



Newsletter 25th June 2013

Dear Parents / Guardians,

As we come to the end of the school year, I wish to take this opportunity to bring you up to date on a number of matters in our school.

School Reports

The school reports are being posted this week and if you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us. Standardised Drumcondra Test Scores in Reading and Mathematics for pupils from First to Sixth Class are included. It is important to note that these scores are a snap – shot of where your child is in reading and mathematics at this time.

Sten scores go from 1 to 10 and tell you about your child's development in the tests.

Sten score	8 – 10	well above average.
	7	high average.
	5 – 6	average.
	4	low average.
	1 – 3	well below average.

Staffing

Because of government cut – backs we are most unfortunate to lose the services of Deirdre Gorman our very capable and respected Special Need Assistant. Deirdre has been on the school staff since April 2003 and has been a very loyal and excellent member of our staff. She is an extremely able S.N.A popular with parents, pupils and teachers alike, and we wish her well in her future career.

Ms McMorrow continues her career break and Ms Egan and Ms O' Hanlon will job share next year so St Canice's has advertised for two temporary teachers and these positions will be filled in early July. Our fourth class teacher in Room 16, Mr Gaffney has suffered a health set back and is recovering slowly at the moment. Our caretaker Joe is undergoing treatment at the moment and is very positive about his recovery. The school wishes them both speedy recoveries and look forward to seeing them back in the school on September 2nd.

Before the Easter holidays we said our goodbyes to Collette who had been our excellent and most efficient school secretary for over fifteen years. We thank Collette for her unconditional support and service to St. Canice's and wish her all the best in her new position.

The school is delighted to have an old friend of the school Karen McCormack as our new school secretary and hopes she settles in quickly – we wish her all the best in her new role!

Parents Association

I wish to record the appreciation of all the staff for the wonderful work carried out by our parents over the past year. They have assisted with cookery, maths for fun, reading for fun, cake sales, raffles and many other activities in our school.

This year we sadly see the departure of Lorraine Gorman and Paul Boylan from the Committee, as their sons Lorcan and Luke move on to second level.

They have been tremendous workers for our school. Any time there was an issue to be fought on behalf of the school, or funds to be raised to provide the best for our pupils, they were always there, ready and able. We thank all the parents on the committee for their continued support for pupils and staff. It is greatly appreciated.

School Grounds

Our school grounds are getting many compliments from visitors and passers – by and we wish to thank our temporary caretaker Derek Carroll for his excellent work, our Gardening Club led by Ms Mulkeen and Ms Cuthbert and Dublin City Council for providing plants and shrubs.

Building Update

The solicitors acting for Elliott builders have made contact with the school's solicitors to settle proceedings in relation to the pyrite issues at the school. They are willing to make a cash payment to the school in exchange for a complete discharge of liability.

Engineers have been instructed to carry out further tests at the school to assess whether there is any damage in other areas related to pyrite. Once we have the results of those tests, the board of management of the school can make a final decision on the proposal.



Sport

As always the school competed in Gaelic Football, hurling, boxing, soccer and athletics this year. The boys performed admirably in all sports. The highlight of the year was the winning of gold medals in Santry by Sean Clarke for the long jump and Dylan Greer for the 60 metres sprint. Thanks to all the boys who took part and their coaches Ms O' Keefe and Mr Quinn. Our sixth class boxers performed courageously in the National Stadium showing great promise for the future. Our hurlers under their mentors Ms O' Keefe, Mr Ward and Mr Power won their league and received a cup and medals.

The Gaelic Football teams were unlucky in their Fingal League campaigns – the seniors losing in the quarter final and the juniors losing in a pulsating semi – final in extra time. Special thanks to their wonderful mentors Ms Connaughton, Ms O'Keefe, Mr Irvine and Mr Quinn. With all our young footballers, hurlers, athletes, boxers coming through the ranks, the future looks bright for St. Canice's.

Graduation and Enrolments

Graduation for 6th classes took place on Thursday 20th June. A big thank you to the 6th class boys of Ms Connaughton's and Mr Quinn's classes. We wish them well and hope they continue to do well in their new secondary schools. We held an induction day for the new junior infants on Thursday 30th May. We look forward to seeing 58 new pupils on September 2nd and hope they have a happy and fruitful eight years in St. Canice's. Their teachers this year are Ms O' Sullivan and Ms Kearney.

Active Schools Week

Our active school's week was held in glorious weather on the week of June 17th. The boys enjoyed a varied programme of races, dodge ball, skipping, Chinese baseball, penalty taking, snatch the bacon and class sports. A special thanks to Ms Cuthbert, Ms Lynchehan, Mr Power and all the staff for a splendidly organised week. Friday was the big treat with the bouncy castles in both Junior and Senior yards!

Classes from 3rd to 6th all received the opportunity to learn or improve their swimming skills through the year. This continues to be a first opportunity for all children to learn a skill for life.

Classes for 2013/14 School Year

Class	Teacher	Room
Junior Infants	Ms. O' Sullivan	8
	Ms. Kearney	7
Senior Infants	Ms. Kenny	6
	Mr. Gaffney	5
First	Mr. Quinn	1
	New teacher	2
Second	Ms. Walsh	3
	Ms. Connaughton	4
Third	Ms. Egan / Ms O' Hanlon	17
	New teacher	10
Fourth	Ms. Mulkeen	11
	Ms. McHugh	16
Fifth	Mr. Irvine	12
	Ms. Cuthbert	15
Sixth	Mr. Power	13
	Ms. O'Keefe	14

Special Education Team for 2013 – 14

Mr Moynihan R 25, Ms Loughman R24, Ms Fallon R9, Ms McCaughan R18 and Mr Ward R23

On behalf of all the staff I wish you all a pleasant and safe summer holiday, and thank you for your support and friendliness throughout the year. We look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 2nd September at 8.55 a.m.

Yours sincerely,

Tim Walsh

St. Canice's Boys' School

Principal: Tim Walsh

Under the patronage of the Catholic Archbishop of Dublin



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