Notes from the Principal’s Desk …….

June 2014 www.nkets.ie

Welcome to the last newsletter of the school year 2013-2014. The hectic months of May and June are covered here. The whole school community has been busy with tours, gardening, baking, Jack and the Beanstalk, Sports Day, Santry Athletics competitions, new parents’ night, Grandparents’ Day, open day for new Junior Infants, Down Syndrome day, and finally Graduation! On Friday one of the highlights of the year for our pupils was the Staff V 6th class soccer match. It’s good to look back on the year and all the developments as we approach our 20th anniversary on September 1st.

* We won our 6th Green Flags award.
* We won the Discover Primary Science and Maths Award for the 7th year in a row.
* We celebrated ‘Musical Moments’ in December.
* We received another grant from SAP Corporation to buy classroom laptops.
* SAP also funded and worked on the approach roundabout to the school.
* Our quiz teams came 1st and 3rd in large quiz competitions.
* Our girls’ basketball team came 1st in our blitz with local schools and our boys ’team came 3rd.
* We won 3rd prize and 5th overall in Cumann na mBunscoil cross country.
* Our girls’ soccer team got to the Regional finals in the FAI inter schools competition.
* Our school extension commenced on March 21st.
* We brought home 16 medals from Santry this year.
* We continued the process of updating our school policies.
* This year we have our first two graduates from our Outreach classes.
* We published our school improvement plan on the school website as per national policy.
* Our 30 Graduates from 6th class are our best achievement each year. We will miss our Junior Infants of 2006. They have been a very well rounded class that have contributed their talents and ideas to the school over their eight years here. We wish them and their parents happiness in the future and hope they’ll keep in touch.

I wish you all a wonderful summer break and we look forward to seeing you all again on Monday September 1st at 8.40.a.m.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**School re-opens on Monday 1st September at 8.40am.**

New Junior Infants hours will be 9.15am – 12 noon from Monday 1st September to Friday 12th September inclusive. Normal school hours from Mon.15th September.

We can confirm that the following after- school classes will take place in the new school year (details to follow):

Tuesdays: Tennis with Michael Donaghy

Wednesdays: Table Tennis with Philip McLaughlin and Keyboard Lessons with Krisha (Creative Keyboards)

Thursdays: Art classes with Artzone and Table Tennis with Philip McLaughlin.

Fridays: Stretch n’ Grow with Kate Ryan.

6th CLASS GRADUATION

Our seventeenth graduation in this school building, and the last as a single mainstream school, took place on Wednesday 25th June. This is the seventeenth graduation we’ve had. It was even more significant as two boys from our Outreach classes, graduated with 6th class.

Michael Costello thanked 6th class and their parents for their input to the school over the years. He represented the Board of Management and the Executive Committee. Paul Rowe, Chief Executive Officer of Educate Together joined us on the night and also spoke to 6th class to wish them well in the future.

This year’s Graduation Theme was ‘C?UR’ (See Who You Are). In keeping with this theme Aoife Murphy and Ciaran Purcell did a wonderful job designing this year’s Graduation Programme cover (see children’s corner)

Each year the graduates work on a project which is retained by the school as a memento of their time with us. This year’s graduates have given us a ‘C?UR’ decorative mirror (situated beside the SRG noticeboard) and also created 30 individually designed pieces for each graduate to keep.

6th Class would like to thank Dave Finnegan and Lorraine Dunne who helped them put the ‘C?UR’ mirror on the wall. Special thanks to Martina Connolly and Grainne Teeling who helped the class with the magnificent backdrop by stitching all the individual pieces together.

We also said farewell to the 16 families who are leaving the school entirely as they have no other children in the school. 14 are from 6th class and 2 from our Outreach Classes. We hope that your years with us have been happy for you and your child.

Every year our graduates get a ‘send off’ by all our pupils. On Thursday 26th June @ 10am they made an emotional exit from the school building through our traditional ‘guard of honour’ made up of all the staff and children in the school who clapped and cheered 6th class on their way. They were greeted by equally emotional parents at the school gate. We wish them happy years in their secondary schools and hope that they will visit us often. Go néirí an bóthar libh.

INDIA DAY

On Monday 16th June, we had a taste of India in school (See Children’s Corner for details).

