

Family Note No. 20 (31st May 2010)

Dear Parents,

Please note the following:

1. Sciath na Scol Camógie Final: As previously notified, our Girls Camógie Team contest the final of the Sciath na Scol Competition in Páirc Uí Rinn today at 12.30 p.m. against the strongly-fancied Ballinspittle N.S. However, with the inspiring and encouraging words of Cork Hurling Supremo, Seán Óg Ó hAilpín, still ringing in their ears after his surprise visit to the school on Friday morning last, the girls are ready for the fray and a surprise may indeed be on the cards. All pupils from 3rd – 6th Classes will travel to Páirc Uí Rinn today to cheer on the girls and their coaches as we go in search of a memorable Sciath na Scol Double. *Go néirí libh, a chailíní is a mhúinteoirí is go ndéana sibh gaisce!*

2. 25th Anniversary Celebrations:

- a) **Pupil Activity Day:** As part of our 25th Anniversary Celebrations, a ‘Pupil-based Activity Day’ has been organised for this Wednesday, 2nd June (rescheduled from Tues., 1st June due to poor weather forecast). A detailed programme of events has been circulated to all classes. On the day, pupils should wear tracksuit and polo shirt, sun block (as hopefully necessary!) and also should bring with them a picnic blanket and some picnic/lunch snacks. *School bags will not be required for this special celebratory day.* Parents are welcome to join us for the outdoor activities which commence at 12 noon and include a Talent Show, a Picnic, a 3-legged ‘fun’ Soccer Match (Staff Members Versus some 6th Class pupils), 25 Metre Novelty Race, 25th Anniversary Capsule Event, Awards Ceremony, and Closing Ceremony to include the performance by all pupils of a ‘specially commissioned dance’ to the music of ‘Walking on Sunshine’, a musical classic from 1985! The PFA will make some tea/coffee for the parents who visit on the day and perhaps a small piece of the special 25th Anniversary Cake. All in all, a day of laughter and fun (and some discovery-based learning in the morning also) so that pupils might better remember the special year that we are currently celebrating.
- b) Copies of the much-anticipated 25th Anniversary Book (*‘Scoil Barra: A Coming of Age’*) are available for purchase from the Secretary’s Office from tomorrow, Tuesday 1st June (Cost: €15). The book was launched by Min. Batt O’ Keeffe, T.D. at a special gathering in the Oriel House Hotel on Friday night last. This special publication - full of brilliant photographs and nostalgic stories, both past and present – is a ‘must read’ for all who have travelled the road with us on Scoil Barra’s journey over the past 25 years. The Book will also be available for purchase from Maurice Healy’s Post Office, Downs’ Super Valu and The Plaza Restaurant. A limited run of the book has been printed and books will be sold on a ‘first come, first served basis’. You have been warned!

3. **Staff Meeting:** As previously notified, the last Staff Meeting of the year is scheduled for this Friday, 4th June. All pupils will finish school at 12 noon on that day (Infants may be collected from 11.50 a.m.). Please ensure prompt collection of pupils to avoid any unnecessary upset.
4. **Manchester Tour:** The 55 Sixth Class pupils and the accompanying group of teachers returned safely on Saturday night, 22nd May, after a very enjoyable and successful Tour to Manchester. Once again, Alton Towers, Anfield, Knowsley Park and the Trafford Centre proved to be great attractions and the pupils' behaviour was of the highest standard and was much-commented upon by both the Hotel Staff and others we met during our 4 days abroad. A special visit to the Titanic Exhibition in the CityWest Campus and a journey home on the world's largest Car Ferry (VP Ulysses) were extra and unexpected bonuses for the pupils this year. *Mo cheol sibh go léir, a pháistí is a mhúinteoirí.*
5. **Books Sales Day: Thursday, 10th June:**
Book Lists for the next school year will be circulated to all parents later this week. *The annual 'Books Sales Day' is scheduled for Thursday, 10th June, when parents will have a once-off opportunity to pay for all Book List Charges and to purchase all workbooks, stationery, etc required for the next school year (Approx. cost €90-€120 depending on the Class Level).* Please ensure that you plan ahead for this opportunity to purchase/pay for all items listed on the Book Lists. Alternatively, if you yourself cannot attend on the day, you should make arrangements to have some other adult present who can do the necessary purchasing/paying for you.
6. **Uniform/Tracksuits Purchasing Opportunity:** As per last year, the suppliers of all our school uniform items (Mick Murphys, North Main St.) have agreed to visit the school on *Wednesday, 16th June from 7.00 – 8.30 p.m.* to facilitate parents who wish to purchase all items of uniform/tracksuit/polo shirts etc for the new school year. Parents are strongly encouraged to avail of this opportunity to purchase these items as it will save on having to drive into the city, find parking and join the growing queues that arise later during the summer.

Donal O' Sullivan, Principal.

Significant Events and Dates: 31st May - 30th June 2010.

31st May: Sciath na Scol Camógie Final in Páirc Uí Rinn @ 12,30 p.m.

2nd June: ‘Pupil Activity Day’ as part of the 25th Anniversary Celebrations.

4th June: Staff Meeting: Pupils home at 12 noon (Infants from 11.50 a.m.)

7th June: Public Holiday: School Closed.

10th June: Books’ Sales Day.

11th June: Cork City and County Primary Schools Sports in Pairc Uí Chaoímh.

16th June: School Sports’ Day.

Uniform/Tracksuits Sales Night: 7.00 – 8.30 p.m.

Posting of ‘End-of-Year’ Pupil Reports.

23rd June: Sixth Class ‘End-of-Year’ Mass: Christ Our Light Church at 11.30 a.m.

22nd-24th June: Visit of ‘new’ Junior Infants (1.00-2.00 p.m.)

30th June: School Closes for Summer Holidays @ 12 noon.

