



In Short...

HALF-TERM

School will close at the usual times on Friday 23 October for half-term.

School opens once more on Monday 01 November at the usual times.

STAFF MEETING

School will close at 12 midday for all classes due to a

Staff Meeting on Wed 04 November.

YOGA WITH FRANK

Unify Mind, Body and Spirit ... and help raise funds for the school!

Join Frank Brooks on Tuesday nights at 7.30pm for an uplifting Anusara style yoga class in Richmond Cheshire House, Monkstown.

€12 to drop in, €10 per class for 4 or more

Half of the money goes to METNS (the rest supports Richmond Cheshire Home, a home for disabled people).

Phone: 087 415 8989

Email: fbrooks@gmail.com

Web: www.innerbodybright.ie

NO NUTS!

Please note that nuts are banned from the school at all times.

Please remember this for school bakes, fairs, etc.

LOST PROPERTY

Watch out for lost property on display in yard on Thursday 22nd October at 1.10pm and 2.10pm. During the term, lost property is kept in Room 5 (across the corridor from the Principal's office).

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Rosie Doyle who gave birth to a baby daughter, Siún, in early September.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to our first newsletter of the year and welcome once again to all our new staff, parents and children. After a wonderful sunny start to the academic year the children are now very settled and our Summer Holidays are but a distant memory. As we look towards Halloween we can feel the Autumn chill as the days and nights get darker. Congratulations to Junior Infants and all other new children for settling so well into METNS, you are so grown up already!

We have explored many aspects of our Ethical Curriculum at Assembly this year. Included in our themes have been the Code of Behaviour, Democracy, Ramadan and Eid Al Fitr, Rosh Hashanah, St Francis of Assisi and Harvest with fruit and vegetables from our bountiful school garden. This week we had a wonderful drama about Rama and Sita to celebrate the Hindu festival Diwali. We are looking forward to next week when we talk about Inclusion and celebrate Samhain with a Halloween Parade on Friday 24th October. Thank you to all the staff and children who made such an effort to make our Assemblies so special and inclusive especially for the little ones.

We have achieved so much already this term it's hard to believe we are back only six weeks.

Our website is now live!! A huge Thank You to Kelly Price who has worked tirelessly all Summer to have it ready this term and it looks absolutely fabulous. Thanks also to Michael Kelly. His lovely brochure design has been adapted by Kelly for the website and really looks great. Many more people have been involved in the initial stages of the website and I would like to thank all of you for your commitment, expertise and time.

The PTA AGM was a great success with a fantastic turn out. Thank you to all who came and gave such positive feedback and support on the night. A new committee was elected, congratulations to you all with best wishes for the year ahead. The names of our new PTA committee, Parent/Class Reps, Communications Committee, BOM and Staff are now on the website.

In September we hoisted both our school and green flags to great cheer from all the children. Now our flags are flying high and we are all very proud.

Thanks to the PTA, our extra curricular activities have got off to a great start with many new exciting options for the children.

Swimming has also started for some of the

senior children and already some classes have had trips to various places!!

Our Class Information Evenings were very well attended and I have had very positive feedback from many parents who found them extremely helpful. Thank you again to all the teachers who gave up their time willingly. It was much appreciated and extremely beneficial to all.

Our Parenting Course facilitated by Helen Sholdice has been a tremendous success and I would like to thank Helen for sharing her wonderful understanding of children, her inspiration and her wisdom.

We have 2 new interactive white boards as well as an integrated IT system with data projectors for the whole school. Carol Lanigan has planned and co-ordinated our complete IT system. She has spent infinite hours on this and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Carol for all the hard work, patience and time. Our aim this year is to integrate this fantastic new tool into our learning plan for the whole school.

Our school garden has produced the most beautiful flowers and vegetables all Summer long and for the last few weeks. It is such a lovely space to be in and more wonderful plans to come. Mile buíochas to AnnMarie Kenrick, Karen, Aaron and many more who has given their time energy and inspiration to this wonderful project.

Our Communications group are committed to improving all aspects of communication within METNS and so far I think we have made a very good start this year. You can help improve communication by: reading notes and newsletters, surfing the web, using homework notebooks, attending meetings, coffee mornings and various other functions in the school. Please remember that good communication is a two way stream and we rely on your input, feedback and comments.

As a staff we aim to give your child the best education in a learning environment that is nurturing and happy. We are committed to delivering a balanced curriculum where the whole child will be cherished and celebrated. Please remember that punctuality is essential to give your child a chance to start each day relaxed and ready to learn. They deserve it.

Finally, thank you to all parents for their continued support and we are looking forward to a wonderful year ahead.

Le gach dea ghuí don bhliain atá romhainn,
Rosario Kealy, Principal

WHAT THE CLASSES ARE UP TO...

Junior Infants (Marie Kane)

Junior infants have settled very well into big school and all the little children skip happily into school every morning now, without a tear in sight.