SPORTS DAY

Our Sports Day took place on Friday 16th May in ideal weather conditions. The children had a great day taking part in the variety of activities organised throughout the school. Thanks to Cathy Breen who organised all the activities and timetabled the events of the whole day.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

We were delighted to welcome two speakers from Irish Water Safety on the 11th June, to speak to our classes the ‘Land PAWS’ (Primary Aquatics Water Safety”). Ellen and Sinead spoke about water safety at home, at sea, on the farm and, for the older classes, what to do with a life buoy. They distributed information packs and a certificate to each pupil.

We had a local author, Debbie Thomas, visit 3rd and 4th classes on 12th June to speak to the children about creative writing, how she got started, what inspires her to write and how much she loves writing stories. She also answered numerous questions from the children about writing, particularly from 4th class who took part in the Write-a-Book Project recently. Debbie stated she was delighted to be invited to visit 3rd and 4th and thoroughly enjoyed the enthusiasm and inquisitiveness of our pupils. Who knows...we could have a future author in our midsts!

On 7th and 8th May the N.K.E.T.N.S. welcomed pupils from Scoil Mochua, Maynooth Educate Together National School and Scoil na Mainistreach to take part in our first Basketball Blitz. Everyone had a great time, playing matches and getting to know each other. Well done to Aoife and Barry for arranging this event.

We had our first ever soccer blitz on Thursday 19th June between Scoil Mochua and ourselves, which was held on our school pitch. In front of the home crowd, our girls won the girls competition, while Scoil Mochua won the boys competition. Both schools really enjoyed the blitz and especially the ice lollies they were given afterwards. Well done to Niall for organising this event.

DOWN SYNDROME FUNDRAISER

One of the most anticipated events in the school year took place on Friday 20th June and the weather was much kinder to us this year! This is a very competitive soccer match between pupils and staff. Tensions ran high on the run up to the big day. The sideline was buzzing with excitement as the teams displayed awesome skill (and some not so awesome!). However, the winners of the day were Down Syndrome Ireland as we raised the sum of €**370**. There were no losers, as everyone ate an ice-cream wafer – Yummy!

GRANDPARENTS’ DAY

Monday 9th June was a great day in the school as our SRG organised Grandparents’ Day! Grandparents who came to visit were met in the lobby by members of the SRG, given a name tag and were either escorted to the classrooms or given a tour of the school. Some grandparents came for a tour and a coffee. All grandparents were treated to light refreshments and a surprise performance by all the classes in the hall. There was a great turnout of grandparents and the SRG did themselves proud by being perfect hosts/hostesses. The staff would like to congratulate all our SRG members for taking great care of the visitors and making them feel so welcome to our school.

We look forward to having another Grandparents’ Day in the future.

(See Children’s Corner for information on what our SRG do)

GREEN NEWS

You will be aware that we received two green flags this year, one was our sixth Green Schools Flag and the other, the Green Home Flag. These were presented to Arlene and three members of our Green School Committee, Hollie Farrell, Molly Mahon and David Hepple at a ceremony held in The Helix on May 21st. Dylan Walsh, Aubrey Knight and Alice Friel are also committee members and they, Arlene, Hollie, Molly and David have done great work in helping our school receive this prestigious award. It is with the continued support and help from our pupils, staff and parents that allow us to, year on year, keep flying the Green Flag!

On 12th June we held our Green Flags ceremony – which was done slightly differently from before. All the pupils were brought to the hall and the green flags were passed from hand to hand to symbolise how everyone had a part to play.

Special thanks and farewell to our 6th class Green Flag Committee members – Molly and David. Thank you for your input.

COW Day (Cycle On Wednesday) took place on Wednesday 18th June. This was to coincide with Bike Week (14th – 22nd June), and the aim of COW Day was to reach a target of 5,000 people cycling to school in Ireland. We had a total of 46 people cycle to school that day, which was a great achievement, considering our size. Well done to everyone who took part.

Don’t forget to hold on to any old mobile phones, battery or charger for our recycling bank during the summer holidays and bring them into the school when we return in September.

