

## *June Newsletter 2018*

Here is the latest update on what's been happening in Gowran N.S.

### **ADDITIONAL ACCOMMODATION**

We have finally received good news that we have been granted funding for a new classroom. While the grant falls a long way short of what was requested, at least we will have eleven mainstream classrooms going forward. A huge thank you to the many parents who contacted our local politicians by phone and email during the campaign. Thanks also to Minister John Paul Phelan, Senator Pat O' Neill and John Mc Guinness TD for their efforts on our behalf.

### **SPORTS DAY**

**Our annual sports day takes place on Thursday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 12pm sharp, weather permitting.**

**The children have been practising hard with their class and are looking forward to wearing the colours of their teams.**

**In light of the recent child protection legislation, we are concerned with the risk attached to occasions like this, when a large number of visitors are on the school premises. All staff members are busy on the day, organising and manning the event and simply cannot watch the pupils once their races are over. If you are attending, we ask for your co-operation in minding your children and vigilance in keeping an eye out for the safety of everyone so we can all enjoy the day. With the new regulations in mind, we request that parents who take photographs or videos of school events, in which pupils other than their own are involved, not to post them on social media sites without permission from the children's parents.**

### **FIRST COMMUNION**

Congratulations to the 32 boys and girls in Second Class who made their First Communion on Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. It was a lovely, family occasion, greatly added to by the beautiful singing from the choir. Many thanks to Paul Brett and Claire Delaney, to the Parents' committee who organised the masses throughout the year, to Nuala for preparing the mass booklet and above all, to Ms. Nolan who had the children so well prepared for the day.



**FÍS FILM PROJECT** 5th class recently finished the filming of their movies, "Heartbreak" and "The Narwog Mystery". On Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May they attended a showcase event in Thomastown Community Hall, organised by Kilkenny Education Centre, to watch films created and produced by other schools as well as their own. Afterwards, a special guest from Young Irish Film Makers presented each school with their award and all the children received goodie bags. The pupils have learned so much about script writing, costume and design, acting, filming and editing while undertaking this project. Well done to everyone who participated, in particular to Ms. Murphy and Ms. Walsh for their enthusiasm and patience!

**PUPILS OF THE MONTH, MARCH/APRIL 2018**



(missing from the photo is Lola Cummins from 2<sup>nd</sup> Class)

**PUPILS OF THE MONTH, MAY 2018**



(missing from the photo is Adrian Jusmanov from Senior Infants)

**GOWRAN JUNIOR ENTREPRENEUR PROJECT**

As part of their JEP project in the community, the pupils from 6<sup>th</sup> class are currently engaged in visiting Gowran Abbey Nursing Home where they are participating in a variety of activities with the residents. Well done to the children who suggested the idea themselves and sincere thanks to Ms. O'Keeffe and Mary from the home who organised the visits. See the website for more photographs.



**ROINN B CAMOGIE WINNERS!**



Congratulations to our camogie team, captained by Ellie Murray, who recently won the Roinn B Camogie County Final in great style against Mooncoin in Nowlan Park. A

huge thank you to Ms. Miriam O' Keeffe, Ms. Emma Nolan and parent Mrs. Ursula Brennan who have given so generously of their time throughout the season.

The hurling team were unlucky to have been knocked out at the quarter final stage but are currently playing in the semi final of the Country Cup. Thanks again are due to Ms. Laureena Murphy, Mr. Derek O' Gorman and parent Ciarán Phelan for their time and dedication throughout the school year. The school Mini Leagues are now in full swing with pupils from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> involved in hotly contested matches during lunchtime every day.



### Horse Racing Ireland Education Day.

The pupils from 4th, 5th and 6th classes were lucky enough to be invited recently to an Education Day in Gowran Park Racecourse sponsored by Horse Racing Ireland. The children learned all about the different aspects of the racing industry from experts in their fields. For more photographs take a look at the classes section of the website.



### LEINSTER SCHOOLS SWIMMING CHAMPS!

The Annual Leinster Schools Championship took place on Sunday 20th May in The Watershed, Kilkenny. The boys relay team aged 9/10 took home bronze in the medley relay and silver in the freestyle relay. The team was made up of James and Oran from 3rd class with Sam and Conor from 2nd class. All the boys were very proud to be representing their school in a championship where in excess of 500 children from all over Leinster took part! Congratulations boys!



### FIRST CLASS GARDENERS!

The children from Junior Infants and First Class have been busy growing seedlings as part of the Incredible Edibles healthy food project. They have been keeping a log book on their gardening activities to submit to

**Bord Bia when the project is complete. They are watering their plants in the school garden and waiting patiently to harvest them.**



### **CraftED Project**

The children from 3<sup>rd</sup> class have been busy working with artist Marika Manning on a project co-funded by the Arts Council. Over a period of five weeks, the children enjoyed learning about printing, weaving and felting. They created some wonderful pieces which were recently displayed at an event in Kilkenny Education Centre. For more information see the 3<sup>rd</sup> class section of the website.

### **PANGEA MATHS OLYMPICS**

On Saturday 12th May 2018, Fifth class pupils James, Matthew, Yonas, Jake and Ruairí represented our school in the Pangea Maths Olympics Competition in Trinity College in Dublin. A wonderful achievement and a great experience for the boys. Who knows? They might return as students some day in the future!





### **6<sup>TH</sup> CLASS MUSICIANS**

Well done to three of our 6<sup>th</sup> class boys who, with help from their guitar teacher Paul, have recorded a CD of The Fields of Athenry. Watch out for Luke, Ben and Eoin on stage in the future!

**SCHOOL BOOKLISTS** – will be issued during the week beginning June 18<sup>th</sup> .

**SCHOOL REPORTS** – These will be issued during the final week.



*Congratulations to Ms. Lanigan on the birth of her new baby daughter and best wishes to Mrs. Una Flynn for the safe arrival of her new baby during the holidays.*

### **SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

School closes on Friday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at 12.30 and re-opens on Thursday, August 30<sup>th</sup> , 2018.



Don't forget to join the 2018 Summer Stars reading adventure at your local library this summer! Summer Stars is an exciting reading-based programme which is available free of charge to all children across the country.

The **Summer Stars Reading Adventure** runs in public libraries all over Ireland. Children are invited to register for the adventure and enjoy reading many books as part of the adventure during this time. All participants will be given a **Summer Stars Reading Card** to record and track their own progress. There will be rewards and incentives along the way and a grand finale event at the end for all participants.

The Summer Stars programme provides the whole family with an opportunity to explore the full range of events and facilities which are available in their local library, such as story time sessions, children's activities, access to talking books and games, computers and Internet access, and of course children's books for all ages.

**Finally, a sincere thank you for your co-operation during what has been another very successful year for Gowran N.S. We hope you all have a lovely holiday.**

