

Taney Parish Primary School

Newsletter: Summer 2017



We are almost at the end of another busy year here in Taney Parish Primary School. The sun has been shining this term, although not as much as we would like, and we are all looking forward to our Summer break. School closes at 12.00 p.m. for everyone on Friday 30th June.

Summer Term is always packed full of activities and events for everyone. There are plenty of PTA activities in this term, along with the culmination of all sports. Our Active Flag Committee have been busy too!

The time has nearly come for our 6th Class pupils to move on to secondary school in September. It's a time of mixed emotions for everyone as the time span between Junior Infants and 6th Class just seems to fly by so quickly and this day comes to us all!

Of course, this term has been busy for the 6th Class pupils too! There have been lots of exams, but also extra activities such as completing a cycling safety course and organising the annual Taney Vision talent show, not to mention hatching chicks!



6th Class cycling safety course

Our Graduation Service for 6th Class and their parents was held on Friday 23rd June in the Sinnamon Hall in the Parish Centre at 12.45 p.m. followed by a

reception at the School hosted by 5th Class parents.

We would like to wish our 6th Class pupils every success in their new academic environment. They have all been a credit to Taney Parish Primary School.

For everyone else, we will see you all back here at 8.30 a.m. on Wednesday the 30th August.

Staff News

A very big welcome back to Mrs. Carpenter who has been out for some months. We say goodbye to Ms. Buchanan who is returning home to Donegal and we wish her the best of luck in her future career. Ms. Hanbidge will be back teaching 5th class next year.

Fundraising

In terms of fundraising, we are delighted to announce that we had a very successful year again this year. We have donated money to the Sports Committee to go towards sports equipment etc., donated money to the School Orchestra to upgrade their equipment and a generous cheque was given to the School at the end of the year to be spent where needed. We did scale back our fundraising activities this year and decided not to do the Sponsored Walk in Marlay Park so as not to overburden parents with fundraisers.

As well as this, we gave the teachers €150 each in classroom expenses to furnish their rooms with art materials, crafts, games or anything they felt could benefit their pupils. It is also worth noting that we pay for medals for Sports Day and the swimming displays, which cost over €1,000 and we also like to donate funds to a Charity every year and this year was no exception.

From our collections at the Christmas Carol Services, €1,727.90 was donated to Focus Ireland to help with the homelessness problem. So, there's not a lot left in the PTA account at the end of the year but that's the way it should be!

Sports Day

This was held on Friday 2nd June and as always, there was a tremendous effort put into planning this day and special thanks must be extended to Lesley Ellis, Aiden Hanley, Maura McKenna, Orla Gavin and Viv Cox.



Senior Side Obstacle Race

We are also indebted to Colin Maleady, Nigel Macken, Paul Finlay and Liam Neary who help transport the equipment required, plan the area, and set up (as well as clear up) on the day.

The effort put in by the PTA team, the wider team and the extended group of 60+ volunteers (parents & teachers) on the day and the run up to the day is enormous. I know everyone would agree that it is worth it. The children love it and it's definitely a highlight of the school calendar. This year we had our fingers crossed for dry weather and were blessed with lots of sunshine!



Junior Side Cup and Ball Race

Swimming Displays

The Junior Swimming Display for 2nd and 3rd Class took place on Wednesday 17th May. The Senior Swimming Display for 4th and 5th Class took place on

Wednesday 14th June. The swimmers were delighted with the medals and certificates they received. We would like to thank DLR Loughlinstown for their superb swimming tuition this year.

Credit Union Savings Scheme

The savings scheme has had another very successful year. We have been so impressed with the number of regular savers (approximately 120), particularly in the younger classes. We would also like to thank the parents who volunteered their time and also the pupils in 6th class who volunteered to collect and record the lodgements. Many thanks to Lynn Hanley who managed this scheme for the last two years. Also a special thanks to Sarah and Zack Hanley who were fantastic helping their Mum when the need arose!