Our Battery Recycling Bank has been a great success over the years and is a great means of disposing any old batteries you have at home from torches, toys etc. Again, hold on to any old batteries and bring them to school in September for our recycling bank. This also applies for any printer cartridges that you may wish to dispose of during the summer – remember, we have a Cartridge Recycling Bank too!

If you have a clearout of your wardrobes during the summer, please hold onto your discarded shoes and clothes for our Clothes Recycling Bank.

SPORTING SUCCESS

On the sports front we have been extremely busy and successful in our endeavours.

The annual Santry Sports was a great day out for many of our athletes and parents who came to lend their support. We did extremely well and brought home 16 medals.

**GO RAIBH MAITH AGAIBH** to the following:

**Books** – Marie Phelan, Fiona McHenry

**Stationery** – Sharon Lynch for a very generous supply of items for the office and classrooms.

**Garden supplies** **and in-class visitors**:

Gardening – A very BIG thank you to all our volunteers who answered the calls to help with our class gardens during May and June – they were Sonia Brett, Grainne Teeling, Lida Finnerty and Hannah, Terri O’Brien, Olga Gallagher and Theo, Ciara McCarthy and Finn,Carrie Martin with Emer and Granny Joan (all the way from America).

Junior Infants were assisted by Sinead Keogh, Ray Kane and Cormac, Audrey Phillips and Ben McNamara and Lynn O’Connor in planting sunflowers outside and some inside in little pots (to take home), French beans, carrots and mixed herbs.

On 11th June, Senior Infants were helped to plant pumpkins in their class garden. These were grown by them from seed. Our helpers were Grainne Teeling, Carrie Martin, Terri O’Brien and past-pupil, Lucy Doyle.

Yoga – Anja Kruger who very kindly gave yoga classes to our Outreach classes throughout the year. These classes were always eagerly awaited by our pupils and it has been of great benefit to them.

We would also like to thank Sonya Hartnett who came in to do yoga and meditation with Junior Infants, 1st and 6th classes. We hope to have Anja and Sonya with us again next year.

Tours - A big thank you to the parents of Junior Infants who were drawn from the hat to accompany them on their tour to Larchill Gardens. We hope you had fun!

Art – Senior Infants had a busy day on the 23rd May! Julie Melia, Ciara Martin and Lida McCabe came in to do some fabric & fibre artwork with the children. They designed lovely T-Shirts which were displayed outside their classroom for all to see.

Aisling and Sarah Folan came in to 2nd Class on Friday 20th June and helped the children create Summer Bugs from clothes pegs. They let their imaginations run riot – as we had buttlerflies, dragonflies, caterpillars, ladybirds, wasps... to list a few!

Baking – 4th class made very tasty bread rolls with the help of Paula and Jean-Louise Carroll on Friday 20th June – a lovely treat!

CONTACT LISTS

It cannot be emphasised enough the need for us to have up-to-date contact phone numbers for your child. It is of the utmost importance should we need to contact you in case of an emergency. **Therefore please ensure that any changes over the summer in phone numbers (including mobile phones) addresses, minders etc. are notified to the school office in September. In particular, if you have changed mobile number, inform Adrienne if you wish it to be used in our Text-a-Parent communication system.**

NEW JUNIOR INFANTS

On May 28th we had our annual Information Meeting for our new Junior Infant parents. It was lovely to meet some new and old faces! On Thursday 12th June the children were able to come to the school to meet their teacher for September, Lydia, during our Open Day. They were delighted to see their classroom and play with some of the toys. We look forward to seeing them again on September 1st.

## DISCOVER PRIMARY SCIENCE AND MATHS AWARD

Following the success of last year, we once again took part in the Discover Science Awards of Excellence. This involved class work, visitors coming to the school to speak about how science is involved in their work, projects and displays. Stephanie O’Neill, Project Manager from Discover Primary Science said in her Congratulatory letter to us that ‘the assessment team were thrilled to see all the hard work done by teachers and students. The standard of log books and the wide variety of science and maths work being carried out was very impressive, it is clear that teachers and pupils are using a wide range of resources (including the Discover Primary Science & Maths and Greenwave websites) and engaging in hands-on investigation in the classroom and beyond.” – a testimony to the trojan work required and carried out by our teachers and pupils. The plaque is on display in the Reception area.

JUNIOR INFANTS – MEDLEY OF SONGS!

