



In Short...

END OF YEAR...

School closes on Thursday 30th June at 12 midday for all classes.

NEXT YEAR...

School starts again on THURSDAY 1 SEPTEMBER for all classes.

GRANDSTAND

Grandstand Sports in Georges Mall in the Dun Laoghaire Shopping centre credit METNS with 10% of the value spent by anyone who mentions the school name while purchasing goods. Credit built up can then be used by the school.

WEBSITE

Have a look at our fab website: www.metns.ie. Kelly has recently updated our gallery with some great new pics. If you are wondering about the date of a school event, or need a copy of the school calendar, you'll find it on our website, too.

PLEASE CHECK LOST PROPERTY

Please check lost property regularly as any remaining items are given to charity.

During the term, lost property is kept in the hallway.

6TH CLASS GRADUATION

6th Class is having a graduation ceremony on Tuesday 28th June at 11 am in the school hall

CHANGE OF CONTACT DETAILS?

If you have changed address or phone numbers, please let us know either by email (office@metns.ie) or call the school on 230 3696.

MONEY RAISED

Well done to the Student Council and all who contributed. €300+ was raised for Amnesty International

FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

Dear Parents and Guardians

The year is drawing to a close and as always we have had a busy year of events. The learning and achievements have been incredible. I am constantly amazed at the ability, talent and enthusiasm of all our pupils at METNS.

As a whole school, Friendship week, Seachtain na Gaeilge, Water Conservation, Assemblies, Culture Night, the snow and the Christmas Fair all stand out in my memory this year. However each class has had on-going projects and events that have been truly amazing and the continuous work and learning in each classroom is outstanding. I would like to mention the many contributions that parents have given to classroom projects and trips, hockey, soccer and other sports and events. This has enriched the learning of the children and our school thrives on the continued involvement of parents.

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 you all, we are so lucky to have such a talented and inspiring staff. A special thanks to our temporary and substitute teachers Donal, Karen and Eva for their valuable contribution to METNS this year.

GREEN SCHOOLS...

This year we worked on our 3rd green flag. The theme was to conserve water. We saved water at home and at school by making promises not to waste. Our logo was W.W.W.W. (we won't waste water) We learnt how to say that in Irish... Na cuir uise amu.

A man from DLR came to examine our green team and went around all the school looking at our work. He was seriously impressed. We had fun working throughout the year and we are working getting a rainwater conservation butt for our school toilet system.

We had a flag raising ceremony on Friday 17th for all the school and the parents, followed by a cup of coffee in our magic school garden.

Anna & Becky (5th) Evin & Mabel (3rd)

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Eimear Foxe, Martha Lamont and Claire Cantrell well on their travels. All three are taking a career break for one year and intend to combine travel with voluntary work abroad. We will miss them. However, we look forward to their return and to learning from their many experiences.

I would also like to wish Molly Boydell well. Molly is taking a career break this year to care for her 2 children, Alannah and baby Sonny. Congratulations to Rosie Doyle who recently had a baby and Rosie will be on maternity leave for the first part of the coming school year.

We propose to have interviews for new staff during the Summer so we may not be able to confirm staff allocations for all classes with school reports as we usually do. We will let you know as soon as we can.

This last long term has been a busy time with school tours, Sports Day, new Junior Infant Parents introductory day, Santry Athletics, METNS Talent show, 5th/6th Class Disco, Green Flag celebration, Summer Fair and much more. We are looking forward to our 2nd Class Ceremony 'Spreagadh' which will celebrate the children's completion of the Junior Cycle and the 6th class Graduation ceremony which is always a very special occasion. We wish 6th Class 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.

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. A warm welcome to Conor Moloney who replaces Barry O' Brien on the BOM.

A few reminders:

School reports will be posted to ensure safe delivery and will include details of school books required for September.

You will also receive calendar and staff allocation details (where possible) with the reports.

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 Thursday, 1st September.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Rosario Kealy, Principal

FROM THE PTA...

It is difficult to believe that the current school year is now drawing to a close. It seems like only yesterday we were covering books and rooting out the school bag! 8 weeks lie ahead to rest, relax and have some fun. It has been a busy, at times hectic but above all a good year for our school.

