

Family Note No. 35 (9th June 2016).

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please note the following:

1. Scoil Barra Sports' Day: Thankfully, the sunny weather was with us on Friday last as pupils, family members and staff enjoyed lots of excitement and fun activities on our annual School Sports' Day. Well done to Mr. Murphy for helping to ensure that all races ran smoothly, and to all other staff members for ensuring that the day was both enjoyable and safe for the children, and to the parents and other family members for their very positive encouragement and support. The Parents and Friends' Association volunteers provided teas/coffee and light refreshments to the appreciative gathering of family members and we thank those volunteers once again for their generosity in giving of their time and energy on Sports' Day. Sincere thanks again also to Eileen and Ollie O' Sullivan (Active Leisure Ltd.) for their kind sponsorship of the ever-popular Bouncy Castles/Slides and Obstacle Courses. A great day was enjoyed by all.

2. Scoil Barra Tag Rugby Blitz: Once again, the pupils of our Fifth and Sixth Classes really enjoyed the annual Scoil Barra Tag Rugby Blitz held on the school sports field yesterday. Under the keen eye of Munster Rugby School Development Officer, Matt McGrath, aided by his willing assistants, everything ran very smoothly and our pupils really enjoyed the occasion, displaying great enthusiasm and 'fair play' for all. Fun and enjoyment were again the order of the day.

3. Scoil Barra 'Healthy Eating and Active Living' Week: 20th - 24th June: In a few weeks' time, the pupils and staff members will be engaged in a variety of activities aimed at promoting healthy eating and exercise habits which should be practised by all with a view to improving our general health and living style. Completion of Skipping Sessions, Obstacle Courses, Nature Walks, Orienteering, Running/Jogging Sessions as well as sampling of the now famous Scoil Barra 'Smoothies' will once again be a part of a very busy schedule of events organised by Ms. Galvin (Health Promoting School Co-ordinator) with the invaluable help of her other committee members. *All pupils may wear tracksuits/shorts/polo shirts every day during the 'Healthy Eating and Active Living' Week.* Looking forward to lots of fun and exercise!

4. Raising of Scoil Barra's Fifth Green Flag: Further to our recent news that Scoil Barra has been awarded its fifth Green Flag (following on from the efforts of pupils, staff and parents focused on the theme of 'Biodiversity' during the past two years), *we look forward to the raising of the Green Flag in Scoil Barra on this Friday, 10th June, at about 10.20 a.m.* It is hoped that a few volunteers from the Ballincollig Tidy Towns Committee will join us for the flag raising ceremony.

5. Manchester Tour: Fifty four excited Sixth Class pupils, accompanied by 8 teachers, will be setting off on Wednesday next, 15th June, for the annual Tour to Manchester. Trips to Croke Park, the Trafford Shopping Centre, Knowsley Safari Park, Alton Towers Park and Llanfairpwllgwyngyll should once again prove to be popular among the pupils on tour. Great credit is due to the organisers of the Tour and to the teachers who accompany the pupils on tour from early on Wednesday morning, 15th June, to late on Saturday night, 18th June, and also to the teachers who will take on the teaching duties of their colleagues during their absence abroad. Without such voluntary effort and commitment the Manchester Tour simply could not happen and the pupils would be denied a wonderful experience. *Hopefully, the sun will continue to shine next week!*

Donal O' Sullivan, Principal.