation in December 2020. As a school community we raised €705, vital funds for sick children during the festive season. Our donations were sent to our Lady's Children's Hospital Crumlin and the National Children's Research Centre. Dr Teddington the foundation's mascot visited some of the junior classes and shared an interactive story about how we can all help each other. Dr Teddington takes care of all of the little heroes who are in hospital. He brought us balloons and we had so much fun thinking of how happy we would make the children in hospital at Christmas time. We received a certificate for our school awarding us the title of 'Big Heroes'. Well done boys! You are kind, caring and thoughtful – looking forward to continuing to support this fantastic charity in the future.

Many thanks for your support and I hope you have a great summer!

Ms. Kelly.



Intel Matching Grants

We would like to say a big thank you to Intel Ireland for their donation to the school through their Matching Grants Programme. Parents who are Intel employees logged homeschooling hours during the school closures, and Intel matched these hours with a grant of €12,110.45 to the school.



We would like to say a special word of thanks to Lianne Cotter, a parent in the school who helped to organise the link between St. Mary's BNS and Intel Ireland. We are very grateful to all the parents at Intel who took part in this initiative. The grant will be used to fund the purchase of new IT equipment as we move to the new school.

6th Class Graduation

Our 6th Class boys graduate from St. Mary's on Wednesday, 23rd June. The boys have done the school proud over the last eight years in all aspects of school life. Their achievements in academics, arts and sport will last long in the memory of the school.



We wish them every success as they embark on the next phase of their education.

Thank you to the class teachers and support teachers, Ms McMahan, Mr Terry, Ms Mahon, Ms McLaughlin and Ms O'Mahoney, and our SNAs, Siobhán and Louise, for their work with the boys over the last year.

We will mark the occasion with an in-school ceremony. Unfortunately, because of HSE advice we cannot invite parents or other guests to the ceremony. The boys will finish at a slightly earlier time on the day; we expect this to be around 1pm but classes will be staggered as they leave the school to avoid congregation. Further information about the graduation will be sent to parents of pupils in 6th class in the coming weeks.

Past Pupils sitting State Exams

Finally, we would like to wish our past pupils who are sitting the Leaving Certificate Examinations this year the very best of luck. The past two years can't have been an easy lead into the exams but hopefully everything goes smoothly from here on in.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 7th June	Public Holiday – School Closed
Tuesday 8th June	School Closed
Friday 11th June	Sports Day (Preferred day)
Friday 18th June	Sports Day (Rainy day contingency 1)
Monday 21st June	Sports Day (Rainy day contingency 1)
Wednesday 23rd June	6 th Class Graduation
Friday, 25th June	Close at 12 Noon for Summer Holidays

Last Day Closing Time

The school will close early on the last day of term, Friday 25th June. We will stagger the times for classes being dismissed and we will inform parents of the times in advance. 12 noon is a good guide time at the moment.