The PTA was active on your behalf in broadening the scope and range of after school activities. A big thank you to all coaches and staff involved including the PTA reps who worked so hard. Special mention is also due to Christine Magee who runs the hockey programme. Christine's voluntary time is much appreciated. A draft schedule of next year's programme will be available soon so your budding Nadals, Sonya O'Sullivan or Picassos can start planning next September's sports & activities.

The annual Christmas & Summer Fairs were a great success and really the two main fund raising initiatives of the

school. The Danceathon was a new fund raising initiative this year and a terrific success. As funds are squeezed further next year and resources cut we may well have to do more fund raising to give our children the education and experiences they deserve.

The PTA sponsored many events in the school such as the Dance Theatre of Ireland workshops, the travelling Planetarium, the goodies at various events such as Sports Day and the Green Flag ceremony and also organised a recent social evening celebrating the diverse cultures within the school community.

If you have any ideas, suggestions or comments for the PTA please feel free to contact any member at any time and if you would like to get involved in the PTA watch out for the meeting notices sometime in September.

Wishing you all a fun filled safe Summer.

The PTA Committee 2010/2011

I'd like to say a big thank you to Lyn Duff for producing our newsletter for the last 7 years. Lyn has done an amazing job and given much of her time and expertise. Unfortunately she is unable to continue the newsletter, so we are looking for someone or a group of people interested in producing the METNS newsletter for us. If you are interested, please phone Rosario at the school. Rosario

WHAT THE CLASSES ARE UP TO...

Junior Infants (AnnMarie Kenrick)

Not a lot left to say except amongst a very busy final few weeks, (sports day, Marlay picnic, woodlands picnic, class concert, green flag ceremony to name but a few things) we found time to have fun and do a little bit of work!! Thank you to all the parents for your wonderful support through a year that flew by. We are finishing a great year, tired but happy and knowing loads of stuff!



AnnMarie's Junior Infants went on a trip to Imaginosity recently

Junior Infants (Marie Kane)

We have lots of activities to look forward to in Junior Infants. We are busy practising for our mini performance for the parents at the moment. We are excited about our second trip to Marlay Park and there's already lots of chatting about Summer holidays.

We are delighted to have a new little girl in our class. Mathilde Metzinger joined us here in M.E.T.N.S. on 2nd June. She is a beautiful and happy little girl from France and we hope she feels very welcome. Unfortunately I was too late for the last Newsletter to include a welcome to Hayley Murphy, who joined our class just after the Easter holidays. We were delighted to welcome her into Junior Infants and she has settled in very well.

It's been a busy year, full of laughter, some tears at times, lots of learning, playing, making friends. I would like to express a sincere thank you to all the parents, grandparents, guardians, after-school carers and all involved with the Junior Infants class of '10/'11 for your consistent support and kindness throughout the year and for helping to make this a memorable year. I wish the children the very best in Senior Infants and look forward to seeing them all in September. Wishing you all a great

summer! Best Regards, Marie.

Senior Infants (Claire Cantrell)

Senior Infants are really enjoying our last term. We have been rapping, bird watching, writing, reading, dancing, running, painting and singing and lots more. Each morning we have been practicing our running on the pitch to get us ready for sports day which, was a great success. We made bird feeders out of milk cartons and

coloured in our favourite part of our trip. We also looked back at pictures and videos of the trip which we loved! We are now practicing for our Class Talent Show and we are doing lots of things such as singing, dancing and telling jokes. We had a drama workshop this week which we also enjoyed. We have great memories of First Class and we hope you enjoyed reading our news during the year. We wish everyone a lovely summer and see you in September!

