

What's Up @ St. Michael's

Summer Term - October 2019

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General News

School Grounds

As we are aware that many pupils like to sit and chat or play card games at break time, we have purchased some picnic benches for pupils to use. We are hoping to develop our school garden to include vegetable patches from September.

Real Food Days

Each class had the opportunity to bake some healthy foods with Orla and Sarah last week. Junior room made fruit tarts, middle room made pizza and senior pupils created a range of delicious breads. These were shared with the entire school each lunch time. The children learned about all the ingredients and how yeast works. It was a really fun, educational experience for the children. We are very thankful to our past pupils Freya and Darragh and Freya's cousin Ava who helped the children also.

Visitors

This term we have had ongoing support from the Primary Development support Team (PDST) to begin implementing the New Primary language curriculum. This has been very helpful and we look forward to developing these skills in our pupils from September. We were also very pleased to welcome visitors from the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment. (NCCA)

An information evening for parents and staff was held about our new class for children with an ASD diagnosis. Maria Moriarty (Special Education Needs Officer) was kind enough to address this meeting.

Karen O Mahony from the Rainbow Club has been invited to speak to parents and staff on Tuesday the 25th at 7.30 about how we as a school can be inclusive of the children in our ASD class.

The collection from this year's assemblies will be made to the Rainbow Club tonight (25/6/2019)

Rev. Hazel Minion visited us at school this week to tell us all about her upcoming trip to Zambia with CMS Ireland.

S.T.E.M

All classes have had opportunities to explore the biodiversity in Blackrock this term. Niamh from The Heritage in Schools programme took all classes on an explorers walk where we learned all about native and invasive plant species. Senior classes have been visiting the Atlantic Pond area for sketching and juniors have enjoyed a teddy bear's picnic and several 'nature walks'. A highlight of this term was the dinosaur experience - A very realistic T-Rex walked around our yard!! We saw some amazing fossils too !

Last week we were thrilled to be awarded our 5th 'Discover Primary science and Maths ' plaque of excellence. Click the link to see some of our activities. https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/ac0464_6707ad01942143b1a6e05dc9063cea76.pdf

Active Schools

On 30th May our annual sports day was run by our Parent's Association in the Blackrock Hurling Club. It was a really fun day with races, games and picnics. The location was ideal to allow full visibility and enough space for running safely.

We have been super active in St Michael's this term. The Interschool's sports event on 6th June was a great day out for our older students. We took part in loads of events and even came home with many medals.

Older pupils took part in the Gaelic football blitz for local schools in St Michael's GFC. The weekly sessions with coach John Holly really showed as both the boys and girl's teams put in a strong performance and most importantly had a lot of fun, Great teamwork!

A team of ten boys from middle and senior room also represented us in hurling at the annual blitz in Blackrock Hurling Club - this team did us proud also!

This term we all enjoyed our weekly tennis lessons across the road in St Michael's Tennis Club.

Assembly

Our link with St Michael's church is very important. Assembly takes place every Friday morning and this term senior and junior rooms had the opportunity to present the assembly based on the content of the 'Follow Me' RE programme. We're very proud of last week's junior assembly where the children wrote a prayer to thank God for his blessings this school year.

Fund-raising

Though the day of our school fete was very wet, the spirits and determination were not dampened. A heroic effort by stall holders, bakers, entertainers, cafe staff and shoppers resulted in over 1000 euro being raised for school IT funds.

Our sponsored walk was greatly enjoyed by all our pupils and staff. It was lovely to be out and about enjoying Blackrock, Over €1000 was raised by the PA at this event which will go towards the cost of running events.

We are pleased to report that our basketball court was back in action for summer term and is being used at break time by many students

Outings

We all had great fun on our tours this June. Our junior pupils had a picnic and games in Fitzgerald's Park. Middle room pupils had an adventurous day in Cuskinny adventure centre with fun activities such as archery and obstacle courses.

Senior pupils travelled to The West Cork Secret where the secret seems to have been epic amounts of mud. We are grateful to the parents who accompanied us on these trips

Gaeilge

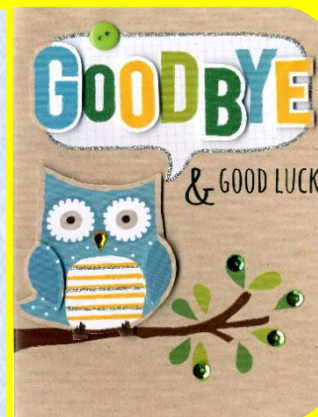
Three of our pupils - Siena, Liam G and Ciara were awarded gold medals from Foras na Gaeilge for the books they wrote as part of the Scríobh Leabhar Competition run by Cork Education Support Centre. They were invited to a very special awards event where they enjoyed some Irish dancing! Each child who wrote a book for the project received a small prize and a certificate. We really enjoyed writing our books and plan to take part again next year.

We have recently heard from Ms. O'Brien that she will be leaving us at the end of this term.

She will be missed by all at St.Michael's

We are very sad to say Goodbye to Ms. Caroline O'Brien.

We wish her the very best as she embarks on new adventures



We wish our 6th class Liam, Ryan and Alec all the best for their next steps in Ashton.

On behalf of myself and the Board of Management I wish to sincerely thank the Parents Association, staff and Parish for all the support for our school this year. We wish all our families are a very happy summer holiday.

We will see you all on 27th August 2019