



St. Catherine's Senior School Newsletter

Phone: (01) 8387194 Principal: Ms. C. O'Reilly www.stcatherinessenior.com Summer 2016

A Word from the Principal

Dear Parents and Friends,



As we come to the end of another successful year in St. Catherine's, we thank everyone involved in the school for helping us create so many wonderful memories for the girls.

The Green Schools Committee collected our fourth Green Flag from An Taisce at the Helix in DCU. They have learned about climate change, and with Miss Savage, have raised awareness of the benefits of walking to school and reducing pollution in our environment.

We recently received our Discovery Primary Science and Maths Award for 2016 from Science Foundation Ireland. There are some photographs of the experiments conducted by each class on our website.

A tree planting ceremony to mark the 800th Anniversary of the founding of the Dominican Order took place in April. We are proud our school is part of the long tradition of the Dominicans in Cabra. We also celebrated Multicultural Week with classes learning songs and dances from other countries, and concluded our Active week with Zumba dancing outdoors.

Miss Haverty's sixth class collected two awards at the Our World Irish Aid Awards ceremony in Dublin Castle. Their project "*Change the World - Be Global Goals Heroes*" was complemented by the judges for the enthusiasm and depth of knowledge shown by the girls for their topic. They also won the Best Newcomer School trophy. We are very proud of their achievement and their awareness of topical social and justice issues.

We thank Sr. Philomena and Fr. Michael for their work with the Sacramental classes. Everyone enjoyed a special First Holy Communion day. Sixth class were confirmed by the Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Brown on Pentecost Sunday, in a memorable, prayerful ceremony. We thank Miss O'Neill and Miss Lawler and the school Choir for the beautiful singing and music on both occasions.

Our sixth classes are moving on to Second level. We wish them every success and happiness in their new schools.



Wishing you a sunny, relaxing Summer. School re-opens on Wednesday 31st August.

Confirmation

On Sunday 15th May, it was our Confirmation. We made our Confirmation with St. Finbarr's. We had to be at the Church at 11.15am. When I got there I took photos with my family and friends, then I went into the Church and Mass started. We were confirmed by Archbishop Charles Brown. It was a great day and one I'll never forget.

By Natalie King, 6th Class



Irish Aid Awards Final

On Tuesday 17th May, Kerrie Hanley, Sophie McManus and Teegan Doran went to the Department of Education for the Irish Aid Awards Regional Final representing Ms. Haverty's 6th Class. There were fifteen projects selected including our project. Out of these fifteen projects, three were chosen to go to the National Finals on the 14th June in Dublin Castle. This time our whole class will be going to receive the trophy.

Kerrie Hanley & Sophie McManus, 6th Class

Green Flag News

On 24th May, Ms. Savage, Holly, Ella and I went to the Helix in DCU to collect our 4th Green Flag for travel. We had a ceremony and collected a booklet for the next flag which is Biodiversity. After the ceremony we went for food. We are raising our 4th Green Flag on Wednesday 29th June.

By Brooke McDermott, 5th Class



German Lessons

In the month of April, we started our German lessons in St. Dominic's with the girls in Transition Year. First we learned the alphabet in German, then we learned numbers and some colours. We had four lessons which were really fun. At our last lesson we had a party.

My favourite part was learning the alphabet.

I think everybody would enjoy it.

By Carla Doran & Lucy Gill, 5th Class

Our School Tour

On Thursday 16th June, Ms. Lawler's Class and Ms. O'Neill's class went to Lullymore Heritage Park for our school tour. We had a tour with Ray around the park and we got to see old houses. Then we saw a fairy bower and we made wishes. We went on a road train and walked through the bog. We had so much fun and it was the best school tour ever!

Summer

Delicious ice-cream
Sparkling water
Cool refreshing drinks
Elegant sunglasses
Colourful parasol
Golden Sand



By Chelsea Madronio, 2nd Class

Our First Holy Communion Thoughts



"I have Jesus in my heart"

By Vanessa

"Some of my family came from Poland especially for my First Holy Communion"

By Julia

"I enjoyed reading a prayer at the altar"

By Caoimhe

"Receiving Holy Communion was a special moment for me"

By Lilie

For our school trip we went to Funtasia. We went bowling and then had a lego workshop. We had to see who could build the slowest car. We had so much fun. **Megan O'Rourke, 3rd Class**

Transition to Secondary School

During the final term of 6th Class, Sylvia and Gary came to our school to help us prepare for secondary school. The first session was about making friends. The second session was about bullying. We were reminded about what to do if we get bullied in school. The last session was about study skills. Rory came in to talk to us about how to study and be successful in secondary school. We found this advice very useful.

