



In Short...

END OF TERM

School will close at
12 noon on
Wednesday 30th June

NEW SCHOOL YEAR

The school opens once
more on
Wednesday 1st September
at 8.30 as usual.
Please note that there will
be early closing times during
this first week.

LOST PROPERTY

Lost property will be left out to be
claimed over the last week of
school. After the end of term,
unclaimed items will be donated to
Liberties Recycling Trust.

GRANDSTAND

Just a reminder to all if buying sports
wear or equipment - consider
Grandstand Sports in Georges Mall
in the Dun Laoghaire Shopping
centre - they credit METNS with
10% of the value spent by parents
and children who mention the
school name. Credit built up can
then be used by the school to
purchase sports goods.

FREE TO GOOD HOME

Child's judo suit free to good home!
Suit age 7 to 9 approx. Belt missing.
Contact Jill (SNA) 2nd Class.

YOGA WITH FRANK

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

METNS SUMMER CAMPS

Our Summer Camp programme
includes an Infants Camp, Sports
Camp and Art Camp. Places are
filling up fast. Contact the office for
more details.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

As we pen the last newsletter of the school year 2009/2010, we bid farewell to our 31 Junior Infants of the year 2001- 2002. This group has played an active role in many aspects of school life over the years, particularly in the area of sport (including our success in soccer and athletics this year) not to forget our wonderful musical Aladdin. We wish you all the best in your transition to secondary school and in the years ahead. We also say goodbye to many parents who have been a part of our school community since its infancy. I would like to say thank you to all those parents who have given so much to METNS and please remember that you are always welcome back.

We have had an amazing year of events. We started off the year with our very successful 'Creativity Week.' It was a wonderful example of parents, staff and children working together to create a learning opportunity for the whole community. Our assemblies this year have been getting more and more adventurous. We celebrated many religious festivals as well as childrens' achievements during the year. A positive learning environment is evident in so many areas of our school. I have been hugely impressed with various projects and artwork on display throughout the school. Some examples of creative writing would not be out of place on a Junior Cert honours English paper!! Our garden has been a real scientific wonderland for the children and IT has been a wonderful learning tool also.

This last long term has been a busy time with school tours, Sports Day, new Junior Infant Parents introductory day, Razzamatuzz Musical, Santry Athletics, Soccer and Gaelic tournaments and much more. We are looking forward to our final talent show, disco and especially the 6th class Graduation ceremony which is always a very special occasion. This year we are also introducing our 2nd Class Ceremony 'Spreagadh' which will celebrate the children's completion of the Junior Cycle. We are delighted to mark this very important step.

The many varied events in our school and our many successes would not be possible without the dedication of our hard working staff who never fail to 'go the extra mile' in terms of commitment to our pupils. I would like to thank our temporary and substitute teachers Nell, Tom, Eimear and Karen for their valuable contribution to METNS this year.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Carol Lanigan on her appointment as Principal of Bray School Project. (We are certainly churning principals out!!) Carol has been on our staff since 2000 and we will miss her significant presence not only as a member of our staff but also as someone who was involved in every aspect of our school and community. Carol's input has been extraordinary on so many levels. Her work in the Special Education area, Ethical Curriculum and IT has been hugely influential over the past few years. Carol was ever present at fairs, concerts, quizzes and always had a ready supply of props and costumes for both pupils and staff whether it was for Halloween, Drama productions or just for fun. Carol, we will miss your intelligence, your wonderful sense of humour and wit, your dedication and commitment to our school and ethos. But we will especially miss your sense of justice and equality, your humanity, and your respect for and celebration of each individual in our school.

Thank you to the PTA and all parents/guardians who worked very hard again this year to keep the community spirit alive and well in METNS. They also helped enormously to keep funds flowing. Thank you to our Board of Management who support me so positively in my role as Principal and who work behind the scenes to make sure that METNS runs smoothly.

On behalf of all the staff I'd like to wish all the children and adults a wonderful summer break. Stay safe and well during the holidays and we'll see you all back on Wednesday, 1st September.

Le gach dea-ghuí, *Rosario Kealy, Principal*

FROM THE PTA...

Our last event of the year - the Summer Fair was a great success on June 13th. Bouncy castles, chocolate fountains, football matches - and all before the torrential rain set in!! Thanks to the committee, reps and all who helped on the various stalls.

