



St Fintan's National School



Upcoming Events

Thursday 30th June

Last Day of School
(closing at 12 noon)

Thursday 1st September

First Day Back

Thursday 8th September

New Parents Coffee Morning
Aqua, Howth

Message from Mr McInerney

Another year has flown by in St. Fintan's with many changes and events happening all the time. Our new Board of Management began its term of office in January and there are also many new faces on the Parents' association. Staff personnel has changed throughout the year as we welcome our teachers who were on maternity back to the school and say a big thank you to the substitutes who filled in so ably for various periods of the year. St. Fintan's is a school that is ever changing in small ways, but the important business of teaching and learning continues as children work towards achieving their potential with the help of their teachers. Standardised testing has recently been completed and while important these are only a snapshot of current achievement. School reports will be issued in June and will reflect fantastic work and the positivity which permeates the school. It is a fantastic atmosphere in which to work and learn and I thank all who contribute children, staff and parents.

Board of Management & Parents' Association

Recently members of the Board of Management and the Parents' Association met to look at planning for the future of the school. Plans include painting of the classrooms, continued refurbishment of a building which is over 30 years old, planning for an extension to the current building, investment in IT for learning and curricular changes in Gaeilge and English. It was a very positive meeting with lots of sharing of ideas. The Board of Management has prepared a development plan for the next four years. This is important to retain the high standards of education for our children.

Centenary Celebrations

Here in St. Fintan's, along with every school in the country, we commemorated the 1916 centenary. We had our flag raising ceremony in October 2015, where we accepted a copy of the 1916 Proclamation and our National Flag from Members of the Defence Forces.

5th and 6th Class worked very hard on writing our Proclamation 2016 for a new Generation. This was read at our Proclamation Day in March of this year. On Proclamation Day, we also had some readings and music honouring our school's connections to 1916. Our National Flag was raised by Mr McInerney at midday. The children also had great fun dressing up in costumes that might have been worn 100 years ago.

Photographs of our celebrations are on display in the front lobby of the school as a wonderful reminder of a special year. Ms McInerney

Athletics in Santry



Ms Smith and Mr McInerney with Nicole Ingle, Rachel Hughes, Ellie Boothroyd, Sarah Jane Smith and Emma Dineen

St. Fintan's has a proud record in competing in the Dublin Primary School Sports over the years and this success continued this year. The highlight was winning two of the 8 relays where our Under 10 and Under 11 boys were clear winners and we also had bronze medals in the U13 boy's and U13 girl's relays.

The winning team members were in U10 Boys James McCormack, Ben Kennedy, Eoin Quinn, David Smith and Alex Whelan. In the U11 boys the team was Charles Coyle, Jack Gallagher, Luke Ingle, Johnny Flynn and Sean Spain.

Individual success were also achieved for Ellie Boothroyd, Jake Creaven and Luke Ingle in the hurdles, Simon Cunningham in long jump and sprint and Jane McGurrin in the sprint.

All our pupils and teams ran superbly and did the school proud and big thank you to Ms. Smith and Mr. McInerney for their coaching.

Voluntary Contributions

Voluntary Contribution Received
Number of Families
% of Families

2015 / 16

€28,242

103

35%



The voluntary contribution is a critical element in funding the day to day running of the school. This is before we consider the necessary ongoing investment and development that is critical for the education of our children. At present only 35% of families make a contribution – too few are carrying too many!

The school does not receive sufficient funding from the State. Hence the annual deficit needs to be funded and the voluntary contribution is critical in that regard. This simply keeps the lights on, the heat in the class rooms and puts soap in the bathrooms.

We are all aware of the progress made over recent years with the new class rooms, school hall etc - an investment of over €1.1m. This would not happen without parent support.

The school urgently requires additional investment in replacing the white boards, improving the bathrooms, upgrading the library, sports equipment / jerseys and construction of new facilities.

We sincerely thank all who have paid the Voluntary Contribution in the current year and urge others who are in a position to do so, to please make whatever contribution you can before holidays begin. The recommended contribution is €250 per family, but any contribution that could be made would be appreciated. Ronan O'Byrne

Sponsored By Aqua Restaurant

Tennis

Congratulations to the St Fintan's Boys' Tennis Team who topped their group in the Round Robin stages and reached the semifinals of the Primary Schools Leinster League. They were only narrowly beaten by a very strong St Michael's Team.