Everyday we remind ourselves of the ways in which

we can keep everybody safe and happy in school and our little school robin perches outside our window sometimes to check that everybody is behaving well!

We have met 8 sounds/shapes from Jollyphonics and "Snake" and "Inky Mouse" have become our special class friends!

It's beginning to look a lot like Autumn in our class, where we have done beautiful Autumn leaf finger paintings and we are collecting leaves and fruits which have fallen from the trees.

Junior Infants (AnnMarie Kenrick)

Our new cluster of nestlings have settled in their new nest and



Junior Infants visited the nearby Chestnut trees

are feeling quite secure and happy. From the first few days of nervous anticipation and wonder, the children have a great sense of the routines and surprises of the day. Initially the size of the yard and the number of children that the 'littlies' have to deal with out in this vast space, can be intimidating, but even this is a lot easier to deal with now. We had a very successful parents evening where a lot of things were discussed and I now can match parent with child! Getting to know a lot of new parents on a personal level is one of the pluses of the job. A special welcome to the very new parents to METNS.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES...

Extra curricular activities got under way again on Monday 28th September, including: Hockey, Book Clubs, Athletics, Basketball, Yoga, Choir, Board Games, Art, Irish Dancing & Soccer.

Soccer:

Coach Franco says "Stop! Stand still! Listen up! We have plenty of skills to be working on and not a whole lot of time to get all our drills done. Any messing and you'll be on the side line for two minutes to calm down."

First off let's welcome our two new coaches to Friday soccer at METNS; coach Gary Murphy and coach Shane Fitzpatrick. This term we'll be working on our individual skills: moving, running, turning left, turning right, stopping, back pedaling, and then we'll be doing all of those with a football at our feet! Add in some passing, shooting, shielding, and tackling,

and we can begin to play a match. Yes, there is much work to be doing but Friday Soccer is also about fun and we'll try to have plenty of laughs. See you there.

P.S. Please remember to wear your shinguards.

Donal Norton

Thanks:

A very big thank you goes to Petra Cuperus and Donal Norton for running the extra-curricular activities over the past few years. Between them they have organized, improved and generally helped extra-curricular activities run smoothly—no small task! They're stepping down now to take a well-deserved break.

Heartfelt thanks also to all the parents/guardians, school assistants and others who helped out with extra-curricular activities last year.

Ed

GREEN SCHOOLS...

We had a great fantastic first harvest of our vegetables in late September and every child in the school got to harvest the carrots, potatoes, onions, garden peas, broad beans, beetroot, tomatoes and leeks that we had planted in the Spring. It really was magical to see the joy on the children's faces when a fresh bunch of carrots were pulled out of the ground. During the summer we had bountiful supplies of lettuce, scallions, radishes and herbs and those of us who were helping out throughout the holidays were rewarded!! On that note I would like to say a huge thank you to Louise Maloney, Karen Shaw, Noelita Lane, Shane and Susan Kirwan, Lucy and Frank Reed, Breege George and all the children, who helped to keep the garden growing over the holidays.

We are at the stage of creating our big patio/picnic area/outdoor classroom and will need help on Saturday mornings to help Aaron Wooton to complete the project. If you have a few hours to 'labour' with us, I would really appreciate the help. This would mean that the work will be shared and the burden of volunteering does not fall too heavily on a small gang.

Our new committee will be elected soon and a big thank you to the children on last year's committee who finished up their years work by presenting an assembly to the school on the harvest. What great children we have in our school.

AnnMarie Kenrick

FROM THE PTA...

The first half-term is nearing its end - and the new PTA is up and running.

Firstly I would like to thank those members who are stepping down after much dedicated work over a number of years - they include Petra Cuperus, Jacqui Finnegan and Paquita Rogers. A big thank you also to Donal Norton who has passed on his Extra Curricular data role - but will still be about for the soccer of course !!

We would like to welcome the new members to the committee including Alison, Deirdre, Fiona, Micheal and Theresa and gratefully thank those who are staying on including Geraldine, Orla and Ziene. Not forgetting our returnee Grainne - thank you !! Details of roles are included below.

We are looking forward to a busy and exciting year ahead and will keep you posted of all our upcoming events and activities !!

