

St. Louis G.N.S.



June 2015

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Events Planned for this Week

Sports Day. This will take place from 9-30 to 12-30 on Wednesday, weather permitting

Cultural Assembly- Wednesday afternoon from 1-00pm Active Event-Disco- Wednesday afternoon from 2-00-2-45pm

Active Event- Picnic Thursday lunchtime-Convent Grounds

Museum Visits- Buildings and Monuments exhibition for each class

Heritage in Schools Biodiversity Event- Third and Fourth Classes-Tuesday all day

Special thanks to all the members of the Parents' Association who have achieved so much over the course of this year and donated €5, 500 to the school from their fundraising activities. They have completed a lot of work on policy formation and planning for SPHE and Oral Language by questionnaire and focus groups. Their contribution to the work of the school is very much appreciated. The members of the Association this year were: Mrs Freda Connolly (Chairperson), Mrs Eneli Otsalt (Secretary), Ms Louise Mc Gaughren (Treasurer), Mrs Claire Sheridan, Mrs Brenda Barry, Mrs Margaret Mc Nally, Ms Mila Khokha, Mr. Matthew Mc Enaney, Mrs Patricia Mc Elwain and Mr. Luciano Ferreira

Biodiversity

Heritage Ireland ran a special course in the school today on the upkeep of bees. Ms Caitríona Mc Cabe shared her knowledge with third and fourth class and her practical and exciting lessons were enjoyed by everyone.

St. Louis Infant School

Congratulations to the staff and pupils on their recent very successful Grandparents' Day and the raising of their third Green Flag for Water Conservation on Thursday, June 18th.

For Your Attention

The school closes this **Friday at 12-25pm** for the summer holidays and will re-open for the students on **Tuesday, September 1st**.

The school office will close on Friday, June 26th but will be open from 9-00am to 2-00pm from Monday, July 13th to Friday, July 17th.

It will then close for the summer and re-open on **Wednesday, August 26th**.

Sixth Class Graduation

We said farewell to our wonderful 6th class pupils on Thursday, June 18th at their special graduation ceremony. The sixth class teachers, Mrs Farrell and Mrs Coyle, had prepared a very special evening for us all. The girls presented a beautiful Prayer Service and three very professionally performed songs. They were each presented with a graduation scroll to keep as a memoir of their time in our school. They will

also receive a customised autograph book and pen before they leave. A special thank you to the very large number of parents who attended on the night, to our very talented accompanist, Niamh Power, to Ms Freda Connolly, Ms Brenda Barry and Ms Eneli Otsalt who helped us serve the tea, to Mrs Mc Geown for her help with the singing, to Mrs Flynn and Mrs Toal for their help with the art work, to Mrs Cunningham for her I.T. support, and to all the staff members who helped out in so many ways to

make this event as special as it was. Thanks also to Ms Mullen, Mrs Dunlop, Ms Dowd and Ms Smyth and to our caretaker Stephen for all their assistance. We would like to wish our sixth class girls every success and happiness in their new schools in September, and to thank them all for the great contributions they have made to our school over the years since second class and the special memories they have created for the entire school community.

Action Team Partnership

It is with great pride that we announce being awarded second place in the Fred O'Connell Award from the National Parents' Council. The school was awarded this special accolade for its work on the Action Team Partnership Project. Fred O'Connell was involved with NPC in the early years of the organisation's development. Fred believed that parents have a vital role to play in their child's education. This award is in honour of Fred. We were privileged to have the CEO of the NPC, Ms Aine Lynch, visit the school on Friday last to present the trophy to members of the Action Team Partnership Committee. Watch out for the photographs in the Northern Standard!

Minister's Visit

We had a special visit to the school from the Minister for Arts, Culture and the Gaeltacht, Mrs Heather Humphreys, on Friday last. The Minister was met and welcomed by members of staff and the Board of Management to examine the possibility of structural improvements to the roof. We are extremely grateful to Ms Humphreys for taking the time out of her busy schedule to meet with us.