Well done to [Conor Jansen](#), [Jamie Kenehan](#), [Cian Cullen](#), [Dylan Flanagan](#), [Jack Gilroy](#), [David Stack](#) and [Michael Loughney](#) on their great achievement! [Niamh Flanagan](#)



GAA End of Year Report

BOYS: The 2015/16 school year has seen St. Fintan's score some notable victories on GAA pitches across the city and county. The boys' football team had their most successful season to date, contesting no fewer than three finals and winning two of them. As reported previously on these pages we had a super day out in Croke Park in October despite being beaten in the Sciath an Chéid final. Any lingering disappointment from that day was well and truly banished when they secured an 8 point win over a very competitive Priorswood side in the Fingal League (Div. 4) Final in May. The team's mentors, Mr. Mac Lochlainn and Mr. Daly, were thrilled that the boys were able to deliver on their potential, playing some really wonderful football throughout the Fingal League series. Finally, and to cap off an excellent season, we managed to come out on top in a pulsating Peninsula Cup Final against near neighbours, Scoil Mhuire of Howth. [Mr MacLochlainn](#)

GIRLS: 2016 was another successful year in the Fingal League for the Girls GAA team. We are lucky to have a huge panel of skilled girls with a love and passion for the game. The girls' commitment, determination and enthusiasm was admirable throughout the League, both in matches and training. They could be relied upon to conduct themselves in a polite and sporting fashion when representing the school at all times. We are very proud of them.

Additional silverware was not to be for us this year, unfortunately. The girl's chance at another final in Parnell Park was snatched from them by Greenlanes NS in the last minutes of a hard-fought match in Clontarf. Similarly, last week's Peninsula Cup saw another defeat against local rivals Scoil Mhuire. The team took it in their stride and were delighted to get the opportunity to play against their Beann Éadair teammates.

We look forward to further success next year, however the absence of our fantastic sixth class players will be felt. We wish Jane, Jools, Ellen, Alannah, Erin and Emma all the best as they leave St. Fintan's for secondary school. [Ms McCreanor](#)

Book Lists

Thanks to [Carol-Ann Goggin](#) and [Shelley Wright](#) for their huge work in organising the children's schoolbooks for next year and to [Sinéad O'Boyle](#) for co-ordinating everything behind the scenes between parents and staff.

Please continue to make payments to the school using the e-mail link which connects to our Aladdin administration system. This streamlined payments and resulted more efficient the tracking of money with the school being now almost completely cashless. [Mr Mclnerney](#)

Save our Sport's Day!



The Annual school sports day on Saturday 11th of June was a great success again due to the weather and all the volunteers and committee members. This year we had over 400 kids take part in what has become a fantastic fun day event for all the family. This fabulous day is run solely by the parents as it is an out of school event. Unfortunately we find it very hard to get new volunteers, committee members and sponsors to help us run this great event.

Ken Gilmer of [The Summit Stores /Yummies](#) has again as in many previous years continued to sponsor the event by donating all products and proceeds of the shop to pay for the running cost of the event. [Ray Collier Butchers](#), [The Wine House](#), [Beshoff Fish and Chips](#) and [Sutton Cross Pharmacy](#) have continuously supported this event. However we cannot continue to be asking the same sponsors year in and year out to continue to donate as their children move on to second level schools. It would be a shame to think that this was our last year so I would call on all parents new and old to give up a few hours and become a volunteer, a committee member or a sponsor to help with the running of the fantastic fun day.

Thanks again to all the volunteers especially to [Sarah Abraham](#) for the organisation of the day and to [Dan Finucane](#) of [Peninsula Catering](#) for cooking all the food. Parents interested in helping to Save our Sports Day please contact me [Niall Mc Cormack](#) on 0872244489 or niall@corroptical.ie or sarahabraham12@gmail.com

Coast Guard Visit



The school had a visit from the Coastguard helicopter on Friday 17th June and classes were all given a tour and learned about the important work of the Coastguard. Thanks to [Alan McEvoy](#) for arranging the visit.

Golf Day & Social Night

The Annual St Fintan's Golf Day & Social Night was held on 13th May in Sutton Golf Club in glorious sunshine. A great day and night was had by all with 70 golfers taking part and 100 attending the dinner where surprise entertainment was provided by the "Singing Waiters". Many thanks to everybody who supported the event, including participants and tee & prize sponsors, which raised much needed funds for the school. [Mark Hogan](#)

New Web Site Look out for the New St. Fintan's website which will come next year. Thank You to Webmasters - [Mr Daly](#) and [Guillaume Takaichvili](#).