



## METNS

### Newsletter June 2022

#### Dates to Remember

School Sports Days – Tuesday 21 & Thursday 23

School Closing – Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> June

#### Teachers for the 2022/23 School Term

##### **2021/22**

5<sup>th</sup> Class

4<sup>th</sup> Class Mary

3<sup>rd</sup> Class Grainne Alder

3<sup>rd</sup> Class Lauren Birch

2<sup>nd</sup> Class Jacinta Oak

2<sup>nd</sup> Class Angela Elm

1<sup>st</sup> Class Robert P Rowan

1<sup>st</sup> Class Robert L Willow

Senior Inf Clare Hazel

Senior Inf Stephanie Ash

##### **2022/23**

6<sup>th</sup> Class – Aimee (Juniper) and  
Tbc (Holly)

5<sup>th</sup> Class – Thomas

4<sup>th</sup> Class – Sinead

4<sup>th</sup> Class – Dave

3<sup>rd</sup> Class – Mary

3<sup>rd</sup> Class – Sue

2<sup>nd</sup> Class – Angela

2<sup>nd</sup> Class - Jacinta

1<sup>st</sup> Class – Robert P

1<sup>st</sup> Class – Robert L

Junior Infants Elaine Aspen

Junior Infants Liz Ivy

Junior Infants 23

Senior Inf – Stephanie

Senior Inf – Clare

Elaine and Liz

New Permanent Teacher

#### Special Education Teachers

Noreen

Catherine

Claire Dixon

Ruth

#### ASD Unit

Marcella – Junior Class

Eoin – Senior Class

#### EAL Teacher

English as an Additional Language (EAL) tbd

#### School Closing Times – 30<sup>th</sup> June:

As per our school calendar, the school will be closing early on 30<sup>th</sup> June for the summer holidays. Following are details

11.00am JI, SI, their siblings and all bus collections

11.15am 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> classes and their siblings

11.30am 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> classes.

**Green Schools News:** Well done to all the children on the Green Schools committee. They have been working hard this year on achieving our latest Green Flag on the theme of biodiversity. They have carried out regular litter patrols and have done a great job at keeping the school grounds rubbish free. They carried out a biodiversity awareness survey and have started mapping the habitat of the school environment to help determine the numbers and range of plants, animals and insects in the area. They put a lot of work into making Bike Week a success. We recently went on a nature cycle along the canal to examine the biodiversity of our surrounding environment. A big thank you to Karen Moore for all her help and advice throughout the year.

**Ladybirds and Caterpillars School Tour:** On the 18<sup>th</sup> of May the Ladybirds and Caterpillars classes took a trip to Airtastic, David kindly brought us in his bus. The kids enjoyed the bus journey and there was a few songs sang. The children had a fantastic time at Airtastic, climbing through tunnels, running around obstacles and sliding down all the various slides. When we returned to school we had McDonald's for lunch. It was a great day all round and so lovely to see all the children so happy running around the playcentre.

**Butterflies Class Tour:** On Thursday Butterflies Class went for our school tour. We went to Donabate beach and had an amazing time! On the beach we built an impressive sandcastle and then had a picnic. We also went for a splash in the sea and Seamus even found a crab! Towards the end of our beach trip, we had a special guest appearance from D.J. McHugh who played some bangers of tunes (mainly by Justin Bieber). After the beach we had lunch in the Maynooth branch of MacDonalDs before getting back to the school

for home time. Overall, a great day was had by pupils and students alike!

**Enrolment in METNS:** We are currently finalising enrolments for the 22/23 academic year. We still have places available in Junior Infants, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes.

**Visit of Ice Cream Van on Friday 24<sup>th</sup>:** The PTA has kindly organised for an ice cream van to visit the school – a great treat for the children (and staff!). A big thank you from all of us.

**Lost Property Box:** There is a significant amount of clothes in the lost property box. Can we please request that parents check this box before the end of term. All unclaimed clothing will be sent to the charity shop after 30<sup>th</sup> June. Each afternoon, weather permitting, all lost property will be displayed on the school forecourt at the reception area. Please take your children's belongings from here.

**Athletics Day in Kilcock, 17 June:** Teams from 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes represented METNS – and what a successful day it was for the school. Following are the excellent results. We are so proud of every single one of our athletes who represented our school;

Sprints:

3<sup>rd</sup> class 2<sup>nd</sup> place Dastin Vaitkus

4<sup>th</sup> class 1<sup>st</sup> place Malcolm Kayitsinge

5<sup>th</sup> class 3<sup>rd</sup> place Sam Chubb

6<sup>th</sup> class 1<sup>st</sup> place Michael Chung

6<sup>th</sup> class 2<sup>nd</sup> place David Zinca

### Long Distance

4<sup>th</sup> class 2<sup>nd</sup> place Maddie Brennan Traynor

6<sup>th</sup> class 1<sup>st</sup> place Sean Noud

6<sup>th</sup> class 2<sup>nd</sup> place Jack Sheehan

### Long Jump

3<sup>rd</sup> class 3<sup>rd</sup> place Jacob Kraut

5<sup>th</sup> class 2<sup>nd</sup> place Maggie Gaffney

### Relay

3<sup>rd</sup> class 3<sup>rd</sup> place Eddy Antonio /Dastin Vaitkus/Tate Rampaul/Oisin