The Parents Social evening in the Purty Kitchen in May was also a success with very good representation from the younger classes - bodes well for the future and could become a staple in the calendar.

The Laura Lynn foundation were in touch to thank us for the money we raised from the Pub Quiz.

The money raised from the Easter Egg raffle as well as other PTA funds has helped Ann Marie Kenrick purchase a water butt and shrubs and trees for the garden.

We got a good response to our Extra Curricular survey and appeal for help and we are working on a strategy for implementation in the Autumn.

As the school year winds to a close the PTA would like to thank all those who helped with our various events throughout the year - and there were a few!!

Have a great summer.

Rhona Toal

COFFEE MORNING...

Thanks to Una Millett and her team for organising and running the coffee mornings this year.

Last Tuesday the coffee morning included a book swap and people brought along some wonderful books. Look out for the next coffee morning and book swap in the new school year - it's a great opportunity to make friends and welcome new people .

Well done also to Una Millett who ran the Women's Mini Marathon in June and raised €470 for METNS . Una would like to thank her sponsors, most of whom came from the school.

WHAT THE CLASSES ARE UP TO...

Junior Infants (Ann Marie Kenrick)

Can you believe we have come to the end of the children's first year of school? It seems to have gone by so quickly, speeded up by the quick succession of annual events. One beautiful sunny day at Imaginosity, one amazingly sunny Sports Day and one lovely day at Marlay Park. Did we get lucky this year??? The children have grown in confidence, ability and made huge academic progress and lovely little friendships. Jun Infs 2009-10 has been a very happy and delightful year and I feel very lucky to have spent the last 10 months with these children and their parents. We are having a goodbye to the year in the outdoor classroom at the back of the school at 11.30 on the last day of school (Wed June 30th) Love to see all there.



Happy gardeners

Junior Infants (Marie Kane)

Wow, it's so hard to believe we are near the end of the year, but what a great year it has been. We have been talking about our memories of our first year in big school, and no doubt many more will come flooding back when the children finally bring home a little surprise we have been working on! Shhhh.....we are not giving away any clues!!

Junior Infants had great fun on our two school trips to Imaginosity and Marlay Park. Our sports day was very successful and enjoyable for all and a big thanks to all parents/guardians who participated on the day!

On a sad note, we had to say goodbye to our friend, Anna Burke, earlier this month, as she returned to Australia with her family. We will miss her from our class very much.

Finally, Marie and Teresa would like to extend a huge thanks to all the parents/guardians/minders of our Junior Infants for a wonderful year of support and friendship and we wish Junior Infants '09/'10 a fun-filled summer holiday and all the best for next year. Well done all!!

Senior Infants (Claire Cantrell)

Well it has been a really exciting last term. We have been learning all about Birds, Africa and have been on a trip to the Zoo. We have had a visit from Bird Watch Ireland which was fantastic. Thanks to Niall Hatch for coming in to talk to us and tell us all about birds. We especially liked learning about the 'Swift' which flies all the way from Africa to spend time in Ireland each year. It never lands on the earth and even sleeps when flying. Amazing! If you want to learn more just ask our bird experts here in Senior Infants.

There has been lots of talk of our trip to the Zoo which was just great. Thanks to Sarah and Suzanne who came and helped us on the day. We were very busy indeed. We got to see most of

advantage of all the wonderful weather and doing a lot of our work outside in the garden. We've been investigating different objects that float and sink. We managed to make some great boats from marla and then we let them sail in our water tank.

Sports Day was such an exciting day for us too! We had so much fun racing around the pitch and the yard. Thanks so much to all the parents who helped us out on the day. But the highlight of our day was receiving our well deserved medals from our buddies in Sixth Class. They put so much care and effort into creating them and they made all the Senior Infants feel very special. Thanks guys – we're really going to miss you next year!

I'd like to congratulate each of my gorgeous Senior Infants on a wonderful year. You are more than ready for your next adventures in First Class! Well done!

First Class (Martha Lamont)

First Class have had such a fun and busy Summer Term!

We went on our school trip to Dublin Zoo with Senior Infants and got to see so many beautiful animals. Our favourites were the penguins, the seals and the arctic

Class and looking forward to our summer holidays!

6th Class (Chrissie Stokes)

Turas na Gaeltachta

Chuaigh rang a sé go dtí an Ghaeltacht ar feadh seachtaine, agus bhain siad an sult as!