Happy Halloween

Rhona Toal

2009/2010 PTA COMMITTEE

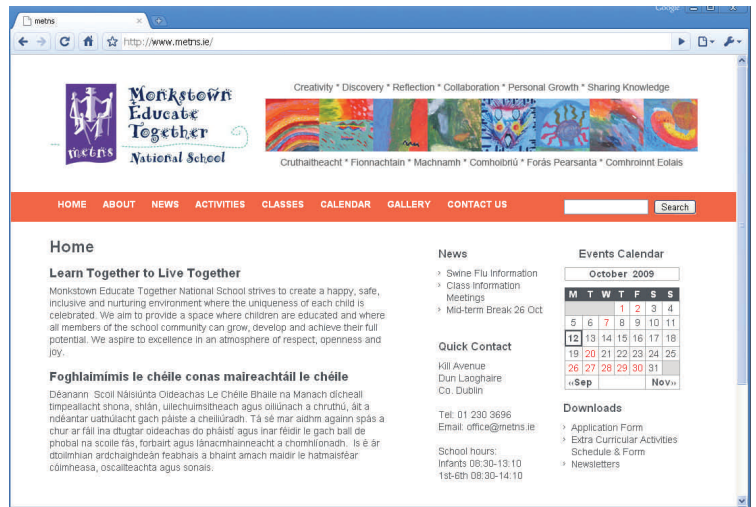
Rosario KealyPrincipal
Rhona Toal Chairperson
Fiona GallagherSecretary
Ziene Mottiar Treasurer
Orla BoyceExtra Curricular Coordinator
Alison ChorbachiExtra Curricular Activities and
.....National Parents Council rep
Geraldine SpeerExtra curricular data manager
Theresa KavanaghClass rep coordinator
Deirdre O'Shea/
Grainne DempseyTeacher rep (sharing)
Micheal KellyCommunications liaison rep

MET have taken another step forward in its commitment to being a green school by launching its new website on Sept 30th. The site is intended to compliment existing communication tools like the newsletter, school bag notes and texts. It is already proving to be a successful device for the school with over 400 visitors in the first two weeks!

What's on our website?

- Calendar (hover over highlighted dates to see what's on – coffee mornings, half days, class meetings, term dates, etc)
 - News Items
 - Quick Contact details and a Contact Form to email the office directly*
 - Policies & Procedures
 - Extra Curricular activities (schedules & application forms)
 - Gallery (artwork, general school photos) - coming soon
 - Classes (see what your child's class is up to!) - coming soon
- Plus more!!

* The first time you use the contact form you may get an email asking for you to confirm that you are a real person. This is to control spam and the reply only needs to be done once.



We hope you find the site easy to use and visit often. Your feedback is very important and any suggestions are welcome via the web email form (Contacts page) or email directly to office@metns.ie.
 Kelly Price

SAFETY WITHIN THE IADT CAMPUS

SCHOOL PARKING

Please drive carefully and park within designated areas only. Please note that parking is only free to people dropping off children at the start and end times of the school day.

drop off children—it is in constant use and there are insufficient parking spaces for the staff as it is.

Children should not use the staff car park to enter either by foot or cycling. This is highly dangerous as there is no foot or cycle path.

SPEED LIMIT

10km/hour MAXIMUM

Please note that the speed limit in all areas of the IADT campus is

10km/hour MAXIMUM.

Have a look at your speedometer the next time you are driving in, you may be surprised at how fast you are travelling...

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

Thanks to everyone who completed and returned the questionnaire we sent out in September. If anyone would still like to send in their survey, please drop it into the PTA box.

If you have any suggestions, or would like to have a say regarding parking & getting children to school, contact Jane Considine janemarylouise@hotmail.com or Karen Shaw.

STAFF CAR PARK

Kindly do not use the staff car park to either park or to



**THE OFFICIAL OPENING—
FOR THOSE WHO MISSED IT...**



Third Class made a lovely presentation on the celebration of Ramadan

Croke Park

What I love about Croke Park
Is the way you can sit in your seat
And eat the food that you bought there.

What I hate about buying the food there
Is that it is so expensive
But it is a great place to watch Cork.

What I love about Cork
Is that they are an amazing football team
And the best hurlers Croke Park has seen.

What I hate about Croke Park
Is that Cork lost to Kerry there
But they will be back!

What I love about Croke Park
Is the way you can sit in your seat
And eat the food that you bought there.

By Seamus

Holidays

What I love about holidays
Is the sound of the birds in the trees
The way you hear them in the summer.

What I hate about summer
Is that you don't get presents
Like you do at Christmas

What I love about Christmas
Is that you get sweets
Like you also do at Halloween.

What I hate about Halloween
Is that you get sick after you've eaten too much
And that always happens!

What I love about holidays
Is the sound of the birds in the trees
The way you hear them in summer.

By Kelsey

Fourth Class Poetry

The woods

What I love about the woods
Is the scampering of the squirrels,
The lovely sound of the leaves.

What I hate about the leaves
Is that they wait around to be stamped on
And to be stepped on and to be squished.

What I love about leaves being squished
Is the crackling and the crunching noise.

What I hate about noise
Is when it gets too loud
And hurts your ears.

What I love about the woods
Is the scamper of the squirrels,
The lovely sound of the leaves.

By Lauren

Funfair

What I love about funfairs
Is the whoosh of the rollercoaster
And the screams of the people.

What I hate about people
Is the way they disagree with me.

What I love about me
Is the way I am so classy,
Like a cool funfair ride.

What I love about funfairs
Is the whoosh of the rollercoaster
And the screams of the people.

By Aido