On Tuesday 19th June our Junior Infants showed us that they have beautiful singing voices and are well capable of performing on stage! They sang the Jolly Phonics rhymes and actions they have learned throughout the year, and added in some extra nursery rhymes for good measure. After performing in front of the entire school that morning, they were rearing to go to perform for their parents later in the day. Well done Junior Infants!

The weather couldn’t have been better when our Junior Infants and Senior Infants had their Teddy Bear’s Picnic on Wednesday 18th June. Both classes had a lovely time in the sensory garden – the bears did too!

**BOARD OF MANAGEMENT NEWS**

SWIMMING - We are delighted to announce that our swimming sessions will resume in January 2015. Swimming has always been an important feature of our school’s PE curriculum and it has always been policy that there should be full participation by all children. While there is a cost involved and this has increased from year to year, the Board has subsidised this cost and will continue to do so by having a fundraising event during the first school term. **Please note that parents in receipt of Social Welfare payments or who are experiencing financial difficulty can speak to Rita in confidence about assistance.**

All parents are very welcome to come along to assist with the swimming sessions, which provides an opportunity, especially for new parents, to get to know one another. Whilst we appreciate that this notification is quite early, we are aware that parents like to know when their children are attending swimming lessons in advance.

The programme for the school year 2014/2015 will be as follows:

January – February 2015 1st Class (current Snr. Infs.) Tuesdays 5 weeks

February – March 2015 Senior Infants (current Jnr. Infs.) Tuesdays 5 weeks

March – May 2015 Outreach Classes Tuesdays 5 weeks

May – June 2015 Junior Infants Tuesdays 5 weeks

ENROLMENTS - Please remember to advise your friends, relatives etc. of our Enrolment Policy i.e. first-come first-served should they wish to enrol their child(ren). This should be done as soon as possible after birth. REMEMBER – **siblings do not get first preference** so we would encourage new born siblings to be enrolled as soon as possible after birth.

CLASS ALLOCATIONS FOR 2014/2015 The following are the class allocations for the coming year:

**Junior Infants** – Lydia McGuinness-Tyrrell **Senior Infants** – Elaine Harten **1st Class** – New temporary teacher

**2nd Class** – Aoife Hogan **3rd Class** – Orlaith McLoughlin (Sinead Gallogly will substitute while Orlaith is on maternity leave)

**4th Class** – Niall Keating **5th Class** – Barry Horgan **6th Class** – Jenny McCarthy

Special Needs Learning Support Teachers - Lorraine Dunne/Fiona Cooney (job-share), Arlene Higgins, Cathy Breen and Anne Finn (Deputy Principal)

Support Teacher for 2014/2015 (rotating post) – Pat Crowe (Assistant Principal)

STAFF CHANGES

Congratulations to Jenny McCarthy who was made permanent on the staff recently following the resignation of Blá Tonra.

Mary Doran – will be taking a career break for the academic year 2014/2015.

Lorraine Dunne – will job share with Fiona Cooney in Learning Support/Resource next year.

Temporary Teacher – We’d like to welcome Shane O’Neill to the staff in the coming year. He’ll be teaching 1st Class. We hope he’ll be very happy here.

Finally, the Board of Management hope that all N.K.E.T.N.S .pupils, parents and staff have a sunny and relaxing summer. See you all in September!

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Executive Notes

As you know following at vote taken at the AGM last year, the executive have been doing a patronage review and looking at whether or not to transfer our patronage over to the main Educate Together body.  It has been interesting looking into how other ET schools are run and what is best form of governance for our school.  We are currently reviewing the role of the executive in North Kildare Educate Together National School and how we communicate with the whole school community.  We hope that in the run up to the next AGM we will be able to send out our findings to you all.

Fundraising News

You may have noticed the Coin Run drums in the school over the last year.  This was a simple fundraising idea started last year.  The idea was that if you had any loose change you could throw it in the drum.  We have counted the coin and are delighted to say that there was €130 plus lots of other interesting coins!  Some of the coins from the more interesting countries will be going into the the cultural kits in the school.  The drums will be back again in September!!

Our Table Quiz and Raffle held on 1st May raised €946. Well done and thanks to Julie Melia who organised this event, and to everyone who attended the quiz and bought raffle tickets.

