

Ashbourne CNS Newsletter



Summer 2023

Acting Principal's Address

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This has been an amazing school year in Ashbourne CNS. We continue to grow, and the next chapter of our development is just around the corner. Our new school building is nearing its completion. We are hopeful that our school building will be ready for the start of the next academic year. There is great excitement among all the members of the school community on what is a monumental step in our development.

There are many people that I would like to thank.

Firstly, the pupils. You have been great to work with this year and I wish you all a wonderful summer. We look forward to welcoming you back at the end of August.

Secondly, the parents. There is a great connection between the school and the parents. Thanks for all your well wishes and chats at the gate!

Thirdly, the Board of Management. We as a school appreciate the support that you have offered us all year. I look forward to continuing this strong relationship.

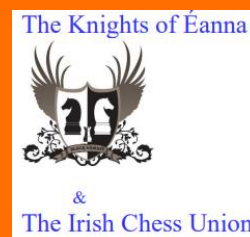
Finally, the staff. The commitment, dedication, and enthusiasm of the staff in Ashbourne CNS is unquestionable. Each of you have worked so hard to provide a warm, welcoming, and vibrant school.

I would like to wish you all a happy and enjoyable summer. I look forward to welcoming you all back for the next academic year.

Le meas,

Séamus McCarthy
Príomhoide Gníomhach

Competition Winners



Congratulations to Dariy Kelbas (4th Class) who came first in the Irish Junior Championships 2023 U10 chess competition that took place from 31st March – 2nd April 2023 in Coláiste Éanna, Rathfarnham, Dublin.



Congratulations to Alexandra Balmus (5th Class) who won third prize for her age category in the Tadgh Riordan Motors art competition on 31st May 2023. The theme of the competition was "Your Favourite Place".

School News

Active Week

Active Week took place from Monday 19th to Friday 23rd June. During the week, classes were assigned different sports activity each day. Some of which included running a kilometer, Bizzy Breaks in the classes and Active homework. The highlight of Active Week was Sports Day on Wednesday 21st June whereby all classes took part in a variety of sporting events. No Sports Day would be complete without a teacher verses pupil competition! This year a dodgeball game was arranged, and although the teachers put up a brave battle, the pupils came out on top this year. To end the week, the children were encouraged to wear their favourite team's jersey to school on Friday 23rd June and were treated to an ice cream to celebrate their efforts during Active Week.



Friends for Life

Sixth Class completed the 'FRIENDS for Life' programme this term. During this 10-week programme, the students learned and practiced effective ways to deal with worry, stress and change. The most valuable thing about the programme is that the skills that they have learned during the programme can be utilised any time that they feel anxious throughout their lives!



Action Team for School Partnership

Our Action Team for School Partnership would like to express a massive thank you to our Sixth-Class members: Lily, Marcus, Waaris and Aleesha for all their great effort over the last two years. We wish them every success in their next chapter. We have new members in place and are looking forward to our first meeting in September.

Green Schools

The Green Schools committee have worked extremely hard to reduce litter on the school grounds and waste in our school bins throughout the term. Their dedication and determination in reaching our target by June 2023 has involved checking bins daily, litter picking every Wednesday, pencil pairings weekly and promoting a litter free school every Friday at Assembly.

As part of our effort to get our Green Flag, we organised a whole school 'Waste Free Day' on Thursday 15th June 2023. Pupils and staff made a big effort to limit the waste that was being put into the bins at school and to encourage all pupils to take home any rubbish from their lunch. We are still working to reach our target of reducing waste going into the black bin by 60%.

The Green Schools Committee would like to thank all staff, pupils and parents for their continued effort in helping to keep our school clean. We look forward to starting the application process for the Litter and Waste flag in Autumn.



Sixth Class Graduation

Our Sixth-Class pupils had their Graduation Ceremony from primary school on Tuesday 27th June 2023. The ceremony was opened by the pupils with an energetic rendition of "I'm Still Standing" by Elton John. Following this, Príomhoide Gníomhach Séamus and Múinteoir Christina paid tribute to the pupils of Sixth Class and congratulated them on finishing primary school. Arnoldas Kura, who tragically passed away while the children were in Fourth Class, was also remembered during the ceremony.

The students thanked the staff of Ashbourne CNS and their parents for their support throughout their years in primary school while also sharing their favourite memories of Sixth Class. Lily Walton's self-inspired speech about "change" and how we must embrace "her" was very well received by pupils, parents and staff. The ceremony ended with the children singing the song "Happy" by Pharrell Williams.

We wish Sixth Class every success in secondary school.



