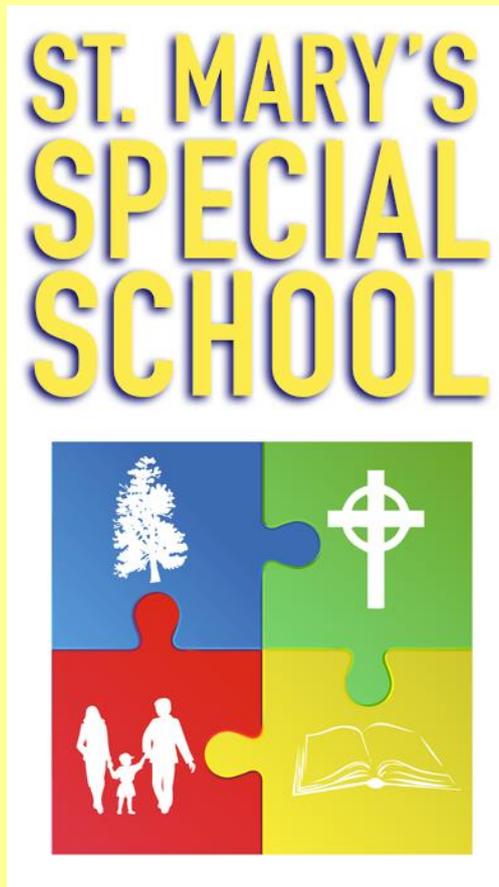


Summer Newsletter 2022



Welcome to our Newsletter

Welcome to our annual Summer Newsletter, to mark the end of another year in St Marys. As usual, all our pupils have done us proud this year! We congratulate our eleven graduates this year and wish them every success in the future. We had a wonderful evening of celebrations for the occasion where the school staff, families and the students joined to acknowledge their achievements.

Well done and congratulations to Ailish, Adam, Jack, Cian, Connor, Christopher, Eoin, Joseph, Kaif, Padraic and Ryan.

This year, the pupils took part in the Green Flag programme, the Level One Learning Programme, ADSAN and their usual curricular activities. We had a very busy year in St Mary's School full of fun and learning.

We hope you all have a very restful Summer and we look forward to welcoming the children back to St Mary's School for the year 2022/23.

Principal Maria Corridor

Dear parents/guardians,

As we approach the end of another busy year ,I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support you have given both to your child and to the school.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our eleven school leavers who are moving on to a new chapter in their lives of becoming adults. We will always keep you in our hearts as you have given us so much joy during all your years in St Mary's.

Please note that our woodwork teacher is retiring and we will miss Tommy around the school and we wish him all the best in this new chapter of his life.

St Mary's continues to plan for the safe return to school and we look forward to see all our pupils after the Summer on the 1st of September.

We ask our Lord God, Creator of all things, guide our steps and strengthen our hearts, during these months of summer and vacation days. Grant us refreshment of mind and body.

A Flowering of Art at St. Mary's



Art outdoors in Jun



Mosaic



Prints,

Stencils and Flowers

There has been amazing artwork made at St. Mary's this year and the images here convey only a small sample. We have used our new etching press in the senior class to

make original Collagraph prints, and we have collected hundreds of plastic bottle tops to make colourful mosaics to enhance the school walls. We visited an exhibition at the Solstice Art Centre and the children took part in a workshop there.



Cian



Kaif

Sewing skills are in evidence too as can be seen with these beautiful stitched pieces, each deserving to be framed. So they were!

And did you know that we have very talented artists amongst the staff at St. Mary's ? This small exhibition is a reflection of their creativity expressed in print, paint and multi media.

It is no wonder then that the children here are given every opportunity to engage in creative work, to enjoy sensory experiences and to communicate through mark-making and creative expression.

Ina Olohan Art Teacher

We are proud to be a Green Flag School

Well done to all our pupils who have achieved the status of Green Flag school for St Mary's this year.



News from the Classrooms

Deputy Jean Marie Thompson

I would like to thank the staff for their support over the year in helping to make St Marys a safe place to work and thrive. For all the Well Being activities and the sense of team building in classes.

Wishing all the Leaves a wonderful future as they move on to Adult Services and the NLC. Wishing the entire school community a relaxing, refreshing summer holiday.

Teacher Mary Jarrett

Class 1 have had a wonderful year. The last term was a great opportunity to get out and about again. Such a breath of fresh air quite literally after covid! The children loved trips out to the Farm, Donkey Shed, Trim playground and Blackwater playground. This was great for inclusion, and their social skills; getting out in the community to the restaurant, or mixing with other children from the locality at the playground.

We enjoyed themes to do with holidays, the seaside, summer; working on beautiful sensory art projects, stories, and enjoying sensory activities along with the usual curricular activities. We really enjoyed fun week on this our last week of the term. Disco day, arts and crafts and sports. We will finish off the term with a party with all our favourite treats, cakes, cupcakes and music to round off a fantastic year.

Well deserved by all!

Teacher Anthony Gallagher

2022 is a special year for A6. We have our three graduates; Ryan, Joseph and Chris moving to adult services – we wish them all the best for the future. It doesn't seem like many years ago they started their St Mary's journey – times does indeed fly by. We would like to thank all parents for their support and understanding throughout the year. Enjoy the summer.

