

# SUMMER NEWSLETTER.

## June 2007.

### **Junior Infants - Mrs Donnelly**

These boys have enjoyed a very busy 1<sup>st</sup> year in school. One of the highlights was an action packed sports day held in the Highschool Gym on Tuesday last. Thanks to Karen Morrissey for all her work throughout the year.

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> they are going on a buss!! – to Planet Playground and to the park for a picnic.

Over the long summer holidays they will be watching their pea plants grow and hopefully a pea pod or 2 will appear!

### **Senior Infants – Ms. Lawlors.**

These boys really enjoyed their last term – the highlight being the school trip to the Army Barracks and Planet Playground. They really enjoyed their spin on the Army Jeep.

Tuesday, June 26<sup>th</sup> was an action packed day with every boy a winner in the school sports held in the Highschool gym. They gave excellent displays in football, running and got great fun out of pulling the tug of war.

Their room is very colourful with all their art work and the word wall is a reminder of the hundreds of new words and sounds they have mastered.

They cannot wait to go into first class in September.

### **Senior Infants – Mr Ring.**

The boys in Mr Rings class have had an excellent last term in school. Last week they made an exciting trip to the Clonmel Army Barracks. There they looked at weapons used by the army, such as guns and rocket launchers. They also made a trip to Planet Playground, where they had great fun playing on the slides.

All the boys took part in the sports day this week. They gave an excellent display in football, running and above all tug of war.

Everybody has really enjoyed their last term in senior infants and is really looking forward to moving into first class

### **First Class – Ms. Cooney**

First class are still talking about their wonderful school trip to Fota Island accompanied by Ms. Cooney and Mr. Ryan. This was the first big trip these boys were on and they really enjoyed seeing all the animals.

On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> they had a Poetry Morning with renowned Cork Poet Declan and Joe Gunne and Declan Drohan told me that the poem about 'Dog Spot' was best.

They did loads of Art work, colouring and include the sports Day and listening to Mrs Powers boys playing their tin whistles as the highlights of last term.

Congratulations to Obi Aghamelu and Matthew Dundon who missed no day in first class.

### **Second Class – Mrs Kearney**

The best day for these very active busy bunch of boys was undoubtedly Holy Communion on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> May. Mrs Kearney was very proud of the boys – such was the brilliance of their singing, reading, responses, prayers and overall behaviour on the day. Congratulations to David Lukasinski – the first Polish boy to make his First Holy Communion with Mrs Kearney.

These boys had a brilliant school tour to Doneraile where renowned local sylvaculturalist Mr H explained all about the sylvia history of the Wildlife park and identified all the trees for the boys. The boys greatly enjoyed Mr Hickeys informative talk and each child got a leaf of his special favourite tree to bring home.

### **Third Class – Mrs Darmody.**

3<sup>rd</sup> Class boys were granted an Award of Excellence based on work done in science during the year. On June 14<sup>th</sup> they travelled to the Spring Hill Court Hotel in Kilkenny to receive the award. Andrew O'Keeffe, Shane Stafford and Dominic Walsh represented the classes at the ceremonies. The boys got the opportunity to visit many science stands and take part in a science magic show. Later they were addressed by former Rose of Tralee Aoibhinn Ní Shúileabhán who has a Masters Degree in Physics herself, and received a plaque for the school which is on display in the entrance hall.

The boys also went on a very enjoyable Trip to Doneraile to see the Blue Bell walk and enjoy the beautiful trees and flowers.

Congratulations to Mrs. Darmody and Mr. Darmody on the wonderful Science Open Day in the Hall. The local press carried an extensive feature on this display and visitors and parents were highly impressed by the range of Science work and experiments on view. Everybody was amazed at the knowledge, confidence and manner in which the boys explained and articulated what their work was about.

### **Third Class – Mrs Power.**

The boys had a very busy month of June. They held a musical performance (tin whistle and percussion instruments) and Art exhibition for the boys and parents. Most of the years artwork was on display. The boys own favourites were the

colourful Papier Mache bowls which they had enjoyed working on during the previous weeks.

On Monday last the boys had a very interesting day out on their school tour. The first stop was a guided tour around St. Mary's Medieval Church in Gowran, Co. Kilkenny. The stories of times past and sculptures were fascinating.

Next stop was the Reptile Village. There was a variety of creeping, crawling and slithering reptiles to be seen and handled by those brave enough to do so! Their last stop was a Dairy Farm. After watching the calves being fed, the boys got a tour of the dairy and milking parlour. Then it was time to hunt in the cows for milking machines in action!! A great day was had by all.

The boys told me that the most enjoyable part of the tour was the farm visit. Wow! this was a special visit as the farm was that of Mrs Power and her husband Walter. This was a unique experience for the boys as it showed at first hand where our food comes from and the boys were mesmerised to see what Teacher gets up to in her other life. Well done to all.

Congratulation to Mathew Caufield who won a prize in the recent S.T.A.G. Art Competition.

