

ST. LAURENCE'S NATIONAL SCHOOL

Scoil Naomh Lorcán

Phone 045 879119

NEWSLETTER - June 2025

Dear Parents & Guardians,

SUMMER HOLIDAYS: School will close tomorrow **Friday, 27th June** for the summer holidays. School will re-open on **Thursday 28th August 2025**.

Early closing on Friday 27th June as follows: Junior & Senior Infants @ 12 noon
1st – 6th Classes @ 12:15 pm

Staff: Ms Emma Dunning, Ms Helen O'Connor and Ms Caoilfhionn Dempsey are leaving us to enjoy new adventures. We wish them every happiness and success in the future. Ms Helen Cully, Mr David Kelly and Ms Jennifer Breen will be on career break next year. We wish them a safe and happy year.

Sixth Class: We will be saying goodbye to our present 6th class pupils tomorrow. Our 6th class pupils have had their last tour, sports day, school leaver's mass and their second colour reveal day! They are a credit to themselves, to you as their parents and to our school as ambassadors out in the wider world. We wish happiness and success for all of our 6th class pupils as they continue on their life's journey.

Pupils Leaving: If your child *is not returning to our school* for the coming school year please let us know in writing as soon as possible. This is very important as we prepare class lists for 2025/2026.

Parents Council: I want to say a huge 'THANK YOU' to our Parents Council. They work tirelessly in the background helping to enrich the children's experiences in school. This year the Parents Council has started a quarterly newsletter. Their newsletters are on the school website and on the new Parents Council Information Board. The newsletters give a great flavour of all the things that our Parents Council do for us. As she leaves the Parents Council a special word of thanks to Claire Merity for all her support and hard work on the Parents Council. If you would like to volunteer or join the Parents Council please email parents.council@sallinsns.ie.

Memorial Service: This year we held our first Memorial Service since 2019! It was a poignant and prayerful event as we remembered members of our school community who have passed away. We hope to continue hosting the Memorial Service in the future. If you or someone you know would like an invitation to the next one please send their name and contact details to the school at info@sallinsns.ie.

House Colour Day: This year for our Second House Colour Day there was much anticipation and great excitement before revealing the winner of the House Competition. Children and staff have been kind and been caught being kind all year! The Parents Council thanked different members of the school community.

Active School Week: Active school week took place from 16th – 20th June. The sun was shining during this energetic week, full of activity and fun. Junior Infants to Sixth Class took part in a wide variety of activities that included novelty races, parachute games, orienteering, active walks, table tennis, hula hooping, skipping, elastics, penalty shootouts, basketball shootouts, rounders, dodgeball and yoga. We look forward to another jam packed week next year full of activities for both children and adults in the school to enjoy. Remember, Get Active, Get Fit, Your Body Needs It!

Athletics: We have closed out another fantastic year for our Cross Country and Athletics teams! On 29th of May, children from 4th, 5th and 6th class took part in a great day of athletics in Celbridge Athletic Club. Well done to all who took part and competed on the day. The great spirit and encouragement from the group made for a thoroughly enjoyable day.

A big thanks to the coaches Ms. Stapleton, Ms. Shortall and Derek McConnon, as well as all the parents who supported on the day. We are all looking forward to another exciting year next year! Enjoy the summer break and don't forget to keep up some running – we'll be back training in September for our Autumn League.

Mini-Scientist: A special mention and congratulations to Humna, Dasha and Saoirse from Ms Murphy's 6th class on their wonderful achievement earlier this term. The girls were the winners of our school's Intel Mini-Scientist exhibition in Term 1 for their investigation; 'Why do people have different eye colours?' They went on to represent the school in the All Ireland Grand Final on 29th April. This event was held at TUD Blanchardstown and over 80 science investigations were there on the day to be judged.

Saoirse, Humna and Dasha represented our school extremely well, and presented to several judges on the day. They were awarded a Runner's Up prize and proudly brought the award back to St. Laurence's NS. We are very proud of the girls and wish them all the best as they move on to secondary school. A big well done and thank you to the girls, their parents and to Ms Murphy, for all of the work they put in. *Maith sibh go léir!*

Student Council Bake Sale: We had another hugely successful bake sale fundraiser event on Thursday 12th June with a record breaking amount of €2,572.20 raised. The Student Council are collaborating with their class groups on how best to spend these funds for the benefit of all our students. We would like to express a sincere thank you to everyone who baked, bought and sold the treats on the day. Without the support and tremendous effort of our whole school community this wouldn't have been possible, so thank you!

Bí Cineálta Policy: The Bí Cineálta Policy will come into effect for the new school year. Emily Strappe and Dasha Hersmenko designed the child-friendly version. Well done to the two ladies who will be heading off to secondary school in the autumn.

School Meals: Hot school lunches should be available to the children in the new school year. Bradbury's will be supplying them. When the paperwork has been finalised you will be sent details of how to order the food. It is optional and you get to choose from the menu what your child would like to eat for lunch.

Solar Panels: Solar panels will be fitted to the school over the summer holidays. We hope that it will reduce the energy bills in the school, as they are considerable.

Schoolbooks: As you may be aware, the Department of Education provides free schoolbooks, workbooks and copies for all primary school children. Funding has been given directly to schools so that the necessary books are in the school for the start of the year. The schoolbooks remain the property of the school so they may be re-used in future years. Children from 1st class upwards will need to supply their own pencils, pens, etc.

Calendar: The school calendar has been emailed to you and is on the school website. Copies are also available from school reception.

Class List: The class list has also been emailed to you and will be on the school website.

School Uniform: Junior Infants, Senior Infants and 1st classes will have the option of wearing the full school uniform or the school tracksuit each day. Children from 2nd to 6th class will be expected to wear the uniform as usual, wearing the tracksuit on PE days. The correct school uniform, which is widely available, must be worn in school. We have ties available from the school office, costing €5, should you need them.

Thank You: Thank you to staff and parents who volunteered their time to facilitate sports (Gaelic, hurling, camogie, soccer, athletics and basketball) music, choir, crochet, yoga, French classes and Spanish classes.

Thank you to all pupils, parents and staff for their hard work and support this year. It is very much appreciated and never taken for granted.

And finally, I wish all pupils, parents and staff a safe and happy holiday. I look forward to welcoming you all back on Thursday 28th August.

Yours sincerely,

Íde Kelly
Principal