6th class had a brilliant time up in Anagaire, Dún na nGall where they lived with a Bean an tí, had classes each morning, went out on trips in the afternoons and took part in activities every evening. They were extremely well behaved and received many compliments from both their bean an tí and the staff of coláiste na Rosann.

Congratulations to Cillian, Aoife, Ellie and Faye who all won awards in the talent competition. Also congratulations to Kate and Jack who were nominated by their bean an tí as Gaeilgeoir na Seachtaine.

Since we came back from the Gaeltacht we have been very busy. Sports day

First of all congratulations to Cillian who was nominated by the girls as 'Sportsman of the Year', and congratulations to Aset who was nominated by the boys as 'Sportswoman of the Year'.)

Art Project

We have been working on an art

project in mosaics with a visiting teacher with a view to decorating the water butt in the garden. This is 6th class's farewell gift to the school. Take a moment to have a look when it is finished on Friday. Robert Shaw Memorial GAA

Cup Competition

5th class and 6th class have been taking part in a Gaelic Football competition started in memory of Robert Shaw.

Graduation

Finally, 6th class are working hard preparing projects, artwork, music and dance for their graduation celebration which will take place on Friday 25th.

They will be saying their final farewells at around 1pm!!! Then going off to TGI Fridays!



Senior Infants at the Zoo

fox! We also really enjoyed going into the Reptile House, the Family Farm, and the Plains of Africa! We had loads of fun in the playground too!

We have made hand, finger and bag puppets in school, and had lots of fun making our puppet profiles. Then we used our puppets to put on puppet shows in our class- it was very entertaining!

Sports Day was a great success and we really enjoyed all the different activities- especially the obstacle course and the water challenge!

We are now very busy preparing for the Junior Talent show with songs, dances, plays, and even some hoolahooping! We are enjoying our last few days of First

BOOSTER SEATS

Any donations of booster seats will be welcomed by METNS. Please leave them with the office.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES...

Soccer

On Friday 6th May the girl's football team went to Ringsend for a five a side football tournament. The players were Astrid, Aoife, Ellie and Kate from 6th class, Odette and Elvira from 5th and Eve and Gemma from 3rd class. When we arrived there were six other teams to play against, but we only got to play five. Altogether we scored 6 goals scored by Aoife, Gemma and Odette. Our amazing goal keeper Ellie saved lots of goals for us. We made it to the semi finals but unfortunately the game was cancelled because there wasn't a pitch available to play on. This was a disappointment because we had a chance to go to the Leinsters, but we still had a great time.

Thanks Donal!

Written by Astrid, Aoife, Ellie and Kate.

Junior Book Club

Junior Book Club had a great final term. We're so lucky to have had a visit from children's author Gordon Snell. He read a number of his short stories and poems to us and even gave us a sneak preview his newest book! We were also given a chance to ask Gordon a few questions about what it is like to be an author!

We've also received lots of photos and stories from our Flat Stanleys! They went all over the world to places like Finland, London, Scotland and even Las Vegas!

The photos are displayed upstairs by the library so please stop by and have a look.

Liz Goodwin



BUILDING THE WALL...

It must have been well over 12 months ago that we started using the plots at the back of school, clearing a few beds, building a few wooden frames and planting the first crop of carrots, potatoes and broad beans. Many of us remember looking after the crops over the summer, each child bringing home one or two carrots and boiling up a few of the small spuds! Then a grand plan was hatched - build a seating area with a curved, raised flower bed and patio covered with travertine marble (like the Colosseum in Rome) - a place to sit and enjoy the summer Sun. It was September.

Volunteers arrived and gardeners turned their hand to building. Aaron led the way. To create the larger area we need to turn two plots into one, removing the oak dividers and lowering the level of the plot. Huge Oak beams

shovels of sand, a bit of water, mix, mix, mix into a barrow and away we went. Foundations were laid. The site was taking shape. Progress. Brian stepped in and up went the walls of the bed, block after block carefully laid, curves and all. Even a drain. A bit of final adjustments and the flower bed was almost complete.

The stone arrived in big crates and the glistening slabs were ready to take their position in their final home. Almost done we thought, not quite. The area had to be deeper and level. Out with the shovels and rakes. A feeling of Déjà vu. Hardcore was moved and a class on how to use a laser level completed. After much raking and careful measuring and go on the Wacker, we were ready for the final push. Surely not long now. The sound of mixers and stone cutting rang out all day long.