Thanks to all the children who took part in the Skipathon held on Friday 30th May in the school. The children, with the help of their families, relatives and friends, raised €1,908.00 Well done to you all! A sincere thank you to Eve Copeland, Leona Creighton, Julie Trotter, Christine and Jessica Farrell, Aisling Gallagher, Aisling Devlin, Lorna Green, Naomi Clancy and Arlene Higgins who organised this very active fundraising event!

**NOTICEBOARD**

**School Books**

Please ensure that your child has all their books on the first day back at school. Due to copyright rules, **we are not permitted to photocopy** pages from textbooks/workbooks for your child to work on. Rental books will be distributed by the class teachers in September.

**Pupil Towels**

Don’t Forget – each child is to bring a small towel or face-cloth into school each day with them, for the purpose of drying their hands. They are to be kept in your child’s schoolbag, either in a side-pocket or in a plastic re-sealable bag. Towels should be replaced frequently by parents.

**School Tracksuit Supplier**

As previously notified to you, our new supplier for our school tracksuit is Embroidering and Print World Limited. Items can be purchased online on [www.thelogoshop.ie](http://www.thelogoshop.ie) or by calling in directly to their store at 22 Hills Industrial Estate, Lucan, Co. Dublin during the summer months.

**The following is the PE timetable for 2014/2015. Please take note of when your child has PE.**

Junior Infants & Senior Infants Monday & Wednesday

1st Class Monday & Wednesday

2nd Class Monday & Thursday

3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th Classes Tuesday and Thursday

Outreach Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

Children should wear the N.K.E.T.N.S. sweatshirt/polo shirt, navy tracksuit bottoms and runners to school on those days when their class has PE or swimming session.

**School Hours for Junior Infants**

As always, to allow our new Junior Infants to settle in, they will attend school for a shorter period of hours for the first two weeks in September. From Monday 1st to Friday 12th September the Junior Infant hours will be 9.15am to 12.00pm; and from Monday 16th September they will attend full school hours i.e. 9.00am to 1.20pm. Don’t forget to bring a camera!

**School Closure Calendar 2014/2015**

Our School Closures Calendar for the 2014/2015 school year was distributed to parents recently. Please retain it for reference. Details of our school closures can also be found on the school website.

**Celbridge Community School** - under the joint patronage of Educate Together and Kildare & Wicklow Education and Training Board. Parents recently received, via schoolbag post, a letter from the patrons stating that this secondary school will open in September 2015. Please note in your diary that an **information meeting will be held at 7.30pm on 18th September 2014 in Celbridge Manor Hotel**.

Celbridge Library have asked us to invite children to take part in their Reading Buzz, during the summer months. Children can register for this up to 30th June. They will be asked to read 10 books (or more if you wish) over the summer and will receive a Certificate in September. For more information, please contact the library on 6272207 or drop in.

**SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS….. Winners at the Santry Sports** were Davinn Quinn (silver U12 longjump), Niamh McInerney (bronze U14 highjump), Ella Copeland (silver U11 600m), Elena O’toole (silver U12 600m), Hannah Kearns (gold open age group shot putt), bronze for the Girls U12 Sprint & Relay team - Ella McDonnell,Elena O’Toole, Eve Wallace, Isabel Martin and Hannah Kearns, silver for the Girls U14 Sprint & Relay team – Jasmine Walsh-Campbell, Emily McAuliffe, Brona Kiely, Aoife Murphy and Niamh McInerney, bronze for the Boys U12 Sprint & relay team – Kyran O’Regan, Davinn Quinn, Ferdia Tobin-Larkin, Sean MacCourt and Adam Walsh.

Other members of the Santry squad were Sarah Quinn, Cian Madden, Emma Creighton, Liam Kearney, Meaveen Ryan, James McMahon-Carr, Tasneem Elafi, Conor Farrell, Katerina Perets, Ciaran Purcell, Hollie Farrell, Sol Scanlon, Ella Copeland, Lorcan Craven-Grace,Ciara Drew, Philip Perets, Niamh Barnes, Adam Walsh, Alex Dromgoole, Leah Reddy-Gallagher, Nina Martin, Sam Browne, Evan Scanlon, Taylor Beatty, Akshat Patodi, Shane Corry, Dylan Walsh, Tadhg Downing and Aidan Connolly

**Well done to you all – we are all very proud of you!**

***More achievements…****.*

Rebecca Webster (Snr. Infs.) performed on stage in Ratoath, in the Performing Arts Academy production of ‘Alice in Wonderland’ on Sunday 25th May. This was her seventh stage performance!

