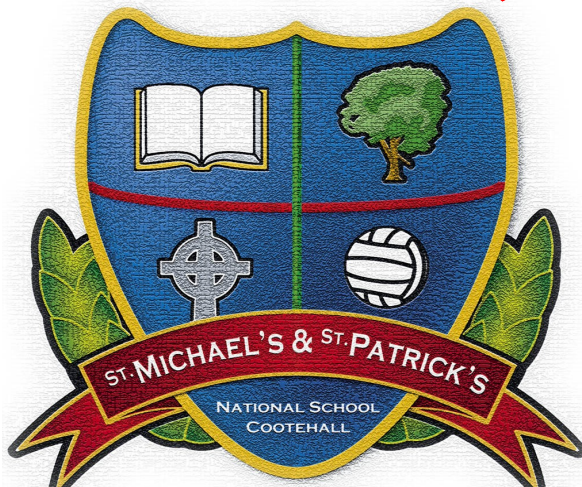


# ***Our School June 2021***

***ST. MICHAEL'S & ST. PATRICK'S N.S.***



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**TO OUR  
SIXTEENTH  
EDITION**

*Welcome to the 16th edition of our School 's Newsletter 2021.*

*This school year has been like no other for sure. One that will go down in History.!*

*However look at all the things we did while we were in school not to mention the wonderful things we did during our period of remote learning at home. We hope anyone who is interested in our school will enjoy this read!*

**Students & Employees**

For the year 2020/21, 134 students attended our school. For this year, there were 5 classes in the school and class numbers averaged 26.8

Our class teachers were:

**Mr. Cian Duffy, Principal**

**Ms. Deirdre Brennan**

**Mr. Lochlainn Conboy**

**Ms. Tanya Tansey**

**Ms. Christine McLoughlin (March-June 2021)**

**Ms. Laura Conroy/Ms. Deirdre Brennan (Jobsharers)**

Special Education Teachers:

**Ms. Catherine Martin, Deputy Principal**

**Ms. Arlene Gilhooly**

Special Need Assistants:

**Pauline Dwyer**

**Joan Tiernan**

For the year September 2021 to June 2022, we will have a slight increase in the number of students in our school. A secretary and a cleaner is also employed at the school

**Board of Management**

The schools BOM is represented by our Parish Priest and 1 more Patron's nominee, two teacher nominees, 2 Parents of our students as Parent Nominees and 2 further nominees from our community. A new BOM was elected in November 2019 and are due to finish their term in November 2024. The BOM continued throughout the year to help develop and maintain our school in line with Department of Education and Skills guidelines.

**School Website - [www.cootehallns.com](http://www.cootehallns.com).**

We started a new website in our school in August 2017 to keep everybody more informed about our school and all that goes on inside our grounds.

It is a great one stop shop of information about the school , it's policies and school life.

We have made great use of it during the Covid 19 closure.

Please continue to check it out for school information and online school forms.



**Easter Decorations**  
The students made lovely Easter Decorations hanging outside Cootehall Church. Thank you to Pauline and Joan for all your help! They looked lovely!

### **Hallowe'en Dress Up**

We had our annual Hallowe'en Dress Up Day on Friday 23rd October. Costumes get more impressive with every passing year.



### **Religious Services**

**First Holy Communion** First Holy Communion will take place on Sunday August 1<sup>st</sup> in Cootehall Church.

**Confirmation** Confirmation will take place on Thursday August 12<sup>th</sup> at 11.30 a.m. in Cootehall Church.

**End of Year Mass** Fr Brendan will celebrate end of year Mass on Thursday 24th June. On that day First Confession will also take place for the First Holy Communicants.

**Christmas** To celebrate Christmas we had a "Christmas Day" in the school on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December and the students wore their Christmas Jumpers instead of their uniform jumpers on this day.



**Science Week** Science week in the school was as usual great fun. Loads of interesting science experiments was shared. Well done to 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class for their outdoor science fair, the students from the other classes enjoyed seeing the many amazing experiments.





**The Junior Infants are busy building in the construction area.**

**Some of the children are creating beautiful suns in our Art Area.**



**In our role play corner, the children are having fun celebrating a birthday party!**



**In our fine motor skills area, the children are having great fun sorting the pegs and completing threading activities.**



**In small world, the children are creating their own busy town to go shopping for the birthday party!**



### New Biodiversity and Sensory Garden

Our new Biodiversity and Sensory garden is an interactive space with colourful and textured surfaces. With the inclusion of a bug hotel, bird house, owl house, bee house, two large bird feeders and several small bird feeders, we have also tried to encourage biodiversity and create a wildlife-friendly habitat. Well done to all the students and thanks to everyone who helped in getting the garden to this stage.





