**NEWSLETTER MAY/JUNE 2023**

**Confirmation:** Well done to our 6th Class pupils who celebrated their Confirmation in Lobinstown Church on Thursday 20th April. We were delighted to welcome Bishop Tom Deenihan to celebrate with us. Thank you to Mr. Rowe and Fr. Connaughton for preparing them so well.

**First Holy Communion:** We wish the very best of luck to our 2nd class pupils who will celebrate theirFirst Holy Communion in Drumconrath church on Saturday 13th May at 12 noon. We especially thank Ms. Finlay and Fr. Connaughton for preparing the class so well. We also thank the parents for organising the masses throughout the year and the 1st class parents who will organise tea/coffee in the Community Centre after mass.

**Cumann na mBunscol**: Our Gaelic teams are currently taking part in the Cumman na mBunscol Mini 7’s competition in Meath. Both teams are playing very well and we wish them continued success.

**Soccer**: Our Girls Soccer team qualified for the North Leinster Finals. This took place in the MDL in Navan yesterday where they played very competitively winning one game out of three. We congratulate them on their achievements throughout the tournament, they have been wonderful!

**New Junior Infants:** Our new Junior Infants open day will be on Thursday 4th May to meet the teacher and have a look around. We are looking forward to them joining our school and hope they will enjoy the eight years they will spend here. Anyone wishing to enrol to start in the school in September 2023 should contact the school office.

**Autism Classes**: We are delighted to have been sanctioned to open two special classes for ASD in September. A number of places are still available. Please contact the school if you wish to apply. We have also been approved by the Department for Additional accommodation for this. We hope work will be carried out over the Summer holidays. An open day for pupils and parents starting in these classes will take place on Wednesday 14th June.

**Safer Routes to School Survey:** Thank you to everyone who completed the Safer Routes to School Survey. We received 71 surveys back out of 79 forms distributed. There was an overwhelmingly positive response to this with 70 voting yes and 1 voting no.

Meath Co. Council and An Taisce plan to carry out this work during the Summer holidays.

**Sigma and Micra Testing**: Sigma and Micra tests will take place on Tues 23rd and Thurs 25th May. These results will be sent home in school reports and sent to Department of Education as is required.

**Professional Development**: School will be closed for all pupils on **Monday 29th May** as there will be Department sanctioned PDST staff training day on the New Language curriculum and also on the new curriculum Framework which has just been launched.

**Active Week 2022**: Active Week will take place from Tues 6th until Friday 9th June. Different activities and sports have been organised for every day during this week. We ask pupils to contribute €5.00 towards this and the balance will be paid by the Board of Management. The week will end with our traditional Sport’s Day on Friday 9th June. We hope to be awarded our new Active Flag this year.

**Athletics:** The School Athletics team will travel to the Claremont Stadium in Navan on Tuesday 13th June to participate in the Cumann na mBunscol Track and Field Competition 2023.

**Greenschool news**: We are delighted that we have been awarded our fifth green flag on the theme of Biodiversity. The flag will be presented to our Green Schools Co-ordinator Ms. Harte and a few of our Green School Committee at a special award ceremony in City North Hotel on 24th May.

We plan to have a Green School Action Day for all classes on Thursday 1st June. Further information will follow from class teachers.

**6th Class Confirmation Trip:** 6th Class will go on their traditional day out to celebrate their Confirmation and end of year in Dublin on Friday 16th June.

**School Tour**s: School Tours have been booked for all classes. All classes will go on tour on Friday 2nd June 2023. Further information will be sent out by class teachers nearer the time.

Junior Infants-2nd Class – Crystal Maze

3rd, 4th and 5th – Funtasia, Drogheda

6th Class – Tanagh Adventure Centre

**Booklists and School Calendar**: As you may be aware, the Department are providing funding to Primary Schools for school books this year. **All books, workbooks and copies will be provided by the school in September so a booklist will not be sent out this year. We are asking all parents to pay 25 euro through Databiz for Photocopying, Arts and crafts by Friday 9th June 2023**. Parents are also asked to provide the normal pencil case/pencils/pens etc.

The school calendar for next year has been sent out and is available on the school website also.

**Friday 23rd June** – 6th Class will be presented with their Graduation certificates on this day and their Graduation party and End of Year mass will take place. Further details will follow regarding this.

**Class Allocation and Staffing 2023-2024** :

 Ms. S. Harte- Junior and Senior Infants

 Ms. C Keenan – 1st and 2nd Class

 Ms. T. Corby – 2nd and 3rd Class

 Mr. A. Hickey – 4th Class

 Mr. D. Rowe – 5th and 6th Class

 Autism Class 1 – Ms. S. Finlay

The following Leave has been approved by the Board of Management for the 2023-2024 school year:

* Mr. Reid will continue on career break for the next school year.
* Mrs Woods will be off for the next school year on unpaid Parental Leave. Ms. Corby will continue to cover this.
* Parental Leave- Ms. Carroll will avail of 4 weeks unpaid parental leave during the next school year. This will be spread throughout the year. Deputy Principal will be Acting Principal on these weeks.

**Summer Holidays**: School will close for the Summer holidays on Thursday 29th June 2023. We wish you all a very happy and peaceful Summer and we look forward to seeing you all back at school on Thursday 31st August 2023.

**School Website**: Have a look at our regular updates and school policies on the school website at [www.drumconrathns.com](http://www.drumconrathns.com) and keep an eye on our school Facebook page Drumconrath N.S for the most up to date information.

Joanne Carroll (Principal)