Luca Clancy (1st) who is a member of Xcel Gym Club in Celbridge, took part in the South Dublin Gym Ireland competition in Sandyford on the 25th May and did so well, he went on to the Nationals in Portlaoise on 8th June and came back with a beautiful medal for his gymnastics skills.

Sean Auden (5th) is another member of Xcel and has recently achieved Level 5 in gymnastics skills.

Paul Clarke (1st) and his Cill Dara Beaver Scouts took part in a Challenge Day in aid of Arthritis Ireland and raised €210 – well done!

Tim Curran (1st) showed us the wonderful medal he received from Celbridge Condors (Special Olympics Club) for his participation.

Sarah Quinn (5th) really likes soccer! She is a member of the U12 Lucan United squad and they came first in the Metropolitan Girls Soccer League held on 6th June.

Philip Perets (3rd) and his team came first in a Basketball Blitz held recently. He plays with Liffey Celtics, Leixlip.

We mentioned in our last newsletter that Jack Green (4th) and his Barnhall rugby team mates entered a competition run by Lidl to find Ireland’s best haka. We are delighted to say that his team won 1st prize which was €2,500 worth of sports equipment for the club. Their entry can be seen on youtube under ‘Lidl an haka barnhall’. Well done Jack and Barnhall Rugby Club.

Alex Browne (Snr. Infs.) and his brother Sam (3rd) took part in a gaelic football blitz held at Kilmacud on 11th May. Both boys are members of Celbridge GAA and they really enjoyed their day, and received medals for their skills, effort, sportmanship and participation in the event.

Anna Barnes (6th) took part in a short film called ‘Walk On’. This was filmed near Christchurch Cathedral, Dublin and is the work of some Maynooth university students as part of their media studies course. Anna and her sister, Niamh (3rd) performed at athe Mullingar Drama Festival held earlier in the year. Anna played the part of Tracy in ‘Hairspray’ and Niamh was in the production of ‘Matilda’. Anna received 98% in her Grade 7 exam for Speech & Drama recently – watch out Hollywood!

Over the May Bank Holiday, James McMahon-Carr (5th) and his Leixlip United U12 team mates headed off to Pwllheli, Wales for a soccer tournament. James showed us a wonderful trophy that the team received while they were there.

Leanne Johnston (4th) took part in a pony camp over Easter and received rossettes for Synchronised Riding and Jumping Best Seat.

Joe Pluymers (3rd) took part in a table tennis competition on 11th May in CBS, Lucan – and although he did not win, he came a very credible 5th place in his age group, from many contestants.

Three of our Outreach pupils, Saul Hill, Aaron Slevin and Rian Flynn went to Belfast at the beginning of June to take part in a Tag Rugby competition. Saul got the first try of the day and he received a medal, as did Aaron and Rian for participating in the event. While they were up in Belfast they were brought to see the W5 Science Museum. They had a great weekend.

During the Kildare Championships held in early May, Elena O’Toole (6th) came 3rd in the U13 Race/Walk and in the U13 600m race. Hannah Kearns (6th) came 2nd in the U13 Longjump, 1st in the U13 shotputt and 1st in the U13 High Jump.

Maeve Foley-Wollmer (S.Inf.) went to Cork on 18th May to take part in a gymnastics competition. She got a gold medal for her work on the Bars and silver for her floor work.

Andrew Green (1st) was presented with a medal on 17th May from Barnhall Rugby Club for his full year participation.

Ella and Beth Corry (1st and 6th), Kirsty Higgins (5th), Gracie, Oscar and Eabha Hourihane (JI, 1st and 2nd), Anna and Daniel Herron (2nd and 4th) all took part in the Celbridge Suzuki Group Summer Concert on Saturday 19th June at Christchurch, Celbridge. They each received a lovely certificate for their participation.