**The 3rd and 4th Class students are busy at Art.**



## The Playschool

Ardcarne Community Childcare Services CLG is situated in our school. The playschool is run by a Management Committee which is independent of the National School. Twenty-two children attend and there are 5 fully qualified childcare practitioners in the service. There is a “Breakfast Club” Session from 8:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m., the “Aistear” Session from 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. There is also an Afterschool scheme. This is for Junior and Senior Infants class from 2.10 p.m. to 3.10 p.m. and from 3.10 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. for all students during school term time. An out of school service is ran during school Holidays which consists of camps and workshops during mid-term breaks and the month of July. Details available from pre-school. Any queries regarding the playschool, please phone 071-9667140.

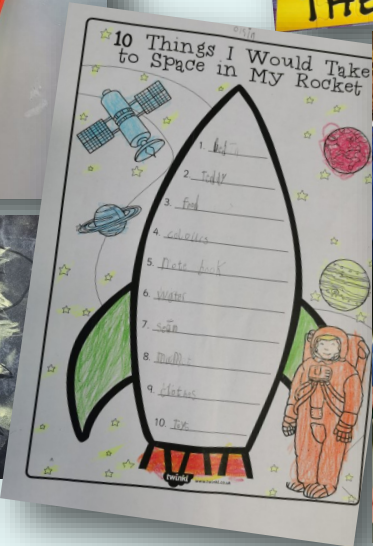


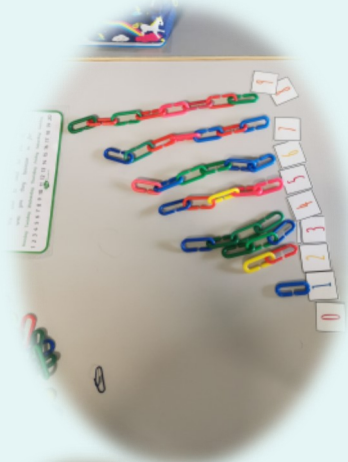
**SOME STUDENTS  
FROM 1ST AND 2ND  
CLASS ARE BUSY  
WITH SCHOOL  
WORK AND ART.**



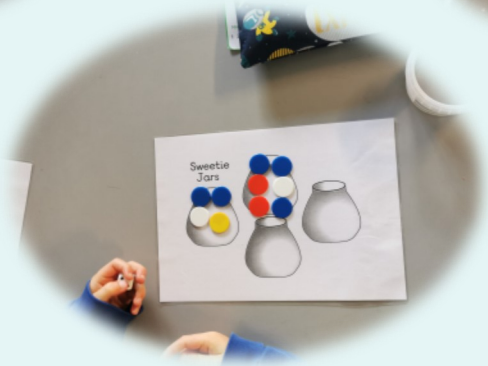
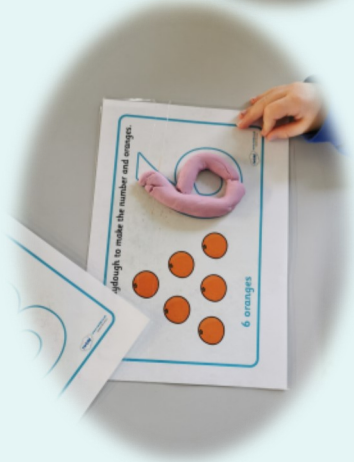


**SENIOR  
INFANTS/  
FIRST  
CLASS  
SOME  
OF OUR  
WORK IN  
AISTEAR**





**SENIOR  
INFANTS/  
FIRST  
CLASS  
SOME OF  
OUR  
MATHS  
WORK**



## The Parents Association

Our Parents Association was set up in 1992. We are always keen to welcome new members and would encourage everyone who is interested to let us know. We really would like new members to join our Parent's Association to continue to bring energy to this integral part of our school. We are concerned that without more parental involvement the Parent Association will struggle to be able to offer the vital support to our children and the school...

The Committee is as follows:

Andrew Leaver – Treasurer

Nicole Harney – Secretary

Caroline Walshe – Chairperson

Committee members: Agnes Dowd, Joan Cummins, Emily Sachs-Eldridge

The main aims/role of the Parents Association are:

- To represent the views of all the parents.
- To inform parents of developments in education and in the school.
- To foster co-operation between Parents, Teachers and School Management.
- To work towards making the school a community in which our children can grow in social and academic skills and in which the teachers feel supported in their work by the parents.
- To provide opportunities for parents and teachers to meet, in order to exchange ideas on the education of children in the home, problems of mutual interest, policies and any other matters of relevance.

The Parents Association are involved in the development of school policies such as Child Safeguarding and Anti-Bullying Policies.

Thank you for your continued support. Hope to see you at our next meeting!



**The students enjoying the sandpit.**



## **Cycle to Lough Key Forest Park**

The students from 5th and 6th Class took part in a Cycling Training Programme in conjunction with Roscommon Sports Partnership in the third term. The students learned the skills of safe cycling.

On Tuesday 22nd June the students from 5th and 6th Class will cycle to the Lough Key Forest Park. Afterwards the students will take part in Zipit Forest Adventures.

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**DLP - CIAN DUFFY**  
**DEPUTY DLP - DEIRDRE BRENNAN**

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