First Class (Martha Lamont)

It is hard to believe that this is the final newsletter of the school year! We have had a wonderful term since the Spring Break. On the 10th of May we had a special visit from Farmer Pat, who delivered 5 caterpillars to us from his farm. We watched the hungry little caterpillars eat and eat, and they grew and grew to become big, strong, fuzzy caterpillars! After a couple of weeks the caterpillars formed their cocoons, and took a very important rest while lots of changes were happening to them. Over the June Bank Holiday, Ms Lamont took the cocoons home to keep an eye on them.. and sure enough, they transformed into beautiful Painted Lady Butterflies! We named our butterflies Toby, Summer, Fuzzy, Coco and Lucky. Lucky was very special, as his wings were a little bit damaged. On Friday 10th of June we set the butterflies free into our school garden. We were a little bit sad, but very excited for them as they flew off to discover the nature all around us!

We went on a school trip to Glenroe Farm at the beginning of June and had so much fun meeting and petting the animals, playing in the playground and going on our nature walk! Our Class Talent Show was very

First Class (Eimear Foxe)

We really enjoyed the warm sunshine of May and we are now looking forward to the many different events which will take place in June, such as Sports Day and The Summer Fair.

At the moment we are practicing for Sports Day, which involves fun races, playground games, ball games and parachutes games. We also celebrated friendship week by buying friendship bracelets from the Student Council and we made a list of ways in which we can be a good friend. We have been learning all about people in our community in SESE and we were very lucky to have a visit from Sean's dad in Ms. Lamont's class who is a guard. He told us to be careful when crossing the road and we had great fun fitting on his garda handcuffs and hat!

On Thursday June 2nd, we went to our class trip to Glenroe Farm in Co. Wicklow. We went with Ms. Lamont's class and we had such a wonderful day! We saw lots of animals such as goats, pigs, horses, geese and rabbits. Our tour guide (whose name was Rosie), told us lots of things about the animals and she made us laugh when she told us the names of goats were John and Edward! We also went on a nature trail and we learned about the different animals which live in the

area. We especially enjoyed running through 'The Secret Garden' and smelling the beautiful flowers in 'The Senses Garden.' When we came back to school we drew and coloured in our favourite part of our trip. We also looked back at pictures and videos of the trip which we loved!

We are now practicing for our Class Talent Show and we are doing lots of things such as singing, dancing and telling jokes. We had a drama workshop this week which we also enjoyed. We have great memories of First Class and we hope you enjoyed reading our news during the year. We wish everyone a lovely summer and see you in September!

First Class (Martha Lamont)

It is hard to believe that this is the final newsletter of the school year!

We have had a wonderful term since the Spring Break. On the 10th of May we had a special visit from Farmer Pat, who delivered 5 caterpillars to us from his farm. We watched the hungry little caterpillars eat and eat, and they grew and grew to become big, strong, fuzzy caterpillars! After a couple of weeks the caterpillars formed their cocoons, and took a very important rest while lots of changes were happening to them. Over the June Bank Holiday, Ms Lamont took the cocoons home to keep an eye on them.. and sure enough, they transformed into beautiful Painted Lady Butterflies! We named our butterflies Toby, Summer, Fuzzy, Coco and Lucky. Lucky was very special, as his wings were a little bit damaged. On Friday 10th of June we set the butterflies free into our school garden. We were a little bit sad, but very excited for them as they flew off to discover the nature all around us!

We went on a school trip to Glenroe Farm at the beginning of June and had so much fun meeting and petting the animals, playing in the playground and going on our nature walk! Our Class Talent Show was very



Yet another use for our school garden...

entertaining- well done to all the boys and girls for their wonderful songs, dances, gymnastics, music, magic tricks, jokes, plays, and even teepee and dam-making!

We are very excited to welcome Amy (who does the voice for Punky which is our favourite cartoon!) to the school on the day of the Green Flag Ceremony. We have lots of questions for her about her job and we can't wait to meet her!

We are enjoying our last few weeks of school and look forward to getting our summer holidays after our busy term!

2nd Class (Rosie Doyle/Luisa Mason)

2nd Class have been very busy this summer term! We enjoyed learning about space and are now all experts on our solar system! We planned, wrote and re-drafted exciting space adventure stories (come and read our openings on the display board outside our classroom!), and we also listened to The Planet Suite by Gustav Holst and used all kinds of materials to weave some amazing planets. We did a class assembly on Friendship where we all took part and ended by singing A little help from my Friends by the Beatles.

