


MAYNOOTH BOYS' NATIONAL SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER
Number 8 2022/2023



30th May 2023

 **Attendance** Year to date: 91.9% (Academic year target: 93%)
May: 93.4% (to date)

May has seen the best level of attendance of any month this year. We've also seen consistently good attendance in many classes. Ms Devlin's and Ms Daly's classes have each won the Attendance Cup on more than 3 occasions – well done boys!

6th Class Graduation

Our 6th class pupils will graduate on Wednesday 28th June. We're looking forward to a great occasion in our new hall and to celebrating the boys' achievements over their 8 years at St. Mary's BNS. Save the date!



PTA News

The PTA are working away in the background, planning our Summer Fair for Sunday 25th June. There will be fun & games for all ages with local artisan producers selling their products in the hall. There will not be inflatables on the day but there will be plenty of other entertainment between 1pm and 4pm! If you wish to donate an hour on the day (between 11am - 5pm), please email bnspta614@gmail.com.

It is hard to believe the end of the school year is upon us and our 6th class boys will embark on a new journey. They will celebrate their graduation on Wednesday 28th June from 7pm. The PTA are delighted to assist on the night and if you can help serving refreshments, please let us know on bnspta614@gmail.com

School Caretaker and Secretaries

Unfortunately, there have been a number of occasions this year where the treatment of our caretaker and secretaries by a very small number of parents and members of the public has left a lot to be desired.

Elaine, Helen and Dom do their utmost to keep the school running smoothly and safely. Please show them your support by treating them with respect at all times.

Mr Kirwan

Staff Car Parking

Parking in the car parks on school grounds is reserved for staff during school hours. With the exception of buses there is no vehicular access to the lanes at the front of the school at peak times.

Children should not walk through or play in the car parks under any circumstances.



Kool Kids Summer Camp is back!

Kool Kids Summer Camp will take place in St. Mary's BNS on Monday 3rd July – Friday 7th July 2023 from 10am - 2.30pm. The camp is open to boys and girls from Junior Infants – 6th Class. There are lots of fun activities organised so keep an eye out for the brochure which will be sent home in the next week! Kool Kids Leaders, *Ms. Dunning, Ms. Kelly, Mr McGeady & Ms. Mc Laughlin.*

Active Homework for June

We are currently in the process of reviewing our homework policy, and students and parents will be consulted about this in due course.

One idea that emerged among staff is the idea of assigning 'active homework', especially at this time of year. With that in mind, we have decided to partner with The Irish Heart Foundation, who have put together a 4-week physical activity challenge pack called 'Let's Get Active'. The programme is presented in a very attractive and child-friendly booklet, which is suitable for children from 1st class up. Junior and Senior Infant teacher will choose aspects of the programme that is appropriate for their students.

'Let's Get Active' will be assigned for homework for the three weeks beginning June 12th, June 19th and June 26th. We would really appreciate if parents could engage as much as possible with their child/children in this important aspect of the health and physical education curricula by encouraging them to follow the programme given in the booklet. Students can share their progress with their teacher as they move through it. Let's get active, MBNS!

MBNS Homework Committee



School Requirements

School requirements can be paid using the ePayment link previously provided. All payments should be made by Friday 16th June 2023.

Class Photographs

Class photographs can be purchased through the ePayment link. Please order and pay by Monday 12th June.

Lost Property

With the warm weather, we are finding more and more jumpers are being left in lost property. To help prevent a build-up in the lost property box, please label jumpers with your son's name. You may have done so already but there is no harm in redoing the label now.



Cycling and Scooting to School



We now have 60 spaces in our bike racks and it is great to see so many pupils cycling and scooting to school. Please keep safety in mind when cycling to school. Helmets are recommended. Please dismount bikes and scooters when entering school grounds. Bikes should be locked securely with a good lock.

New School Uniform

The Board of Management has considered the information gathered by the recent parent survey, a parent focus group and staff consultation at its last meeting.

The old school uniform is being phased out. **The new uniform code is for tracksuit only.**

This change will be introduced in September.

As part of the change the current school tracksuit is being redesigned. The new school tracksuit is a ¼-zip navy top with crest and light blue piping, light blue t-shirt with crest, navy bottoms and black, non-scuff runners.

New tracksuits will be available from the Uniform Warehouse. School colours and crest will remain unchanged and there will be no change in the footwear permitted.

There will be a two-year transition period to allow the old uniform to be phased out and the new code will be kept under review in the coming years.