### Guha

4<sup>th</sup> class 3<sup>rd</sup> place Malcolm Kayitsinge/Fionn Ashraful/Kyle

### Lensvelt/Manase Zinca

4<sup>th</sup> class 3<sup>rd</sup> place Maddie Brennan Traynor/Sarah Dempsey/Luka

Januskaite/Hannah McCarthy Flynn

5<sup>th</sup> class 2<sup>nd</sup> place Sam Chubb/Euan Guha/Lee Moran/Toyby

O'Flaherty

6<sup>th</sup> class 1<sup>st</sup> place Sean Noud/Jack Sheehan/Michael Chung/David

Zinca

**Basketball Ireland Initiative:** Maynooth ETNS was one of very few schools across Ireland who was selected to participate in a basketball programme run by Basketball Ireland. The aim of the programme was to promote the sport of basketball in a fun, non-competitive way.

As part of the programme skilled coaches visited the school on Fridays to run coaching sessions with the children in 4th and 5th class. The children got the chance to learn new skills and they put

these to the test when Scoil Choca Naofa visited our school for a mini blitz.

As well as that, 15 very lucky children from the school were selected to represent Maynooth ETNS in the National Basketball Arena in Tallaght on May 24th under the team name of the Detroit Pistons.

All in all, it was an excellent programme run by Basketball Ireland in conjunction with Junior NBA that was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone involved. They also very kindly gifted the school with a full set of basketball gear and an indoor leather basketball.

**Standardised Testing:** In line with the Department of Education regulations, the standardised test results from 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes have been submitted to the Department.

**New Parents/Pupil School Visit:** Our annual visit of new parents and new pupils has taken place. We look forward to meeting you all again in September.

**School Booklists:** Our booklists will be available on the school website at the end of the school year. As it is now our practice, the majority of school books are provided to children under the book rental scheme. Only books and provisions that must be purchased by parents will be listed on the school booklists.

We will issue a separate letter next week on our school expenses contribution and on our book rental contribution.

**Education Passports:** Our 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils and their parents have completed the education passport documents. These will be sent to the secondary school with the 6<sup>th</sup> class reports.

**Closure of ASD Class:** In the next school year, we will close our 3<sup>rd</sup> ASD Class due to a lack of a third ASD specific classroom. Our remaining 2 classes are fully enrolled. They will be allocated 1 Teacher and 2 Special Needs Assistants per class.

**NCSE Allocation:** At mainstream level, our SNA allocation remains unchanged from last year.

**Sixth Class Graduation:** Our 6<sup>th</sup> class graduation ceremony will take place in our school hall on Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> June at 8pm. This is a very special occasion for our 6<sup>th</sup> class boys and girls who put great work into making this a memorable occasion. The families of all 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils are invited. The PTA will provide the refreshments on the night. Very sincere thanks in advance to all who have helped organised this event. A special thanks to teachers Aimee and Sinead and to SNA Joan.

**New Permanent Teacher:** Due to our growing numbers, we have been granted an additional teacher for the next school year, under the Developing School Status system. The additional teacher will be used to create a second 6<sup>th</sup> class.

**Pat Cannon's Retirement:** At the end of this school year, Pat, our Special Needs Assistant, will retire. This retirement is a first for our school and it is with a heavy heart that we bid farewell to Pat. In 2008, in our first weeks, we applied to the Department of

Education and Skills for a Special Needs Assistant. Pat was appointed. As our most senior SNA, Pat has mentored all subsequent Special Needs Assistants and he set a very high bar. His care for, empathy with and interest in our pupils, permeates his work which he conducts with professionalism and expertise. Pat, quite literally became a corner-stone of our building. He has a remarkable range of talents. He is an IT expert, an electrician, a plumber, a carpenter, amongst others. All of these talents he has used in the school across its entire growth from 17 pupils in 2008 to over 350 pupils now. But without doubt, Pat's most endearing and valuable assets are his personal attributes. He is kind, caring, unassuming, quick-witted and oh so funny! He brings laughter and fun to all occasions and creates a warm and happy work environment.

We thank Pat for his huge contribution to our school. We wish him health and happiness in his retirement.

**School Calendar for 2022/23:** This is available on the school website and will be in the pupil homework diaries.

**School Library:** As you are aware, we received a grant from Intel to develop our inspirational space in our school library. This project is nearing completion. Very sincere thanks to the Library Committee of teachers Elaine and Dave and all the parent volunteers - Noelle Ruddy, Siobhan Deegan, Avril Lennon, Neasa Hogan, Daniella Hough, Niamh Keating, Carol Connolly, Miriam Fleming, Brian Greene, Stella Greene, Annika Morris, Natasha Arvinte-Hickey, Damian Galligan, Helen Wafer, Esraa Ali, Aisling McCarthy, Sandra Kuzma, Veronica Crossa, Tanya Rampaul, Steve Hall, Varsha Verlekar, Paula McCarthy, Jennifer Luke.

Best regards  
Marie Hand