

# St. Joseph's National School



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June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021

## *June Newsletter*

### **Principal's Message**

On behalf of all the staff and teachers in Ballyadams N.S I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the pupils and parents in our school community for their incredible hard work, commitment, support and cooperation over the past 'school year like no other'. Never has our school motto 'Ní neart go cur le chéile' been more apt and a source of comfort and strength for all of us. The enthusiasm and happiness of the children in school has been a joy to behold in recent months despite the many challenges and difficulties that exist. In a recent visit to Ballyadams N.S to view the progress of our Gardening Project former GAA President Liam O'Neill took the time to speak to the pupils Graduating in 6<sup>th</sup> Class. He remarked how much more resilient and ready to cope with life's challenges all children will be going forward having faced and overcome the challenges presented in the last year by Covid - 19. He encouraged the children to enjoy the good days ahead and help one another and show kindness where they can. I think we can all take encouragement and draw inspiration from those kind words.



### **Summer Holiday's - Re - Opening & School Calendar Dates**

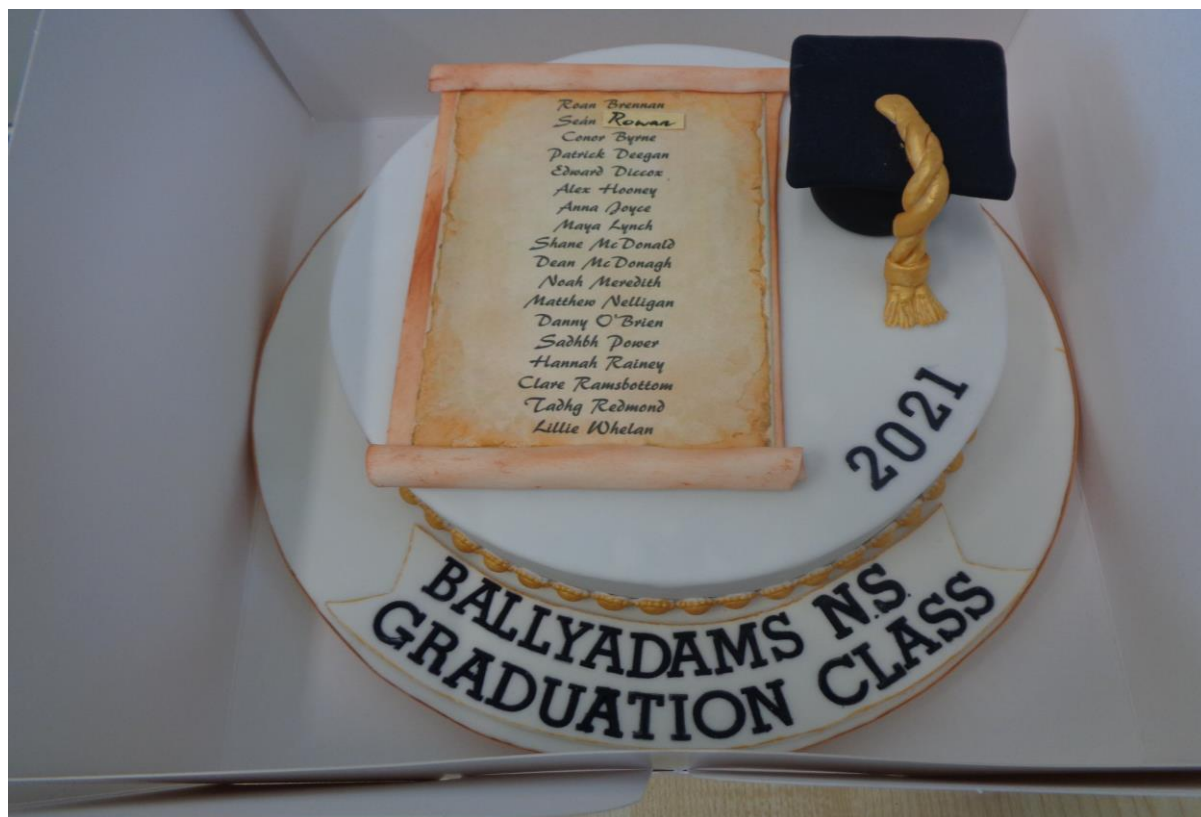
We will close for the Summer Holiday's next Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June @ 12pm. We will re – open for the new school year Thursday the 26<sup>th</sup> August. Details of school holidays / Calendar for the 2021 /22 School Year may be accessed on our school website on the following link <https://www.ballyadamsns.com/calendar.html>

### **Book Collection & Booklists**

Parents are requested to return school book rental books to all class teachers. Many thanks to all households for supporting the book collection and book return. This will allow us to continue to provide our successful and popular Book Rental System for all homes. Booklists for all classes will be shared via Aladdin Connect next week.