We have spent the last week planning and designing castles, then making them from re-cycled materials and painting our models. We have been so lucky to have Mercedes our student to help us with all our art work. Everyone



6th Class enjoyed lunch at Captain America's after a busy visit to Dublin's Georgian House Museum

...WHAT THE CLASSES ARE UP TO

enjoyed taking part in our class Talent Show, whether performing, or working behind the scenes. Everyone worked incredibly hard to produce a fantastic show, and we wish good luck to our 2nd class finalists – Luke the Rockstar, Liadain the Great Song Magician, and singing duo Adam and Suffie aka Black and Blue!

2nd class will be taking to the stage yet again on Thursday 23rd June as we perform at the 2nd Class Graduation Ceremony in the hall. Last but definitely not least, we are delighted to report that Rosie had her baby, a little girl called Sadhbh. We can't wait to meet her!

3rd Class (Donal Patterson)

Term 3 has been a great term for the class, with the children working so hard. We just went on our class trip to the rainforest section of the Zoo. The class got a guided tour of all the rainforest animals which proved very useful for their animal project presentations!

The class also did a fantastic job on their Geography/History county projects – where each student got a county of Ireland which they had to do research on. It was like a



Potions bubbled and solutions fizzed in 5th Class chemistry

promotional presentation for Fáilte Ireland! The finished projects were beautifully designed and excellently presented. Our art work was top class also! We completed a 10 ft mural of the rainforest which we hung up proudly in our classroom!

We have covered so much in our Maths, Gaeilge, and English also. Simon Cowell really better watch out as 3RD Class has certainly got talent! Our class talent shows have been a roaring success – with the class developing their confidence and experience in singing, acting, mime, dancing, piano & guitar playing and even poetry recitals! These were further developed by an excellent workshop given to our class by Dance Ireland.

I have to say a big thank you to all of you – the parents, for all the support and help you have given me during my first year here in

M.E.T.N.S. I have seen the class come on in leaps and bounds, in all aspects of the curriculum as a result of our teamwork since September. This would not have been possible without your support. Thank you to the parents who helped me on school tours throughout the year and to the parents who came in and gave the class brilliant workshops in art, music and even creative thinking! A final big go raibh mile maith agat to all of my third class – WHAT A CLASS! You all worked so hard this year and you should be proud of yourselves. Enjoy your summer break - you all deserve it and I look forward to seeing you all in September!

4th Class (Helen Melvin)

4th Class have been imagining and writing about the kind of school they would like to have if anything was possible.

Here is Emma Connor's school: *My school would be called "The Dublin Academy of Arts". The classrooms would be big but cosy. The floor would have a woolly carpet and the seats would be attached to the roof. They would be in the shape of spheres and have lots of pillows in them. Everyone would wear slippers.*

I would teach music, how to play the piano and other stuff and we would listen to pop music. I would also teach acting and I would teach history based on mythology. For homework, the children would have to look up information about mythological monsters. Our motto would be "Time for art, not for go karts!"

4th Class wish everyone a wonderful summer.

5th Class (Chrissie Stokes)

As usual 5th class are very busy. We have just completed a SESE project on Australia, check out our interactive display on Australian wildlife outside our classroom. We are now researching another interactive project - 'The Living Exhibit Exhibition'.

We have been researching a famous person either from the past or the present, and presented ourselves as that person in the hall after the Green Flag ceremony on Friday 17th.

We are also preparing for our trip to W5 in Belfast on Thursday 23rd by doing some



6th Class had a fishy day of marine biology, recently

chemistry experiments – making potions and checking what solutions are acids or bases.

We have a big GAA competition coming up during the week of the 20th. The Robert Shaw Memorial Cup competition is a Gaelic Football tournament of mixed 5th and 6th class teams played in memory of a fabulous young man who left us too soon.

Finally we organised a disco to say FAREWELL and GOOD LUCK to 6th class as they get ready to move into secondary, and we look forward to being the new top class (and coolest class) in the school!!!