Reading Recovery

Congratulations to Ms O'Reilly on the completion of her Reading Recovery course last Tuesday and thanks to her for the help she gave to the pupils involved in the programme since September. Thanks to the parents who attended the event in the Education Centre, we greatly appreciate their time and commitment. A special thank you to Mrs Gallagher for her help with Ms O'Reilly's class during the year.

Policy Formation and School Self-Evaluation

With the help of the Parents' Association, the staff have developed and reviewed the following school policies:

- Cyber-Bullying
- Job-Sharing
- Special Needs Assistants
- Physical Restraint
- Home/School Links Policy and Complaints Procedure
- Working in the School Alone
- Data Protection
- CCTV

These policies will be available in the office from September next if you would like to read or have a copy.

School Self-Evaluation Report

A Self-Evaluation Report will be presented to the BOM and the Parents' Association on Tuesday, June 23rd, 2015

The following is a summary of the report:

St. Louis GNS has strengths in the following:

- Pastoral Care
- Collegiality and Relationships
- Staff Collaboration
- Dedication to the highest possible quality of teaching and learning
- Significant Improvement in Maths and Spelling results
- Increased awareness and involvement in Active events following the attainment of the Active Flag
- Significant Improvement of awareness and ability in Oral Language

The following areas are prioritised for further improvement:

- Oral Language
- Problem Solving in Maths
- SPHE

The School has examined the Legislative and Regulatory Requirements and are pleased to state that we are compliant with all of the requirements.

Confirmation

Congratulations to all the sixth class girls who made their Confirmation on Saturday, May 23rd. They did us proud on the day and were excellently behaved and prepared for this special ceremony. Special thanks to Mrs Bernie Farrell and Mrs Niamh Coyle for working so hard in advance of the ceremony to ensure that the girls were perfectly prepared. Thanks also to Fr. Stephen Joyce for his guidance and support, for organising Confession and Mass the week before and for representing Bishop Mac Daid in his questioning of the girls in advance of the ceremony. Thanks also to Claudine Marron for her assistance.

Anti-Bullying Week

Anti-Bullying Week 2015 was a great success. It took place from May 6th until May 12th. The activities included special talks for the senior classes and an Anti-Bullying Assembly. At the assembly, the girls showcased their art work, slogans, poetry and role-plays which highlighted the importance of friendship and caring for each other. Ms Helen Warman, Clinical Nurse and Mr. David Mc Cague, Family School Liaison Officer, delivered a very engaging workshop to parents on the challenges of cyber-bullying and positive parenting. Everyone in the school signed the Anti-Bullying Pledge Wall. Special thanks to David, Helen, Tracey Mullen and the members of the Action Team Partnership for organising this special week, and to Mrs Irene Flynn for her help with the art work.

Sports Activities

Be Active

Well done to all the girls in second class who took part in the Be Active demo for Monaghan Team Partnership on May 13th. Special thanks to Mrs Patricia Mc Elwain and Mrs Kathleen Mc Elwain who helped with the lesson on the day. The demo was organised by Michelle Murphy from Monaghan Sports Partnership to promote Be Active as an afternoon activity for second classes in other schools around the county.

Gaelic Squad

Congratulations to the Gaelic Squad who took part in the recent Cumann na mBunscol Competition during the month of May. We are very grateful to Paul Mc Geown who coached the team after school and travelled to all the matches with us. Thanks also to the parents who cheered us on each time. The girls did their very best at each match and were a credit to the school. Very well done to:

Sophie Callan, Leah Maguire, Louise Mc Ginnity, Sara Stana, Niamh Power, Grania Curran, Jeanne Alexis, Kendra Fagan, Megan O' Leary, Sian Mc Guinness, Elly Lou Bradley, Sophie Daly, Niamh Flynn, Hazel Mc Morrow, & Mia Kierans-Flynn. Maith sibh a chailíni!

Tennis

The six week tennis coaching session ended a few weeks ago. All classes from third to sixth loved the lessons. Thanks very much to Gary Rodriguez for sharing his expertise and being a really good coach for the game.

