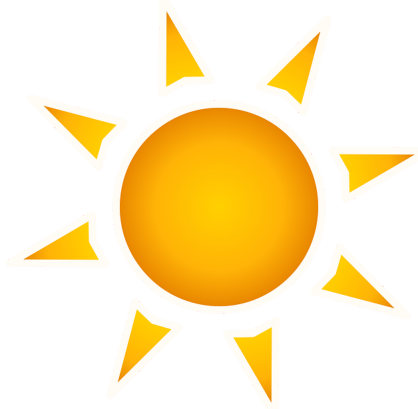


Summer Newsletter 2016



Principal's Note

As we finish the school year 2015/2016 I would like to thank the Board of Management, Staff Members, Parents and the pupils for their continued support throughout the year. It's been another busy year with the school involved in so many activities and events as you will read in this Newsletter. Don't forget to check our school website www.arlesnationalschool.ie for Latest News, Information, Booklists etc. I wish you all a great summer. Enjoy the holidays!

Board of Management

The Board of Management has continued to have regular meetings throughout the year. The following are the members of the Board of Management: Declan Fenlon (Chairperson), Fr. Pádraig Shelley, Annette Fitzpatrick, Catherine Lawlor, Veronica Fitzpatrick, David Dowling, Gearóid Brennan and Jackie Mooney.

Note from the Parents Association

Arles Parents Association held their AGM on Thursday 28th April. The following were elected: Chairperson: Brenda Scully Secretary: Miriam Conway Vice- Secretary: Mags Phelan Treasurer: Orla Miller Vice-Treasurer: Marianne George. Thanks to the Parents Association for funding the Drama Workshop and contributing towards the cost of a new projector, swimming and the Football Nets. Thanks too to all the parents who helped out with fundraising

this year and with the refreshments after First Confession, First Communion, Confirmation and Graduation Mass. It is very much appreciated.

Book Fair

Celtic Book fair came to our school on April 27th for 4 days. The total amount collected was €807, and the school can now get books to the value of €484 which is great. Thank you for your support.

Write A Book

Congratulations to Holly Hughes, Anna Miller and Keelin Kelly who got a Merit for their Write a Books this year. Well done to the many Highly Commended Winners too. Maith sibh all the pupils in the school who created and wrote their own book.

First Holy Communion

Congratulations to 2nd Class who received their First Holy Communion on Sunday 15th May. Thank you to Ms. Mahon for preparing them so well. Also, many thanks to the Staff, choir, servers and parents who provided lovely refreshments afterwards. It was a very enjoyable day.

German

Thank you to Sybil Kehoe who taught 4th, 5th and 6th Classes German for 4 weeks after Easter. Danke!

JEP Flag

Well done to all the pupils in 4th, 5th and 6th classes who set up their JEP Company "Classic Chocolates" this year. It was a great success. We raised the new JEP Flag after the Graduation Mass.

Drumming

This year was our first year taking part in the Laois Music Generation Programme. It was a fantastic opportunity for the pupils from 2nd-6th class to do Drumming Workshops with Eddie O'Neill. The pupils really enjoyed it and we hope to continue this next year.

Body Percussion

5th and 6th Classes were given a wonderful opportunity to work with Ollie Tunmer, a professional Body Percussionist, for 4 weeks along with Eddie O'Neill. Each week the pupils learned some Body Percussion Moves and Sequences. Congratulations to all the pupils who performed in a show called "Beat It! A Body Percussion Spectacle" in Dunamaise Theatre, Portlaoise on Wednesday 1st June.

Junior Infants-2nd Class School Tour

On Thursday 9th June, Junior Infants to 2nd Class went on their School Tour. First, they went to Dunamaise Theatre to see a show: "Dorothy DoLittle's Magic Adventure". Next they went to Portlaoise Roll n Bowl for some bowling, play and lunch. They all had a great day and really enjoyed it. Thanks to Mrs. O'Carroll, Ms.Mahon, Mrs. Cox and Mr. Lawless.

