



## Newsletter May 31<sup>st</sup> 2022



### **Dates to Remember**

**6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> June - school closed**

**7<sup>th</sup> June - Webinar for 6<sup>th</sup> class parents – transition to secondary school 7.15pm. Link to register below**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> 7pm – online open evening for incoming students**

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June - 6<sup>th</sup> class Save the date - Graduation Ceremony 7pm. Further details to be confirmed at a later date**



## Book Launch 14<sup>th</sup> June 6pm

Ms McDonagh's fifth class have been working on a local history book this term. *The Legends of Oranmore* is an illustrated history that explores the history of Oranmore Castle, Joe Howley and the Oranmore Well. The pupils of fifth class researched, wrote and illustrated this book themselves as part of the Burren Beo Heritage-Seekers Pilot project. The idea of the project was to learn about the rich heritage that Oranmore has to offer and decide how to pass that knowledge onto the wider community.

We are very excited about the book launch in the Library on June 14<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm. We will have copies of the book to sell on the night, and copies will also be available to buy through the school, with more details to follow.



Congratulations - your school has achieved an SFI Discover Science and Maths Award. We have evaluated your Log of Evidence and we are satisfied that you have met all the criteria for the Plaque of STEM.

Your school has provided evidence of children's engagement with STEM in the following areas:

1. Science
2. Technology
3. Engineering
4. Maths
5. STEM Showcase

Here is some feedback on your Log of Evidence:

**Congratulations to all the pupils, teachers, Ms Lavelle who led the initiative, and parents of Oran more Boys NS. You have been awarded a Plaque of STEM. It is well merited for a very good years work. You have shown a great range and variety of activities. The enthusiasm of the boys for their STEM activities is clear from your photographs. They did very good work during Space Week. Nice bringing Science and Art together, The Blogs are very good and well presented. The school is very obviously environmentally aware and concerned for its future.**

**Once again, well done to all involved and keep up the good work.**



Tomorrow, 1<sup>st</sup> June, we remember our past pupil Donal Greene (RIP), son of Betty (Staff member) and Sean Greene who tragically passed away in 2015. We remember Donal as we host the annual Donal Greene Tournament. Donal loved football and we honour his memory by holding a football tournament for **6<sup>th</sup> class boys** between 4 local schools. Start time 11am. Parents welcome.

## Opening evening – Mon 13<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm



We will hold an online session for parents of incoming first class pupils on Monday evening 13<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm. A link will be sent on the morning of the information evening.

### **Classes for next year 2022/2023**

Split Classes- Next year based on our current numbers we will have 2 split classes. One 1<sup>st</sup> /2nd class split and one 3/4<sup>th</sup> class split.

For some parents whose children may be anxious about the class they will be going into, please be reassured that feedback we receive from parents and children after the year of being in a split class is always positive. Please talk to parents who have experience of having boys in a split class and I'm sure they would only be delighted to talk with you, support you, should there be any concerns.

If your son is a little upset about not being with their 'best friend' for the year, please focus on how sometimes we need to let them work on this emotion themselves and trust they will find their place with other children. This is all part of building resilience which we hear so much about these days. From a curriculum point of view, the class teachers plan very closely together, all covering the same curricular content. All extra-curricular activities are planned together insofar as is feasible. Under no circumstances are individual requests considered when dividing classes.

**Please remember teachers teach from a curriculum devised by the Department of education, NOT from textbooks. Textbooks are solely a resource.**

**School Tours –**

Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	5 <sup>th</sup> classes	Eilemental Furbo	9am leave – 3pm return
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> classes	Eilemental Furbo	9 am leave – 3pm return
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> classes	Turoe Pet Farm	9 am Leave. - 2 30pm return

**School Reports**

School reports will be posted home on 9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> of June.

The book lists will be emailed the following week once finalised.

**Standardised tests and Results.**

As we finish our Standardised testing and finalise school reports I'd like to remind you again of the significance of these tests.

Please remember that as the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) states these tests are not Intelligence tests and their main purpose is to help teachers identify strengths and weaknesses in individual pupils. These tests are only one way in which we monitor a child's progress.

A score of 1-3 may indicate difficulties in Reading/Maths and in such situations, a support teacher may provide extra support to the individual child. If your child's teacher feels that your child's results suggest a concern in an area, and warrants further discussion with you, the class teacher will already (or plans to) have a discussion with you to discuss this.

Like all other tests, a child's performance on any given day can be affected by a range of factors, such as feeling unwell. A child's score will naturally fluctuate from year to year.

It is up to you, as a parent to decide if you wish to discuss the exact result with your child. The school would strongly advise that you only discuss the exact result in general terms rather than giving them a numeric value. If you have any concerns about these tests or your child's results once received, please do not hesitate to contact the class teacher, to discuss further.

\*\* If your child receives a Sten score of 6 this means that your child's performance in the test was better than 5 out of 10 other children of that age in the country.

PLEASE CLICK ON LINK BELOW TO FURTHER UNDERSTAND STANDARDISED TESTING.

[https://ncca.ie/media/1429/understanding-standardscores\\_eng.pdf](https://ncca.ie/media/1429/understanding-standardscores_eng.pdf)

The link below contains information in multiple languages.

[https://ncca.ie/media/5355/primary\\_standardised-testing.pdf](https://ncca.ie/media/5355/primary_standardised-testing.pdf)

### **Summer Provision Programme.**

Summer school based provision will go ahead for children in the special class only, children in mainstream classes who qualify for home based provision will be contacted over coming days when we finalise queries with the department.

### **Transition talk for 6<sup>th</sup> class parents**

There is a webinar for 6<sup>th</sup> class parents on this coming Tuesday, the 7<sup>th</sup> of June from 7.15pm to 8.15pm, that you might find interesting.

It will give you useful information to support your child with their transition to secondary school.

There will be input from a school chaplain, a youth information officer and an adolescent psychotherapist and a quick look at the [www.stepup.ie](http://www.stepup.ie) website also.

The webinar is free and is organised as part of the statutory Planet Youth project.

The link to register is:

<https://event.webinarjam.com/register/77/qrzo3u87>

Arrangements for 'in school' transition talk for the 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils is currently being organised with facilitators