### **6<sup>th</sup> Class Graduation**

Our 6<sup>th</sup> Class celebrate their Graduation today Friday 19<sup>th</sup>. In a school year which represented much loss of school milestones for the children we were delighted to celebrate the contribution of a wonderful group of boys and girls in a safe and memorable manner. The children enjoyed their 'Movie Night' Wednesday evening in the school and today participated in their 6<sup>th</sup> Class Graduation End Of Year Mass. We are very proud of all the boys and girls in 6<sup>th</sup> Class and wish them every blessing in the future. Thanks to Ms Murray and all the teachers, staff and parents for ensuring the children experienced a meaningful and memorable Graduation. We are especially thankful to our school secretary Pamela Cooney for putting together a masterpiece 6<sup>th</sup> Class Movie for the children to celebrate their journey in Ballyadams N.S. Best wishes to all our pupils graduating and we wish you every blessing and success.





### **Aoibheann's Pink Tie Fundraiser**

Thank you to all families for supporting 6<sup>th</sup> Class pupil Anna Joyce's recent fundraiser for the Aoibheann's Pink Tie Chairty. Ballyadams N.S raised over E250 for Anna's charity fundraiser initiative. Anna cut over 17 inches of her hair! Well done Anna 😊



### **Parents Council**

A big word of thanks to our dedicated Parents Council for all their tremendous enthusiasm and dedication throughout the year. We are privileged and fortunate to have a Parents Council who give so much time and effort to support our school community.

On behalf of the teaching and ancillary staff in Ballyadams N.S and on behalf of the school's Board Of Management I would like to sincerely thank all outgoing members of the Parents Council committee and in particular outgoing Chairperson Mary Howes. Thank you Mary for your enormous contribution to the betterment of Ballyadams N.S over the past number of years as Parents Council Chairperson. Best wishes to all those getting involved in the 2021 / 22 School Year.

### **Summer Art / Photography Competition**

Well done to all our pupils for getting involved in the Parents Council Summer Art / Photography competition! The enthusiasm and creativity was truly breathtaking and we have seriously talented boys and girls in Ballyadams N.S. Thanks to the Parents Council for organizing and adjudicating the competition and well done to all participants.

### **Trees Of Remembrance**

The Parents Council recently presented 'Trees Of Remembrance' to each of our classes from the Parents Council. The children tied a ribbon to the branches to celebrate the memory of a loved one who has passed away or celebrate someone special to them. The Trees were

presented as part of our End Of School Year Mass. Thank you to all involved in this kind and compassionate project which meant a great deal to all the children.



### **Incoming Junior Infant Pupils & New Families Ballyadams N.S School Community!**

We are looking forward to our new Junior Infant Class beginning their school journey in Ballyadams in late August. Their Induction Day will take place in August. The current Infant Classes and Mc McElhinney have put together a wonderful Welcome Video & Virtual Tour for all incoming Junior Infant families on our school website. We are also looking forward to welcoming a number of new families to our school community in the months to come.

### **End Of Year Virtual Mass**

Fr Dunne celebrated our End Of Year Mass & Graduation Mass for all our pupils today in Ballyadams Church. The Mass was livestreamed on the Parish Facebook site for all children and families. Thank you to Fr Dunne for making the service special for all in attendance and online and thank you Christine Kealy for ensuring the Mass was streamed live for everyone.

### **Sacraments**

The celebration of the Sacraments of First Confession, First Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Confirmation were postponed this year due to Covid – 19 restrictions. It is hoped the First Confession & Communion ceremonies for the children in this years 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Class will take place in the first school term of the 2021 / 22 School Year. Further information will be confirmed in September.

### **Active School Week**

We recently celebrated Active School Week in Ballyadams. Highlight of the week was perhaps the visit of the Musical Bandwagon' on the Friday. The school enjoyed a wonderful outdoor concert experience and the children had an opportunity to dance, sing, enjoy ice cream and savour the talents of a number of exceptionally talented musicians. Have a look at the following link to view the fun, smiles and delight from Active Week Friday  
<https://www.ballyadamns.com/photo-gallery.html>

## **Classes & Class Teachers 2020 / 21**

Best wishes to all our pupils, families and teachers in the next academic year. Please find class information below. We will, once more, have four Multi – Grade Classes in the school for the 2021 /22 School Year.

**Junior & Senior Infants:** Ms Malone

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Class:** Mr Mullooly

**3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Class:** Ms Holden

**5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Class:** Ms Murray

**S.E.T Teachers:** Ms Burke, Ms Rowan, Mr Stapleton

## **Book Lists & End Of Year Reports**

Book lists will be sent to all Parents next week via Aladdin Connect.

End Of Year Reports have been released to all parents via Aladdin Connect. Parents may schedule a phone appointment with their child's Class Teacher to discuss their End Of Year Report before the Summer break Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June.

Thank you to all members of our school community for your continued support and goodwill.

Thank you to all the teachers and ancillary staff in Ballyadams N.S for their unending and incredible dedication to the children in our school.

I wish all our pupils, staff and their families continue a safe, healthy and enjoyable Summer break.

Is mise le meas,  
R.Stapleton  
Principal