3rd-6th Class School Tour

On Wednesday 22nd June, 3rd-6th class went to Dublin for their School Tour. The first stop was Croke Park for a Stadium Tour, GAA Museum and Interactive Zone. After lunch, they went to the GPO to the 1916 Easter Rising Exhibition. Both guided tours were very informative and enjoyable. Thanks to Mrs. Fitzpatrick, Ms. Mahon, Mrs. Cox and Mr. Lawless.

Rounders

4th-6th classes took part in the Rounders Competition again this year in Emo on Wednesday 18th May. Well done to the 3 teams who represented Arles N.S. very well.

Graduation Mass

Graduation Mass was held in school on Thursday 23rd May at 2pm. 6th class were very excited on the day. Thanks to Fr. Pádraig who celebrated the mass. We wish the 6th Class pupils all the best as they start Secondary School in September.

New Junior Infants

On Friday 24th June, the new Junior Infants and their parents visited the school. The children had a Teddy Bear's Picnic while Mrs. Fitzpatrick spoke to the parents. We look forward to the children starting school in September.

Football

Thanks to Denise, Rosemary, Colm and David who helped out with the Football for 2nd-6th classes on Mondays in May and June. It is very much appreciated. The pupils really enjoyed the last day when they got to play Football and Rounders in the Club's Pitch. We look forward to the Cumann na mBunscol Competition again in September.

Swimming, PAWS

2nd-6th classes went swimming for 8 weeks in Graiguecullen Pool while Junior Infants to 1st class did the Land PAWS Water Safety Programme in school.

Green School/Garden

We received our 7th Green Flag this year which we were presented with in Kilkenny on 10th May. 2 pupils from the Green Schools committee went to it along with Ms. Lawlor and Mrs. Cox. We had a lovely day. Many thanks to Brian Miller for coming in again this year to help sow our vegetable garden. It is looking well now, the children are busy watering the veg and keeping it looking well.

Drama

Thanks to the Parents Association who paid for a Drama Teacher to come and do Drama in our school on Tuesday 7th June. Each class got a chance to take part in a Drama Workshop for 30 minutes. It was a great experience for the children and they really enjoyed it.

GAA INTO Skills Day

Congratulations to all the pupils who took part in the GAA INTO Skills Day in Portlaoise this year. Well done to Jamie Conway who took part in the Football Blitz in Kilkenny.

Athletics Competition Tullamore

Well done to all the pupils from Arles N.S. who took part in the Laois Primary Schools Track & Field Championships on the 8th June in Tullamore Harriers Stadium. Congratulations to Méabh Gallagher who came 2nd in the 5th Class Girls 800m and came 3rd in the 5th Class Girls Long Jump. Congratulations too to Ben Slattery who came 3rd in the 5th Class Boys Long Jump.

Active Schools Week

Active Schools Week began on Tuesday 21st June with Hockey for all classes. Thanks to Justine and Keeva from Carlow Hockey Club who taught each class some basic hockey skills. On Friday, all pupils took part in Athletics. Thanks to Breda Daly for organising and giving up her time. On Monday, 2nd-6th Class played football and rounders up in the Club's Pitch. Thanks to all the people who organised this and to the past pupils who helped out. On Tuesday, we had a Euro 2016 Soccer Day with soccer matches and penalty shootouts. On Wednesday, Alison Miller taught gymnastics to all classes and we also had our Sports Day. Well done to everybody who took part.

Discovery Primary Science and Maths Award of Excellence

Well done to the school as they were awarded a Plaque of STEM Excellence in the "Discover Primary Science and Maths Awards" for their work in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths this year. This is the second year in a row to receive this award.

Moo Crew Winners

We are delighted that Arles N.S. won the "Moo Crew" Competition in Co. Laois. We won a Sports Voucher worth €80 and also received a plaque. Well done to all the pupils who entered this competition. It is sponsored by the National Dairy Council.

School Calendar 2016/2017

School re-opens on Thursday 1st September 2016. Enjoy the holidays!