Four weeks passed. Piles of cement were carefully smoothed, slabs were inspected, each considered for their size, position and neighbourly disposition before being carefully laid. A few taps of the rubber mallet made sure they each slab was happy with its neighbour and then onto the next. This was a labour of



were sawn up and levered from their concrete bases with nothing more than sheer determination. Earth was dug and moved and a pile of hardcore the size of Everest arrived. The promise of a mechanical digger came and went. Wheelbarrows were commandeered (even a Swedish red wheelbarrow with a dodgy wheel) and the hardcore mountain was demolished.

Sections were cut through the oak dividers and a meandering path through the beds were laid. Trenches were dug for foundations for the wall. A palette of cement arrived along with a huge pile of sand and blocks. Time for the cement mixers - "Litte and Large". Little just couldn't keep up leaving Large to do the bulk of the mixing. Half bag of cement, 8

love, slow dedicated work. Sometimes a team effort, but mostly Brian laying slab after slab. Even Anne Marie took a stint on the mixer. Eventually the patio was finished and what a sight. That day the sun shone down on the new space allowing us to appreciate the full glory of what had been created.

Then some topsoil. With some carefully placed diversion signs a truck from the DL Golf course site dumped its load. Barrows out again and all the beds were filled and refreshed with new earth (complete with a few golf balls). A few more slabs to cap the flower



bed, some carefully positioned trellises and we had a perfect home for this season's crop and new plants. The space is so valuable to the whole school community: coffee mornings, summer fair, parents viewing the children's matches and can even function an outdoor classroom...it was so worth the effort. Kids are just loving growing things and watering the veg.

Many thanks all who donated their time and/or materials to the team, including Bob Allen, Micheal Murphy, Conor Maloney, Auf Chorbachi, Gerry Killen, Karen and Cormac Shaw, Joe Gallagher, Brian Murphy, Frank Reed (sorry if we missed anyone) and a special thanks to the skills and leadership of Aaron Wooton and Brian Kirby and of course Ann Marie whose enthusiasm and devotion to the project inspired us all.

Frank Reed



VINCENT MCDOWELL MEMORIAL DRAW...

DALKEY SCHOOL PROJECT/MONKSTOWN EDUCATE TOGETHER LIMITED DRAW

On 25.5.2010 the 81st and 82nd Draws were held, the 81st in the Staff Room of DSP NS, the 82nd in the MET NS Staff Room; these were the April and May Draws 2010.

Draw 81:

1st Prize: €200 75 Margaret Buttanshaw

2nd Prize: €100 19 Chantal Thomas

3rd Prizes (5 of €40 each): 42 Scott Jungmann, 44 Susan Whyte,

31 Andrew & Siobhán O'Kelly, 61 Clare Hancock, 12 Caro Condon.

This draw was made by Lucille Ellis, Gillian Breetzke, Karen Gobel and Paul Finucane, members of the DSP NS staff.

Draw 82:

1st Prize: €200 69 Carol Lanigan

2nd Prize: €100 33 Jennifer Johnston

3rd Prizes (5 of €40 each): 16 Angela O'Reilly, 55 Kirsten Hove & Brendan Sheeran, 70 Rosario Kealy, 45 Anne Johnston, 28 Christine Magee.

This draw was made by Maria Scully, Emer O'Brien, Edie McDonnell and Deirdre O'Shea, members of the MET NS staff.

€500 each to MET Trust and DSP Trust, in association with these Draws.

There are 72 members in the Draw at present: 70 on Bankers' Orders, two on direct annual subs. Chances of winning are pretty good: a hundred members would be better for the schools, but still a good gamble each month for the subscribers.

New subscribers wishing to join the Draw can get forms from the Administrator (280 2003 or emjay@eircom.net); or from the Principal at either school.

Visit our website: www.metns.ie

RAZZAMATAZZ



SLEEPY TIME

Junior Infants



STARRING: The children of MEIN'S



Directed and
Produced by
Emer Casey
&
Deidre O'Shea



**FOXY
TO THE
RESCUE**
First Class



**THE
WITCH**



**WHO
WASN'T
TOO BAD**
Senior Infants



*Thanks to everyone who gave up
their spare time and talent to help
out in making the production such
a wonderful success.*

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

Second Class



THE WIZARD

OF OZ

Third & Fourth Class



Photos by Joe St Leger



ALADDIN

Fifth & Sixth Class

