



SAPERE AUDE

DUNDALK GRAMMAR SCHOOL

# JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

VOLUME 17 Issue 10

May/June 2018

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> August:** 1<sup>st</sup> Year Induction into Secondary school

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> August:** School commences

## PTA

We wish to thank the Parent Teachers Association for all their marvellous work over the year: Christmas Fete, Sports' Day BBQ, Family Quiz, Ice Cream Van and 6<sup>th</sup> class treats. The PTA is spending their funds on a set of ipads for the Junior School. Thank you for all your hard work.

## COMMUNION

Congratulations to our communicants Esme, Mary Kate, Lara, Katie, AJ, Holly, Alexander, Harry, Arabella and Calum on their Holy Communion last month.

## 6th CLASS

We bid farewell to our 6th class. We wish you all well in Senior School and look forward to you visiting us again in the Junior School next year.

The PTA very kindly funded a farewell day out at Carlingford Adventure Centre in May for the departing 6th class. All 6th class, accompanied by Ms. Lait and Mr Shekleton ventured up the mountain to the Skypark to the ziplining, high ropes etc. After a tasty lunch and ice cream, we took to the lough to enjoy some the water sports, and finally home at 5pm, exhausted but full of tales of excitement. The PTA also part sponsored lovely zip hoodies for all our sixth class. Thank you also to the PTA who organised special farewell hoodies for the 6th class, a souvenir to keep and ponder on in the years to come.

## MUSIC

Well done to all the 45 children who recently sat their recorder Cara award exams. Congratulations to Cillian, Josh, Grace, Harry, Arabella, Katie, Paula, Lara, Sophie, Caoimhe, Jack, Holly, Jude and Lucy on their recent Piano exams and to Arina on her Harp exam. Well done to Sarah and Ryan on their Violin exam and to Adam, Oliver and Jack on their guitar exam. Marlene recently sat her clarinet exams and Alannah took her Flute exam. Congratulations to Vincent, Alannah and Harry on their singing/voice exam. Well done to the children who participated in Feis Ceoil in Newry in May. The children were delighted with the challenge. Their teachers Mrs. O'Connor Moneley, Ms. Sarah McCourt, Mr. Kieran Holt, Mr. Emmett Fallon, Ms Helen Reynolds and Ms. Deirdre Ni Bhuachalla and the school are very proud of you all.

The highlight of our music year was our Music Recital which was held in May. Everyone had a chance to participate and we all thoroughly enjoyed playing and singing for our parents and friends. We had a great variety of instruments played: piano, violin, guitar, clarinet, recorder, drums, flute and harp.

## SPEECH & DRAMA

Congratulations to the children (all 67 of you) who recently sat their Leinster School exams in Speech and Drama. Ms Geraldine Kieran is delighted with your performance and the results were excellent.

## SPORTS NEWS

Our own Sports day took place at the beginning of May. We had many races including the long and short distances, hoop throwing, penalty shoot-out and an obstacles course to name but a few. A few Junior Infants pupils amazed us in the penalty shoot-out. Footballers to come! All the participants received a medal. Nathan McCreesh and Lucy Ives in the junior category, Adam Coleman and Marlene Ofterdinger in the senior category received the Sportsmanship awards. Thank you to the PTA for the lovely barbeque and bouncy castles. Thank you to all. It was a great day and we can't wait until next year's Sports day.

## SCHOOL TOURS

The school 3rd – 6th classes went on their school tour to the Viking Splash tour and Croke Park in Dublin. We learned about the history of Dublin, major landmarks, enjoyed interesting memorabilia, lots of interactive history, Croke Park pitch itself and the highlight, a trip into Grand Canal dock in an amphibious vehicle. The picnic lunch tasted better outside in St Patrick's park. We had such a great day. The Infant, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> classes enjoyed a visit to Fort Evergreen in Rostrevor. Lots of animals to see, picnics, mini tractor rides maize and yummy ice cream.

## UNIFORMS

Please note when purchasing uniform items: If small blazers are unavailable in the school stockist Michael Lynch's in Dundalk, small navy blazers (which are machine washable) can be purchased in any Marks & Spencer and Michael Lynch's will very kindly sew on the crest for you. There are still some (small sizes) blazers in the PTA second hand box which will be available at the beginning of the school year at a nominal cost.

**Please note that the Grammar school grey uniform skirt is box pleated and shoes must be leather, not runners nor canvas shoes. Box pleated skirts are available in Michael Lynch's, smaller sizes in Marks & Spencer and Dunnes Stores. Please check length of skirt which is below the knee.**

## NEW SCHOOL YEAR AND TIMES

The Junior School opens for the new academic year on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> August. However, the 1<sup>st</sup> years, our present 6<sup>th</sup> class will have their induction day on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> August.

School opening times are as follows: morning opening at 8.20am for supervision, classes begin at 8.50am.

**It is important that all children are in school by 8.45am to enable classes to begin at 8.50am.** It is very disruptive for children arriving late on a regular basis. Junior Infants finish at 12.30pm until Christmas, thereafter from January the finish time for Junior Infants is 2pm. All other classes, Senior Infants to 6<sup>th</sup> class finish at 3pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Wednesday we close at 2.30pm. Some children stay after school but only if they have signed up and participating in the Afternoon activities.

## ANYONE4SCIENCE

Two Science camps will be run in the Junior School during the holidays. Leaflets were sent out but all details are available on [www.anyone4science.com](http://www.anyone4science.com)

Congratulations to Lara Copas and Rhia Sullivan who won the free places in the July camp and to Caoilfhionn O'Reilly and Keir Gordon who won the places in the August camp.

## END OF YEAR

Our final assembly of the year focused on all the wonderful friendships we have made and how we should value everyone in life. The Junior School serenaded the school with their upbeat rendition of 'Something Just Like That'. Most of all, pupils were asked to be careful and safe over the summer holidays ahead.

We thank the PTA for their lovely surprise of the arrival of the Ice Cream van on the last day of school.

Wishing you all a pleasant and enjoyable summer

Elaine Lait