Visitors to Our School

Tidy Towns Rep

As part of the Action Plan for the Litter and Waste theme, the Green Schools Committee organised a guest speaker to talk to the pupils of Ashbourne CNS about Tidy Towns on June 16th, 2023. The school welcomed Alan Tobin, an active member of Ashbourne Tidy Towns and elected member of Meath County Council to address the pupils at



Assembly.

During his address, he advertised the work that has been done in Ashbourne to care for the environment; the extra bins around the town, the new trees that have been planted near the river, the flowers around the town, and the necessary clean-up of the river. He recognised the school's efforts in their journey towards achieving its first Green Flag and the important influence children can have on their family and friends in protecting the local environment of Ashbourne.

He ended his address with good luck wishes to the Green Schools Committee in their litter and waste campaign and he looked forward to coming back to visit the school when it receives its first Green Flag.



Alan Tobin with Green Schools Committee 2022/2024

Class News

Junior Infants

Ahoy, Me Mateys!

Our Junior Infants have had a very busy and fun past few weeks.

As part of Aistear they learned all about pirates. They worked together to make a class Jolly Rodger and a parrot, made their very own pirate treasure maps, and even learned how to speak like a pirate "Shiver me timbers!".



Our class pirates even got to perform a sea shanty in front of the whole school as part of our weekly school assembly.



Senior Infants

School Tour Fun

This year the Senior Infants went on their school tour to Newbridge House and Farm. We set off on the bus at 9.20a.m. and the children were so excited. The first part of our tour was visiting the farm. We saw the little chicks that had just hatched, pigs, goats, ducks, hens, horses and cows. One of our favourite things was the beautiful peacock that showed us its lovely feathers.

After the farm, we sat on the lawn and ate our lunch. We then moved onto the playground and had so much fun with all our friends. The bus journey home was very quiet as we were all so tired, but also very happy. We can't wait to see where we are going next year.

First Class

Summer Fun

This term has been very busy for 1st class. They performed 'Try Everything' for the school at assembly with 2nd class and did a great job.



They went to Dun na Sí and learned about the heritage park and all its exciting fairy trails, while also getting to go orienteering around the park.

The students showed their athleticism during Active Week and really enjoyed the different activities that were organised each day. The Wednesday of Active Week was Sports Day in the local

GAA club and the children really enjoyed all the different sports activities that were put on show.

Second Class

Fairy Fort and More!

On Thursday June 8th, Second Class went on our school trip to Dún na Sí Heritage Park, Moate, Co. Westmeath. The weather was sunny, and we had a great day visiting the heritage village, feeding the animals, playing in the playground and orienteering in the sensory garden. In the heritage village we learned all about life long ago, we visited a hedge school and a fisherman's cottage. We also went to the fairy fort and fairy garden and listened to stories about the fairies that live in Dún na Sí! We had a picnic on the steps, and we had so much fun playing on all the equipment in the big playground, before we divided into teams for orienteering in the beautiful sensory garden. We had a terrific day!

Second class were very busy artists this month exploring form in clay. To begin, we looked at examples of clay pots and talked about their structure and design. Each child was given a ball of clay to have some free play with and the students were very creative! We had great fun following the steps to make our clay pot, each one was unique in its shape and form. When we were finished, we had to wait a whole week for them to dry! When they were dry, we painted them in beautiful, bright colours. We were so proud of our hard work.



Due to the excellent work of the students during the term they were rewarded with a delicious ice-cream, this was a great way to end the year during the lovely hot weather. It has been a pleasure teaching 1st class this year and I wish them all the best next year.



Third Class

Learning Outdoors

The final term of the school year, as well as the amazing weather we've had over the last few weeks, saw 3rd Class take lots of their learning outside. We had many maths lessons outside! We experimented and learned about capacity using water and we practised adding and subtracting weight using chalk in the yard.



As well as maths, we enjoyed reading our DEAR time books and doing buddy reading with 1st Class in the sunshine.

We also enjoyed lots of fun activities during the last term. We went on our school tour with 4th class to Dublinia and Phoenix Park, we enjoyed Sports Day at the Donaghmore Ashbourne pitch and we loved having the ice-cream van come into school last week to wrap up a busy and energetic Active Week. We have had lots of fun and learned lots of new and interesting things in 3rd Class this year. We can't wait to move into 4th Class in September!



Fourth Class

Viking Dublin and Active Week

In 4th class we have had a ball of a time this term, with some wonderful memories made. The most memorable of them was definitely our school tour to Dublinia and Phoenix Park. During our trip, we had a guided tour of the Viking Museum where we got to see loads of cool artefacts and learned a lot about Dublin's history. After Dublinia, we got back on the bus and made the short journey across to Phoenix Park, where we ate, played and chatted with our friends.