Time Capsule

During the demolition of the old school, the builders unearthed a time capsule from 1995. It was buried by Mr Grundy's 5th class that year. We are putting a call out to any members of the class to get in touch with us as soon as possible, but before 20th June.

We have lots of activities planned for later in the month relating to the time capsule and we hope to bury our own capsule to mark this significant year in the history of the school.

MBNS READATHON PTA FUNDRAISER 2023

On Your Mark, Get Set... READ!

Thank you for supporting the MBNS Readathon over the Easter break. The boys were fantastic and raised €5,666.67.

The funds raised will go towards the [development of books for the school library](#). The boys' efforts have ensured we are well on the way to the goal of filling this fantastic new space.

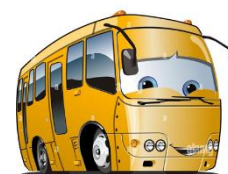
Certificates were issued to the boys who completed the challenge. A **raffle** was held for each class group and the winners are listed below.

MBNS READATHON PTA FUNDRAISER 2023		
Class Raffle Winners		
Class	Pupil	Teacher
Croí	Shane Fahy	Ms Toolan
Junior Infants	Rostyslav Loziak	Ms Kelly
Senior Infants	Kyle Cummins	Ms Murphy
First Class	Jan Pádraig Masterson	Ms Patten
Second Class	Alexander Gladcenco	Ms Devlin
Third Class	Noah Comiskey	Ms Lyons
Fourth Class	Kyle Carter	Mr Kilkelly
Fifth Class	James Nolan	Mr McBrearty
Sixth Class	Aidan McKenna	Ms Lynch

Congratulations on a job well done boys! - Ms. Kelly 😊

School Tours 2023

See list of school tours below:



Class Level	Date	Venue
Junior Infants	29/05/2023	Clonfert Pet Farm
Senior Infants	24/05/2023	Lullymore Farm
1 st Class	13/06/2023	Emerald Park
2 nd Class	26/05/2023	Fort Lucan
3 rd Class	20/06/2023	Astropark Tallaght
4 th Class	21/06/2023	Causey Farm
5 th Class	13/06/2023	Clara Lara
6 th Class	13/06/2023	Clara Lara
Croí	26/05/2023	Clonfert Pet Farm

MBNS Student Council

Our Student Council has been very busy this year. Our goal is to collaborate to make our world a better place, by starting within our school community.

Some of the activities we have completed this year include:

- Continuing the Plastic Free for Schools Project setup by last year's School Council



- Listening to the voice of pupils across the school and encouraging them to use our Suggestions Box for ways we can help to improve pupil experience
- Promoting friendship and class buddy systems
- Creating a display in the school lobby to help pupils to identify their School Council representatives



- Attending monthly meetings to discuss our ideas and decide actions
- Representing the student body at the Amber Flag ceremony
- Working as Anti-Racism Ambassadors during International Week
- Raising money for the school by helping with the MBNS Readathon
- Meeting with the Artists in Residence about the sculpture for outside the school.

We have also worked hard to make sure students are aware of their rights. We chose four rights from the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of the Child, and passed them out to all classes for display. These rights are:

Article 1: We all have the right to our own thoughts and ideas, and we should all be treated fairly

Article 12: You have the right to give your opinion, and for adults to listen and take it seriously

Article 29: Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should also help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.

Article 30: Nobody can take these rights and freedoms away from us. They belong to everybody.

This June, our term of office comes to an end. We have really enjoyed being part of the Student Council and we feel we have had a positive impact on the school.

Charlie Murray (Secretary) and Warrick Becker (Chairperson), on behalf of MBNS Student Council 2022-2023.



Sports Day

The provisional date for Sports day is Thursday 15th June, 2023. Classes from Junior Infants to 1st class should come to school at the normal time. Classes from 2nd to 6th should **go directly** to North Kildare Rugby Club for 9.20 and should be collected at 3.00 pm **from North Kildare Rugby Club**.

As Sports Day is weather permitting, alternative dates for Sports Day are Thursday 22nd June and Tuesday 27th June, 2023.

Emergency Contacts

Reminder: We require two emergency contacts for each student. If you are deleting a contact, please provide a new contact – this should not be the details of the child’s other parent/guardian.

Dates for your Diary

5th – 9th June 2023

School Closure

Monday 12th June 2023

Final date to order class photographs

Thursday 15th June 2023

Sports Day
(weather permitting TBC)

Friday 16th June 2023

School requirements due

Friday 30th June 2023

Close at 12 noon Summer Holidays