The Athletics Squad

The Athletics Squad took part in the County Athletics event on May 27th. They were super with every single girl returning with a medal. Special thanks to Mrs Treanor, Mrs Flynn and Ms Brady for all their hard work to prepare the squad and to all the parents who attended on the night. Thanks also to Mrs Farrell for being there to help. Despite the cold and wind, a very enjoyable and successful evening was had by all.

Swimming

Swimming lessons end this week for the second classes. Thanks to Monaghan Leisure Complex for their co-operation with the school. Special thanks also to Mr. Norman Griffin who delivered a Water Safety talk to the fourth classes on Wednesday last.

Cycling Event

Monaghan Sports Partnership organised a cycle and safety tips event for sixth class girls on Monday last, June 15th. They all received a sports bag and keyring at the end of the cycle. A very special thank you to Ms O'Reilly for accompanying the girls on the day.

Soccer

Thanks to Ms O' Reilly for a very successful soccer course for 3rd and 4th class each Tuesday during April and May. Thanks also to Alvin the wonderful coach and to John Crudden from the FAI who organised the lessons for us.

The Committees

Special thanks to all the pupils, teachers, parents and support staff members who have been involved in our committees this year. So much has been achieved, everyone should be very proud of their work

The new Healthy Schools Promotion Committee:

Mrs Róisín Treanor
Miss Anne Brady
Mrs Fiona O' Gara
Ms Margaret Devlin
Grania Curran, Gabija Ragaliauskyte, Rhiain Ronaghan, Orlaith Mc Nally

The Student Council, The Green Schools Committee, The Active Flag Committee, The Active Team Partnership Committee

The Rainbows Programme

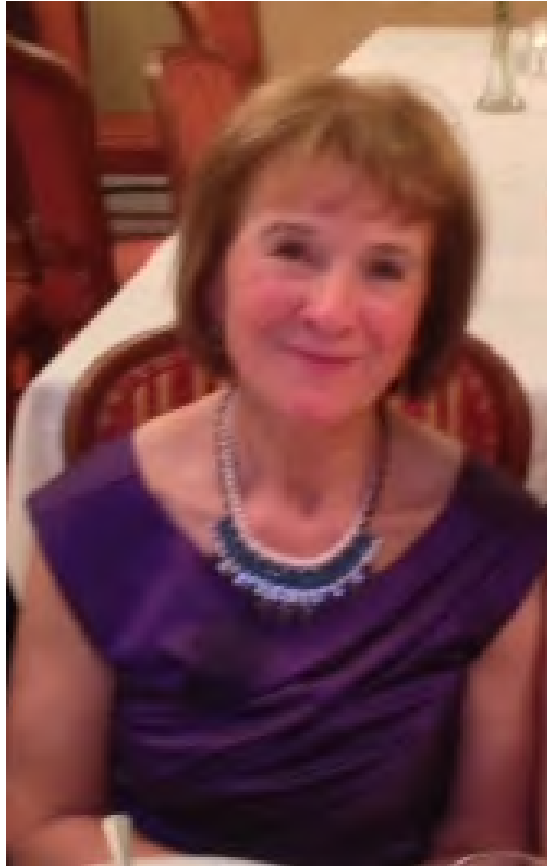
Special congratulations and thanks to Mrs Anne Healy on completing this year's course with a group of children. The Rainbows Programme is specially designed for children who have been bereaved or are in a divorced or separated situation. Mrs Healy has run it with great success and dedication and her work is very much appreciated by the children involved and their parents.



Retirement

We bid farewell to Mrs Anne Mc Kenna who is retiring from our teaching staff this year. Mrs Mc Kenna has brought her many gifts and talents in a very generous way to both the pupils and staff of our school. She has taught her classes in a very calm and caring manner, achieving the highest of standards with her pupils.

Mrs Mc Kenna is blessed with creativity, a genuine interest in sporting activities and a healthy lifestyle. She shared these beliefs in a very effective way with all the children she has taught. She will be greatly missed from our school. We wish her a retirement of happiness, good health and lots of good times and we thank her very sincerely for her very significant contribution to the education of the pupils in our school.



*We wish you a happy,
healthy and sunshine filled summer and
look forward to seeing you all in September.*