We were lucky to have lovely weather during our recent Active Week. We got to get outside even more than normal, with a mile a day on the school yard and plenty of active breaks. Some of us even ran the mile instead of walking! During Active Week we had a lovely Sports Day where we took part in loads of fun games and activities. This was great fun, and we all were exhausted after it.



Fifth Class

Recycled Art

We have worked on lots of interesting art projects in 5th class, but one of our final projects really tested our creativity! Muinteoir Rebecca set us a challenge to create a dream house out of recycled materials. We had to work in groups to decide what to put into our houses, and what materials we should use. Some groups included elevators, fancy bedrooms, swimming pools and some even had helipads and helicopters. One of the hardest parts was making sure that the houses held together, especially when there were two floors. We really liked presenting our projects to the school at assembly and we hope to do more construction projects in 6th class.



Sixth Class



Sixth Class had a very busy final term in primary school. The school tour to Croke Park was a great day out for everyone, and the whole class enjoyed playing soccer and rolling down the hills in the Phoenix Park afterwards!

Sixth Class put their lab coats on this term and tried their hand at making ice-cream, thankfully most groups were successful and delicious ice cream was enjoyed by all! Sports Day was a big day for Sixth Class who won the student-teacher dodgeball game by a landslide!



Important Dates for your Diary

Summer Holidays

Friday, June 30th – school closes at 12p.m.

School Reopens

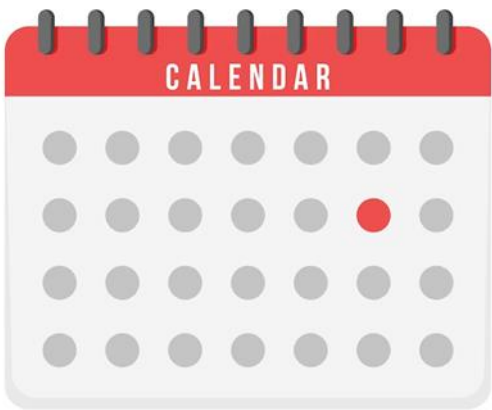
Thursday, August 31st

October Mid-term

Monday, October 30th – Friday, November 3rd

Winter Holidays

Monday, December 25th, 2023 – Friday, January 5th, 2024



Growth Mindset Awards

Award Winners

We extend our congratulations to:

Alonzo Clote, Caolan Denham, Nicolas Olcsvari, Riya Murugan, Chloe Kelly, Ella McLoughlin, Dumitru Rotari, Varshan Murugan, Candy Xuan Guo, Mandy Qing Ng, Olivia Hayward, Timotei Pop, Rebeca Barbu, Ayo Sekoni, Max Dunne, Kelsey Kelly, Bano Salar, Kamil Gilani, Mundhir Muhsin, Hunter-Lee Cullerton. Damir Valuskins, Alex Rogers, Robert Ichim, Sara Zowczak., Andrea Ivanauskaite, Lia Popa, Anvi Chandel, Julian Cazacov, Sara Barbu, Otilia Bat, Laurentiu Pascari, Alexandra Balmus, Merola Awad, Marius Barbu, Mateusz Basalyga, Tim Gillanders, Melinda Padurari, Vanesa Matuesevicuie, Loredana Ciobanu, Ronaldo Savan, Luka Milosaite, Clyde O'Neill, Dziby Pohlodkova, Tetiana Yezhova, Daryna Varnalii, Tiffany Pohlodkova, Eman Alsadi, Yelyzaveta Yermenko, Mishika Agarwal, Lena Bieda, Siddhanth Santosh Kumar, Kamile Lobinaite, Alessia Galan, Harry McGoldrick, Kristian Renes, Bogdan Boldisor, Raul-Denis Rostas, Logan Myles Power, Alisa Nikisina, Ryan Aggarwal, Dariia Taran, Razvan Melincescu, Stefan Gandu, Liam McGuinness, Alhamin Odu, Waaris Ghazanfar, Philip Sowa, Oleksandra Yeromenko, Daniela Toma, Zeena Butt, Sebastian Cazacov, Viaan Upadhyay, Jaxon Kelly, Grofojkina Pohlodkova, Erin Kavanagh, Horiya Alo, David Gaita, James Maciejewski, Tisya Kakkar, Charlie Malee, Darii Kelbas, Mia Czarniak and Lily Walton.

for demonstrating growth mindset by trying something new, persevering when tasks become challenging and by viewing challenges as learning opportunities.