The Celbridge Community Games are very popular among our pupils. At the Gymnastics competition held on 12th June, Amy Auden (2nd) came 1st in the floor work and Emily Kelly (2nd) came 2nd in the floor work and Amy Auden (2nd) came 1st. The following pupils all were placed in their athletic competition held on 12th May – U14 Hurdles Ashla Copeland (5th) and Olivia Rowland (5th) came 1st and 2nd respectively; U14 Shotput Hannah Kearns (6th) came 1st and Aidan Connolly (6th) came 1st too; U14 Longjump Hannah Kearns (6th) and Niamh McInerney (6th) came 1st and 2nd; U14 800m Elena O’Toole (6th) came 1st; U14 100m Niamh McInerney (6th) and Ashla Copeland (5th) 2nd and 3rd place; U12 100m Davinn Quinn (5th) and Isabel Martin (5th) came 1st and 2nd place; U12 600m Olivia Rowland (5th) was 3rd; U12 Ball-Throw Davinn Quinn (5th) came 1st; U8 400m Jack Dromgoole (2nd) came in 2nd place – well done to all our pupils.

On Saturday 15th June the Kildare League took place at Eir Og and the U12 Straffan Camogie team came 1st – Kirsty Higgins (5th) is a member of this team. Also there were Sarah Quinn (5th), Ashla Copeland (5th) and Ella Copeland (4th).

Sean Quinn (1st) and his Dad, Thomas, took part in the 5k Park Run held in Lucan on Saturday 15th June. Sean and his Dad were presented with lovely medals for their efforts.

Jane McAuliffe showed us her Fitness Test medal she was presented with on 19th June, from Caragh Gaelic Football club.

2nd class drew beautiful pictures and wrote seasonal poems on Summer – here are some from Kaleb Smith, Jack Dromgoole and Saul Knight.

**S**ummer is fun

**U**tterly sunny days

**M**any people are riding bikes

**M**any are going to beaches

**E**veryone is walking dogs

**R**oses and other flowers grow in Summer

(Saul)

**S**uper Summer is so warm

**U**nder the rocks we play

**M**y friends play with me

**M**y beautiful flowers grow

**E**very day I play

**R**un in the Sun

(Kaleb)

**S**un flowers grow

**U** can have a water fight

**M**ore light

**M**ore hot

**E**veryone for water games

**R**oses too

(Jack)

What is the STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE GROUP (SRG)?

The main idea of the SRG is to allow the children have their say in what goes on in the school and to create fun and entertaining fundraisers. The SRG have come up with some amazing fundraisers such as World Food Day, Crazy Hair Day, Grandparents’ Day and bake sales.

We have meetings every third Friday. Here we bring up matters arising and normally schedule a new event or propose that one should happen. The SRG gives students self confidence and an easier way to express themselves instead of talking to go to the teachers, they can talk to one of the two representatives from their class. The SRG consists of two representatives from third class to sixth, those boys and girls also have two subs for when they are absent.

We have very much enjoyed our time on the SRG and have loved the responsibility and the chance to speak out for our classmates.

By Elena O’Toole & Lorcan Craven-Grace (both from 6th)

**India Day in 3rd Class**

Last Monday (16th June) 3rd class had spectacular day learning all about India. First of all Jenny showed us a powerpoint and we read about India. We learned lots of facts about the extraordinary country, for example,

* New Delhi is the capital city.
* The flag is similar to the Irish flag.
* The most popular religion is Hinduism
* It is rude to eat with your left hand!

After break, we went to the Multi Purpose Room and cooked an Indian dish called Makhani Chicken. While it was cooking Lorraine brought in some Indian food for us to taste and smell.

We returned to the classroom and Lydia showed us things from the Indian Culture Kit. She told us about lots of Indian traditions.

We got to try on Saris and bangles and Jenny gave us a bindi each!

We even did a little bit of Bollywood Dancing.

We really had an excellent day!

By Grace Gallagher

The following poem was written

by Rebecca Webster (Senior Infants)

I hear a wasp,

I smell a bee,

I’ve got a spider

On my knee! – Argh!

I eat a cone,

And no-one knows

I wear a hat

Upon my nose.

I go to school

Eating sweets

What’s that

Down at my feet?

It is a worm

Trying to learn

How to eat

Delicious treats!