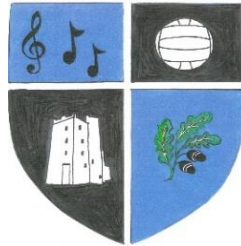


Scoil Chéile Chríost Rathmore N.S.

Newsletter June 2023



Website: www.rathmorens.ie Phone 045-862145

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End of 2022/23 School Year

Dear Parents/Guardians

As the school year draws to a close and we look forward to the Summer holidays, on behalf of the Rathmore N.S. Board of Management, teachers and staff, I would like to thank you for your co-operation and support throughout this school year.

All **Class Booklists** for 2023/24 school year will be emailed via Aladdin to school parents/guardians for each class level. Copies will also be available to download from the school website on www.rathmorens.ie. The cost of each class booklist has been substantially reduced due to the new Government Free School Books Scheme which covers the cost of all your child's textbooks, workbooks, copies. You will receive a notification through **Aladdin Connect** to advise when you can begin to pay your child's other **expenses for the new academic year** which are not covered. These include Photocopying, Art and Craft supplies, Pupil Accident Insurance and the School Diary. The **school calendar** for 2023/24 has also been agreed and is displayed on the school website.

I also wish to inform you that **Ms. Eleanor Roe, Ms. Eve Murray and Ms. Aimee Carpenter** will be finishing in Rathmore N.S. this Wednesday, 28th June, the day of the summer holidays and we send them our sincere thanks and appreciation and wish them all the best in their future careers. We also say 'Slán' to class teachers **Ms. Ciara Swanton and Ms. Orlaigh Behan** who are both taking career breaks for the 2023/2024 school year. On behalf of the Board of Management, I want to acknowledge the dedication of all our teachers, special needs assistants (**Louise, Rita, Brenda and Nora**), our school Caretaker **Paul O'Sullivan** and School Secretary **Martina Lawler** who work to ensure each child in the school is cared for and supported to learn in an attractive, well maintained and safe school environment.

We have been very fortunate to have a very supportive **Parents' Association Committee** chaired by **Tom Kearney** this year. They would welcome new members to join when we begin the new 2023/24 school year. Sincere thanks to our parent volunteers who are members of our **Library Committee** and to the school **Garden Committee** who have looked after our beautiful school garden all year and worked with the children in their class plots. We appreciate the work of hurling coach **John Holmes**, and GAA Games Development Officer **Rob Thompson** who have coached the children during the year.

Nuachtlitir Bealtaine 2023

It has been another busy school year and I hope that you and your families get the opportunity to rest and recharge over the Summer and we look forward to welcoming your child/children back to Rathmore N.S. on Wednesday, 30thst August for the start of the 2023/24 school year.

Take Care

Lucy Travers,

Principal Teacher

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| Board of Management Annual Review of the School Anti-Bullying Policy |
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The Board of Management of **Scoil Chéile Chríost Rathmore N.S.** wishes to advise that the board's Annual Review of the school's Anti-Bullying Policy and its implementation was completed at the board meeting on 20th June 2023. This review was conducted in accordance with the checklist set out in Appendix 4 of the Department's *Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary schools*.

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| Teachers For The 2023/24 School Year |
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Please see a list of classes and teachers for the new school year 2023/2024. Parents/Guardians will be advised when the recruitment process is finalised by the Board of Management and remaining class teachers have been appointed.

| Class Level 2023/24 | Teacher 2023/24 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Junior Infants 1 | Mr. Bolton |
| Junior Infants 2 | Ms. A. Gleeson |
| Senior Infants 1 | Ms. Doyle |
| Senior Infants 2 | TBA |
| First Class | TBA |
| First/Second Class | Ms. Kenny |
| Second Class | TBA |
| Third Class | Ms. Broe |
| Third/Fourth Class | Ms. Shaw |
| Fourth Class | TBA |
| Fifth Class | Mr. Walsh |
| Fifth/Sixth Class | Ms. Malone |
| Sixth Class | Mr. Collier |

Sacrament of Confirmation 2023



Congratulations to the children in **Mr Walsh's Sixth Class** who received the **Sacrament of Confirmation** in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Eadestown on Friday 26th May celebrated by **Fr. Micheál Comer**. Many thanks to **Mr. Walsh** for preparing the children, to teachers **Ms. Roe** and **Ms. Gleeson** for providing the music and overseeing the choir, to **SNA Nora Lawlor** for helping with the beautiful art display, our school secretary **Martina Lawler** for preparing the Mass Booklet and to our caretaker **Paul O'Sullivan** for his help with the display of the children's Artwork in the Church. Thank you also to parent **Tara Finn** for her hard work with the children as part of the Parish Pastoral Programme of preparation. We were blessed with sunshine and hope that everybody had a very happy day of celebration in our community.