Anthony, Mary, John and Deirdre

Teacher James Lowry

The three graduates, Jack, Padraic and Conor enjoyed a fabulous celebration at the Ardboyne Hotel last Friday night with all the other graduates and their families. We will really miss them and wish them great success and happiness for the future.

Darragh, Cian and Cillian have done great work all year too and have earned a lovely summer break. Well done boys!

Teacher Nieves De La Calle

In C5, we enjoyed the good weather doing outdoor activities. We painted with water balloons, had a picnic in the yard and played bowling. Also, we had a lot of fun on our visit to the fire station in Dublin. Finally, we practised new recipes in our cookery class making rice krispie buns and ham & cheese sandwiches.

Teacher Valerie O'Connor

This term A3 have continued working on the Keeping Well, Looking Good programme. We learned which foods are healthy to eat and good for our bodies. Caitlin loved peeling and chopping potatoes to make homemade chips - which she, Chizzy and Amy enjoyed eating. We practiced exercises to keep fit and take care of our bodies. Mindfulness was part of this programme. We practised deep breathing exercises - stretching up like tall trees (breathe in) and watching the leaves fall (flutter hands down and breathe out). We also practiced tacpac, stories and songs through massage and relaxation.

We moved into our new classroom and settled into new seating arrangements. Amy was delighted with her new room - we all got hugs!! Jake was very happy to be close to the field and loved getting out for a run most days. Lucy discovered the BIG trampoline and this became her top choice each day!! Chizzy and Jasmine liked the quiet room. Everyone helped to keep the classroom tidy.

Teacher Rhian Thompson

We have had a lovely time in Junior class this term. We welcomed the children back to the class which was a joy. We looked at Dr Seuss and had so much fun with 'Cat in the hat', making some excellent art.

We looked at pictures of our pets and it was so interesting to see the different animals.

We made a great assembly for the Holiday theme which was fantastic to be part of. Everyone loved the filming. It was even more fun watching back all the videos of us dressed up for it.

We did the topic Summer, looking, feeling, smelling all the different things you would see at summer and recreated famous pieces of art. During this topic we had Fun Week! Fun week was amazing, it was Hawaiian themed. We dressed up, had parties,

played games, had a Teddy bears picnic and even had visitors in to entertain us. There was a magician which the children loved. Seeing the nurses and teachers dressed up was very funny too.

We will be sad to say goodbye to William Mulligan, the other teacher in the unit. As he is moving away but we wish him all the luck in the world.

Finally we want to wish you all an amazing summer!!!

Teacher Siobhan McKiernan

Class 2 have had a great term. We celebrated winning a Group Prize in the CPSMA National Art Competition. The class travelled to the Slieve Russell Hotel, enjoyed a fabulous lunch followed by Prize giving ceremony. Each pupil won a 50euro sports voucher and the School won a digital camera. Also during this term pupils have engaged with the outdoor classroom, we have participated in games and sports, planting and nature walks. We recently enjoyed a lovely trip to Newbarn Farm and Donkey Sanctuary. Our final week of school is focused on fun, fun, fun. Class 2 have worked steadily all year and its time to celebrate summer.

Teacher William Mulligan

This term has been very eventful for everyone in Pine class.

Pine class have completed a lot of art on the theme of Summer. This included a lot of different items connected to Summer. For example we made a sand castle bucket, sun glasses, a beach ball and a pineapple. Some of these items were then put on display outside the classroom door. The display board outside the classroom door now looks very colourful.

Last week was the highlight of the term for everyone in Pine Class. This was the Hawaiian theme week in the special care unit. All of the staff and students wore Hawaiian clothes. Some people wore summer shirts and hats. There was also a lot of Art work completed in preparation for the Hawaiian week. A different activity was completed every day. On Tuesday there was a sports day, on Wednesday there was a magician who also did some face painting and on Thursday there was lots of music. All of these activities took place outside as the weather was so good for the week. A big thanks must go to all the staff in the special care unit for organising such a fun week.

Everyone in Pine class would like to thank all of the staff in the special care unit who are always very kind and helpful to us.

We hope that everyone enjoys their Summer holidays, stays healthy and we hope to see everyone again in September.

Best wishes from everyone in Pine Class.



“Beautiful Summer Art work from the unit”

Teacher William Priest

The pupils in class A5 had a great year. We enjoyed our art lessons, where we made some beautiful decorations for the classroom. When the weather was fine, we spent time in the garden, doing exercise and enjoying nature. We worked hard in the classroom on our literacy and numeracy. We learned all about healthy eating in the Food Dudes programme. We wish our graduate, Ailish, best wishes and the best of luck in the future.

Thank you and good luck

We wish teacher Tommy the very best of luck on his retirement. Thank you Tommy for all the great work over the years.

We wish teacher William Mulligan all the best and thank him for his service to St Mary's, especially his hard work in the Special Care Unit.

We thank all those who have worked for and contributed to the success of St Mary's school this year. We especially thank the members of the Board of Management for their time and dedication to the school.