6th Class (Eva Meredith)

It's hard to believe that we have reached the final month of primary school! We have had an incredible year and we are now spending some time reflecting on our time in M.E.T.N.S, while excitedly looking forward to secondary school in September. Here are just some of the highlights of the last two months.

In history, we have been studying life in late 18th-early 19th century Dublin, which we concluded with a trip to "Number 29", Dublin's Georgian house museum. The visit was very interesting and informative and we all especially enjoyed having lunch in Captain America's afterwards!

We are just recently back from

our five day trip to the Gaeltacht in Donegal. We had a truly fantastic time. We had classes every morning, a trip each afternoon and evening activities including a disco, ceili and a tráth na gcéist. The Sixth Class children really did M.E.T.N.S. proud, bringing home first, second and third prizes in the tráth na gcéist, as well as another three trophies won in the talent show!!

In science, we were very lucky to have Aisling Smith, a marine biologist from the "Ryan Institute for Environmental, Marine and Energy Research" in Galway work with us for a whole day. She organised some really fun marine-based activities and she brought with her some fascinating instruments used by marine biologists, as well as samples of different types of fish. The pinnacle of the day was when we got to investigate the anatomy of different fish by dissecting them ourselves! Not for the faint-hearted!!

Last term, we worked in groups to write stories "as Gaeilge". We then used a programme called "Photostory" to digitalise our stories. We are happy to say that they can now be viewed on our website. Have a look at the Sixth Class page to watch them. Many thanks to Felim's mum Kelly for all her help with getting the stories up on the website!

GREEN SCHOOLS...

by Kate, Eilis and Carol

On May the 24th we went to Croke Park Conference Centre to get our water flag. Carol and Eilis from 5th and Kate from 2nd went with Ann Marie.

There were about 30 different schools getting their green flags. The flags were being awarded for all themes, RRR, energy, water, transport etc.. Our flag was awarded for water conservation. We looked at all the



schools getting their flags and then we were called up to get ours, and get our photos taken. We finished off the day by eating muffins and cola! And we were very proud.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES...

Hockey

The hockey season is now over and we are happy to report that we have had another great season. About 50 children from 2nd to 6th class have travelled to the excellent astro turf pitch at Newpark school every Monday afternoon. The players are divided into groups to work with four coaches on developing skills and tactics and finally everyone plays practice matches at the end of each session. Attendance has been fabulous and for that we thank both the players and the chauffeurs!

It is hard to know where to start as there have been so many high points this term. The highest point has to be our senior team reaching the semi finals of their league. They played with great team spirit and focus. We were so proud of them and disappointed for them as they could have made it to the finals with a little luck. In March we hosted a blitz with Divine Word National School.

It was heartening to see our junior players able to play so well and so competitively while holding on to the METNS tradition of courtesy to all on the pitch. They all played with great commitment and skill. We didn't want to gloat on the day but we won the vast majority of the matches. Well done. Our final session before Easter was an METNS blitz where mixed teams of 7 players from 2nd to 6th played each other for the Easter egg. Great standard of play once again and Ben was delighted to see his 2nd and 3rd class players using their sweeping in the matches.

Hockey at METNS is primarily about participation and enjoyment and there is a place at METNS hockey for everyone who wants to play whatever their standard. We would gently encourage anyone with an interest in playing hockey at secondary school to do at least a year or two of hockey as we have found that having skills and some confidence make the sport so much more accessible at Newpark or any of the other schools our children go onto. Lots of past pupils have had great success and more importantly made good friends through their hockey in secondary.

If your child has an interest in hockey (and you have time!) joining the junior sections of one of our local hockey clubs can be a great. Avoca and Monkstown are both mixed clubs with children's sections and there always seem to be places for boys immediately but girls can put their names on a waiting list. Playing club hockey really seems to bring on the children's skills and gives them great

confidence. Also the Irish Hockey Association and Sportways both run fun hockey camps during the summer.

We would like to organise more matches for all our players but in particular for some of the younger players but we need help from parents to do so. Please let me know if you can volunteer in any way. Thanks

Finally goodbye and good luck to all our 6th class hockey players but particularly to those amazing players who have come every Monday for the last 4 or 5 years. We will really miss your good humour and of course your great hockey skills.