Kildare Final of the Spelling Bee Competition



Congratulations to **Oisín Malone** in Sixth Class who came third in the Kildare County Final of the *Eason Spelling Bee Competition* which took place in Scoil Mochua in Celbridge on Thursday 11th May, following a qualifying round in our school open to pupils in 3rd-6th classes. Thank you to **Ms. Malone** for co-ordinating the competition in our school.

Sixth Class Graduation- Class of 2023



Our **Sixth Class Graduation Mass** was celebrated by Fr. Comer in the school P.E. Hall on Friday, **23rd June at 11.30 am**. Thanks to **Mr. Walsh**, their class teacher, to **Ms. Roe and Ms. Gleeson** for the beautiful singing by our school choir and musical accompaniment, to **Ms. Behan** for serving as Minister of the Eucharist, to **Mary Clifford** for preparing the altar, to **Brigid Judge** for supplying the floral arrangements and organising the tree planting ceremony, to **Martina Lawler**, our school Secretary for co-ordinating the Mass Booklet and to **Paul O'Sullivan**, our school Caretaker for preparing the school hall for the ceremony and refreshments afterwards. We are very grateful to our **Parents Association** who organised teas and coffees for parents following the Mass which was much appreciated. There was a great response to the request for donations of home baking from the parents of children in **Fifth Classes**. Thank you and well done to all for making it so special!

On **Friday 16th June**, all the sixth class children were also treated to a hot lunch treat prepared by our caretaker and 'chef' **Paul** helped by our school secretary **Martina** and **SNAs Rita and Nora**! Thank you to our **Parents' Association** who also funded an ice-cream cone treat for every child in the school. Go raibh míle maith agaibh!

We congratulate the **Class of 2023** and wish them well as they leave Rathmore N.S. to begin the next stage of their education but don't forget to come back and see us! Slán go fóill and go n-éirí an t-ádh libh go léir!

New School Athletics Singlets

We are very grateful to our *Parents Association* for purchasing a set of school crested athletics singlets for use by the children when representing the school in cross country and athletic events. The *Parents Association* also kindly supplied every child with a Sports Day pack for the Junior and Senior Sports Days which were held on 12th and 13th June. Thank you to all the teachers for ensuring the Sports Days were enjoyed by all the children.



Tree Planting Ceremony & School Garden



A Tree Planting Ceremony to mark the graduation of the Sixth Class of 2023 took place in the school on Friday 23rd June. The Prunus (Damson) tree was supplied as a parting gift to the pupils by *Yellow Furze Nurseries*. We look forward to the tree taking root and bearing fruit. It will serve as a reminder of our *Sixth Class of 2023*.

Our school garden is now in full bloom and it is a wonderful resource for all the children in the school. Special thanks to our garden volunteers **Brigid Judge, Sakoto Yoshimura, Julie Shiels and Liz O'Reilly** for sharing their gardening knowledge with the children during the year and ensuring the garden is always looking its best. It is always much admired from visitors to the school.

School Uniform Swap Event – Tuesday 27th June

In line with our school Sustainability policy, the *Parents Association* will be organising a school **Uniform/Eadestown Shorts Swap Day on Tuesday 27th June at 1pm in the school PE Hall.**

To allow sufficient time for parents/guardians to donate Rathmore N.S. uniform items and for the PA to organise the event, we will be having **No-Uniform Days on Monday 26th, Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th June.**

The children can wear leisure clothes suitable for school activities on those days with a **suggested donation of €2 in cash** which will go to the *Parents Association* to fund activities/resources for your children.

Note that there is currently a large number of unclaimed school uniform items in the school Lost Property basket. These items will be donated to the uniform swap day if unclaimed.