#### **Fourth Class. - Mr Fenlon.**

Mr. Fenlons 4<sup>th</sup> class boys once more took to the great outdoors for their last term and thoroughly enjoyed the adrenalin pumping thrills of wall climbing, canoeing, kayaking and orienteering at the Kilfinane Outdoor Educational Centre in Co Limerick. David O Meara, Steven Ryan and Robert Acheson's faces light up when describing the fun and excitement of this action packed day.

They also enjoyed doing a drama on the life of Kerry Monk Br. McCudda. The class differs on the veracity of the story, some believing – other sceptical.

Alex Ryan got to fly the model aeroplanes at the Sports Day.

On Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> the boys were busy preparing for Power Point demonstrations – a skill that will surely benefit them in the future and have also been busy with music, art and doing a German Video with some High School pupils.

This Video on teaching German is the Brain Child of former Ss. Peter & Paul's pupils Eoin Corby and Finbar Horgan and features 4<sup>th</sup> class boys singing songs in German. Education Minister Mary Hannafin lauded the work earlier in the year when she visited Clonmel.

#### **Fifth Class - Mr Darmody**

Mr. Darmody's boys had a busy and very active last term. As well as getting through all their Tests and class work they managed to produce the famous Broadway

Production of Paradise Island under the expert guidance of Stella O Sullivan. All were agreed that the boys gave a STELLAR performance.

As highlighted elsewhere 5<sup>th</sup> class boys were very involved in combining with 3<sup>rd</sup> class to achieve the excellence in Science Award. These boys were also centrally involved in the very successful Science Open Day in the school hall in May.

To round off a very busy year the boys made a big splash in Splashworld, Tramore and climbed Sliabh na mBan with the assistance of Audrey and Breda.

### **School Athletics.**

Mr Darmody is to be congratulated for his work this term with 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class athletics teams who once more triumphed in the Cidona Sports held in the Dr. Pat O Callaghan complex, Cashel Rd. They retained the Plaque for the umpteenth time and are proving invincible in these sports. Well done to all!!!

### **Sixth Class – Mr. Kearney**

By the time you read this these boys will have had a wonderful Graduation Night (Wed 27<sup>th</sup>) and a marathon school tour to Dublin (Thurs 28<sup>th</sup>).

It is with a sense of sadness and nostalgia that I pen these last few notes knowing that this wonderful group of young men are leaving Ss. Peter & Paul's in a few days for the very last time. Talking to all the Teachers they have had up along, all were agreed that it was a pleasure to teach this class such was the range of characters within the group. You had scholars, musicians, singers, artists, painters, craftsmen, scientists, footballers, hurlers, athletes, writers, book lovers, and story tellers of unique imagination and creative ability. They were wonderful Ambassadors for Ss. Peter & Paul's and wherever they went, be it football fields, band halls, athletic grounds, concert venues or scholarship halls they represented their school with pride, honour and distinction and always brought glory to Scoil Nn. Peadar is Pól. As they depart it is amazing to see life's progression and development from their baby photo montage to their most recent confirmation photographs. We wish them well and know that they will always have fond memories of their days in the school.

As they progress through second and third level they will come more and more to realise and value the rich variety and wonderful range of educational experience they received in first level. Above all they will look back on the happy days they had, the friends they made and reflect on that unique happy atmosphere based on mutual respect that exists between teachers and pupils in Ss. Peter & Paul's. Several times it has been mentioned to me by the lads leaving that they see the teachers of Ss. Peter & Paul's more as 'friends' who are 'dead sound' than people aloof to be approached with a degree of fear. Already they realise that they will always have friends in S.s. Peter & Paul's who will listen to them in a non judgemental way should they ever have a problem in the difficult years ahead. **Senior Band.**

Our Senior Band has had a busy last term. We travelled with the choir to New Ross & later performed on the street in Waterford City, where we were warmly received.

The highlight of our year was the performance of The Band of the First Southern Brigade under the command of Lt. Fergal Carroll in the school on June, 7<sup>th</sup>. It was a great honour for our band members to perform

Musette

Classic Bits & Pieces

You Raise me Up.

I'm a believer.

We bid a fond farewell to long-serving members, Aidan Lawless, Seán Cronin, Alan Meagher, Cian Houlihan, Rian Boland, Shane O'Brien, Danny Leahy, Liam Donnelly and Seán Gunne.

### **Junior Band.**

Our Junior Band gave their end of year recital for parents in the school hall on Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup>. Parents were delighted to hear their boys perform together and were particularly impressed with the boy's performance of "Musette". Indeed some of these 3<sup>rd</sup> class boys had earlier performed also with the army band.

We thank the senior band members who helped to coach the junior band this year. Anthony Wall, Dominic Walsh, Aidan Lawless, Darren Fehilly, Cian McDonald, Jack Binchy. A special word of thanks to Jamie Millea a 5<sup>th</sup> year student in the high school who has been senior and junior tutor with the band this year.