Thanks to our outside coaches Ben, Dash and Marcus. Particular thanks to Deidre O'Shea "our own" hockey coach for her coaching and general support and organisation over the last couple of years. She has decided to pull out because of commitments in school but we hope she will make some guest appearances during the year. We will all miss her good humour and skills on the pitch.

Christine Magee

Soccer

This year our girl's soccer team have set a new high to which all future METNS soccer teams can aspire. Winning the Dublin SFAI girls 5-a-side competition earned METNS the honour of representing Dublin in the Leinster Finals. Hold your medals high and take a big bow: Odette O'Beirne, Olivia Heron, Gemma Heron, Elvira Guiomard, Becky Brady, Eve Buckley, Sara Edris, Suzie Berke. Well done girls! Thanks to Donal Patterson, Franco, Una, and Siobhan for all the logistics, the coaching and the management for the team.

Listen out for the big cheer going out to all our Friday soccer players, junior and seniors alike, from Liam, Christine, Craig, Jamie, Franco, and Donal. It has been so much fun every week working with you and seeing your football skills in action. Some of the goals scored have been worthy of premium sports TV viewing. The football may have taken a break in METNS but don't let that stop you kicking a ball right through the summer. The soccer coaches wish all the graduating 6th class soccer players every success in their future schools and football teams. Remember - be ready, work hard, and enjoy, both on and off the pitch! We will miss your familiar faces and particular characters; so many of you have played on Fridays since being in 3rd class.



The METNS teams did us proud at Santry

Athletics

Juniors and seniors athletes combined to end off the term with a combined series of relay races. The competition was tight and every team showed well. The challenge of the relays increased from race to race with hurdles of different sizes being added step by step and then some tunnels to get down and under. Short legs and long legs all tore around the circuit, leaping and ducking, before passing their batons on to the next runner. We finished with a Password Breaker Relay with the winning team being the first to work out the word "Champions" after collecting many little letters written on small scraps of paper. Now for those of you who have never tried it, spelling in the wind is no easy task. On his 70th birthday week, there was perhaps no more apt description for our concluding event than Bob Dylan's timeless words as phrased it.....the answer (it seemed for some teams) was blowing in the wind, the answer was blowing in the wind. And with that our batons have been pot away

until next September. Well done everyone. Don't forget to keep up your running during the Summer. Best wishes to all our 6th class athletes entering secondary school. We will miss you lots. Get out there and join your new school cross country teams.

Donal Norton

Santry Athletics

Up to 50 pupils represented our school at Santry and competed brilliantly. We had girls and boys teams in 4 age groups, U 10, U 11, U 12/ U 13. We had three teams making the finals which is just fantastic, the girls and boys U 11, the boys U 12 and Ruan, running in the sprint individual final. The boys U 11 were our only medal winners and huge congrats to Oisin, Luis, Aido and Robert, with Vishva and Dino completing the team as subs. Ruan and our other teams missed out on medals by millimetres! Everyone had a great day, even if the weather went against us a little, and the METNS colours wore worn proudly!!

AnnMarie Kenrick

WWW METNS IE...

The website still proves to be a popular tool for the school to communicate with parents and students. Nearly all classes have information on their individual pages, such as homework, photographs and even links to class-made movies (see 6th class)! There are new pictures in the Gallery, including some of the move from the old school in Monkstown Grove. Links to the calendar are very helpful for those very important dates and times. The office has also saved a lot of time (and money) posting out applications now that prospective parents can download the forms themselves.

Did you know...

- Since September our pages were viewed 53,549 times
- Dec '10 was the most popular month to look at the website (13,414 times) with May a close second (12,315)
- In June, so far Fridays have been the most popular day to look at the website. But in May, it was Wednesdays!
- People from Ireland, Canada, USA, Sweden, Spain and Great Britain are our top visitors
- Most people find us from Google while others find us by clicking on our links in educatetogether.ie, schooldays.ie and eircoil.net

Be sure to check the site over the summer; any news, like the schedule for the first few weeks in September, will be listed!

Kelly Price

Visit our website: www.metns.ie