Thank you for your co-operation and support and we look forward to a successful **Uniform Swap Day on Tuesday 27th June.**



Axiom Space AX-2 Mission



What an exciting day, Wednesday 24th May turned out to be! Despite an initial technical hitch which was quickly resolved, suddenly we were online listening to mission control in Houston, Texas and being briefed on the countdown to the live link-up. Within minutes we were looking at a live stream of astronaut **John Shoffner** in the International Space Station (ISS) with live audio. He could have been in the classroom next door it was so clear.

John was amazing and demonstrated the effect of zero gravity to the children in a fun way. Then it was the turn of the children to ask their prepared questions to him directly. He shared an inspiring message for young students everywhere, *'Be what you are, listen to your inner voice, go achieve that whatever it is!'*

John Shoffner had also organised a *Space Art & Poetry Contest* which was entered by many of the children in our school and we were notified that pupil **Cameron Belle Pender in Ms. Shaw's 2nd Class** was the winner in the *Poetry Competition* in her age category with her beautiful poem 'A Dream Come True'. Congratulations Cameron-Belle! What an honour to be chosen as the winner from entries received from over 26 countries around the world. Cameron Belle's poem is written below for you to enjoy!

We extend our thanks and appreciation to **Janine and John Shoffner** and to parent **Sorrel Klatkzo** for facilitating this fantastic experience for the children. You can view a recording of the live link-up with Rathmore N.S. at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ewgDdEkQTEs>

A Dream Come True

Being an astronaut was always my dream,
I knew I needed a helpful team,
Then one day I looked up high,
To see the moon in the sky.
Someday soon I will take my place,
And head up into outer space.

But first I really need to study,
with my friends and my buddy.
I packed my gear and all my fear,
so I'm on my way to the moon,
I knew I'd get there really soon.

I finally got there saying a prayer,
My space dream has come true with my crew.

By **Cameron Belle Pender (Second Class)**



Naas Library Summer Stars Programme



<https://www.librariesireland.ie/services/right-to-read/summer-stars>

Summer Stars National Reading Adventure 2023

Summer Stars is the public library national summer reading programme for children that runs from the 12th of June until the end of August. All children throughout the country are invited to join the adventure and to enjoy the fun and pleasure of reading and writing over the summer. Summer Stars is non-competitive and every child who reads even one book/e-book is regarded as having completed the programme – and it's all completely free!

Activities for Summer Stars 2023:

- 1. Summer Stars Borrow Box:** Browse, borrow, read and listen to the Summer Stars collection of children's e-books and e-audio books through the library's BorrowBox app. This is free for all members to use from anywhere, anytime. Non-members can join online for free at <https://www.librariesireland.ie/join-your-library>.
- 2. Online Storytime:** Summer Stars story time will be delivered by library staff, available through your local library social media pages.
- 3. Books:** Public libraries are open so do visit to stock up on your summer reads and register for Summer Stars!
- 4. Reading cards and reviews:** Children can track their reading progress with reading cards which can be marked each time a book is read, online or in print form. These are available from your local library or for download and print below. The [reviews section](#) on this website allows readers to upload their views on what they have read.
- 5. Online Activities:** Check your local library social media and website for upcoming Summer Stars events and activities!

Watch this space for any updates throughout Summer Stars and check out [your local library service](#) or local library website for further information on local activities and events.

Parenting Support



I would like to draw your attention to a valuable resource for parents and teachers called [parentingsupport.ie](https://www.parentingsupport.ie) which provides information on parenting supports and services in County Kildare and Wicklow including:

- Details of upcoming parenting courses and talks in your area (mostly free)
- Information on local services and organisations that support parents
- Downloadable booklets and leaflets on a range of different topics relevant to parents

It is a multi-agency initiative of the Kildare West Wicklow Parenting Forum of which Kildare Library Service is a member. The full website address is: <https://www.parentingsupport.ie/> where you will find more information.

REMINDERS

Please remind your child to bring home all items of their clothing before the school closes for the holidays on Wednesday 28th June at 12.30pm..

Please return all school rental books/library books before Wednesday 28th June. Thank you for your co-operation.

Dates for your Diary

Summer holidays commence on Wed 28th June 2023 at 12.30pm and school buses will depart the school at the earlier time of 12.20pm. The school will re-open for the 2023/24 school year on Wednesday 30th August for all classes.

Stay Safe and have a great Summer!