By Katherine Serenko, 6th Class

Spelling Bee

On Thursday 21st April, I went to the Dublin Spelling Bee Final. To get there I had to first pass the school Spelling Bee. 5th class girls got together and had a competition and in the end I won. The Dublin finals were held in the Red Cow Moran Hotel with over 70 students from schools all around Dublin. When my Mum and I arrived I got a Spelling Bee T-shirt with my name on it. After waiting for a little while, it was time for the Spelling Bee to start.

We were asked to sit in alphabetical order. Then it was time for the first round. When it was your turn you had to stand up, repeat the word that the spelling master gave you, then spell it. Then the spelling master would say 'correct' or 'incorrect'. After 6 rounds I was eliminated and there were only ten people left. I was happy I came 17th out of over 70 children. I got a dictionary, a goody bag and a certificate. I loved the Spelling Bee and would definitely recommend it.

By Rebecca Kone, 5th Class

Summer

Sun shines through that open door
Umbrellas aren't needed anymore
My skin is tanning from head to toe
Mother nature is to thank
for this scorching heat
Everyone loves these sunny days
Really hoping summer stays
By Alannah O'Donovan, 5th Class



Summer is Here!

Oh!
What a lovely Summer's Day!
I hope you all have a beautiful
and exciting holiday!

Flowers are dancing
as the wind is blowing.
The grass is green
and the sky is blue.

The beach is crowded
with happy people.
The seagulls are flying high.
Summer is my favourite season,
So I would hate to say goodbye!

By Analissa Michael, 6th Class



6th Class Retreat

On 18th April, my class and I went to our retreat at St. Mary's Dominican Retreat Centre. When we got there we played games and we did worksheets. Then we had lunch. When we finished our lunch we went back up to the room, we got our coats and went to the garden. We were allowed to climb a tree that is the oldest tree in Dublin. I had a great day at the retreat.

By Ali Sutton, 6th Class



St. Catherine's Day

On Friday 29th April, St. Catherine's Day, we all went to the hall. We had a prayer service, sang songs and ate jellies. We went outside to play and dance and then Ms. O'Reilly surprised us with an ice-cream van. We were so happy and surprised, and we even got to choose if we wanted a slushie or an ice-cream. We ate our ice-cream and then danced to music.

It was a fun day.

By Genevieve Ogbeni,



Tour of St. Dominic's College

In May, my class and I went on a tour to St. Dominic's College. The 4th year students showed us around. They showed us our floors and our lockers. The two 4th year students showed us our lunch rooms and told us that 6th year students would sit with us during lunch and talk to us. We saw the P.E hall. Now we have a good idea of where we're going when we get into first year.

By Jodie Curley, 6th Class

Helping Others

Recently both sixth classes have been collecting baby clothes for small children in direct provision. We decided to do this after our Confirmation. We collected baby clothes, pyjamas, bibs and other things for the babies and we were happy knowing that it was for a good cause.

By Nicole O'Brien, 6th Class

Mystery Reader

Each week for the past two months, 5 or 6 girls out of my class have been chosen for 'Mystery Reader'. Mystery Reader is when you pick a children's book, you have to practise reading the book all week and then read it to Junior Infants on Friday. It is a fun experience.

By Molly Henry, 5th Class



Active Week

From Monday 13th June to Friday 17th June, all the girls in St. Catherine's participated in Active Week. We do activities in school and at home. On Wednesday 15th June, all the girls had Sport's Day, there were so many activities like dancing, rounders, tug of war and the three legged race. We really enjoyed it. On Friday 17th June, all the classes picked a song and dance to do. It was a great week!

By Mary Doyeni, 6th Class

Santry

On Tuesday 31st May, I went to Santry. When I was on the bus I was very excited and also scared at the same time. When we got there I put on my shorts and stretched. Miss Martin and Miss Hayes came with us. There were around 15 of us. Before we ran we got a big sticker with three numbers on it. We walked around the track with a banner that said 'St. Catherine's Senior School'. Then we started to race. I really enjoyed it.

By Taylor McAuley, 4th Class

Farewell to St. Catherine's

This is sixth class' final year. Although we are really excited about secondary school, we will be really sad to leave this wonderful school. We have had some amazing teachers over the years, not forgetting our kind and understanding Principal. We have made amazing friends too. We will miss you all. Wish us luck.

By Teegan Doran, 6th Class