Taney Garden Fête

Held on Saturday 10th June, this was another very successful event for the Parish, raising €21,000! Once again, the PTA managed the Tea & Coffee Stall. Many thanks to those who volunteered to help out on the day and also to everyone who donated yummy baked goods. Congratulations to the Fête Committee for a very well organised and really enjoyable day!

Church/PTA Hogroast

The Church/PTA Hogroast was held on Friday 16th June in the Church grounds. The event was sold out and was a fantastic evening. The live music was really good and a great night was had by all.

Active Flag Committee

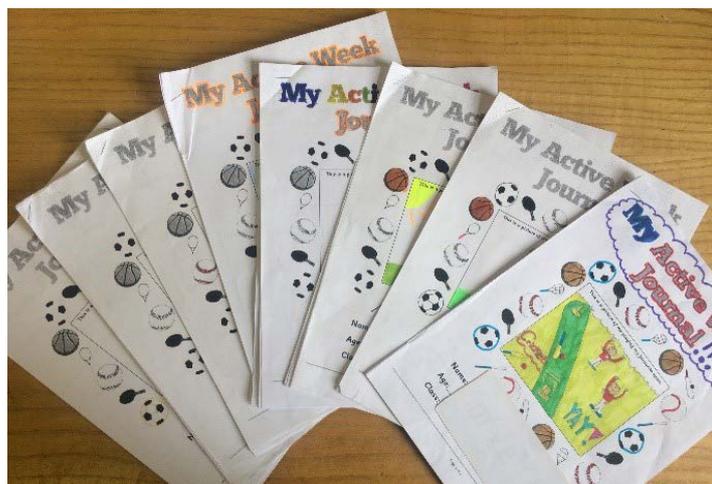
The 29th May to 2nd June was our second Active School Week. This was very successful and everyone had a great time. The children were encouraged to wear active gear throughout the week to promote physical activity.



Zumba and Pound Class during Active Week

Throughout the week, all children had the opportunity to engage in a Skipping workshop with Skippy John. They learnt lot of new skills and tricks using skipping ropes. Each class also participated in a Zumba and Pound class with Carla where lots of new moves were accompanied by the beat of pound sticks.

Individual classes also engaged in a range of physical activities such as: athletics, cricket, practice for Sports Day, obstacle courses, Irish games, Go Noodle, movement breaks and much, much more. Beautiful weather for Sports Day was a fantastic end to the week. We have completed 1889km of our 'Freestyle to Finland'. Well done everyone and remember to keep active!



Active Week Journal

Many thanks to the Active Flag Committee Members, Ms. Coe, Mrs. Martin and Ms. Dolan.

Don't forget that in order to retain our hard-won green flags, we have to continue to recycle and conserve energy at home and at school.

Sports Committee Update

It has been a busy and successful term for the Sports Committee and we have been very lucky again with the weather which has meant no cancellations due to poor weather.

Cricket

Under the expert coaching of Cricket Leinster, Kamal Merchant from YM Cricket Club, Ms. Warren and Ms. Dolan, cricket made a successful return to Taney this term. A brand new 6th class team made it all the way to the final of Cricket Leinster's Leprechaun Cup where they were narrowly beaten by Howth Road NS. All of 5th and 6th class have received weekly coaching from Cricket Leinster during school hours and 4th, 5th and 6th have also enjoyed cricket as part of Summer Sports.

Taney Sports Committee has invested in some new cricket equipment and we look forward to continued successful and fun on the crease. Many thanks also to Mrs. Martin and Sandra Ruttle for their support, and to all the parents who ferried kids and kit to the matches.



Summer Sports in Marlay Park

Athletics

We started up a new athletics programme for the children in 4th and 5th class this term. It was a 4 week programme and was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all. We look forward to building on these new foundations next summer.

Senior Girls Soccer

Taney Senior Girls soccer enjoyed a high level of participation this year with 24 players in the squad. The team reached the semi-final of the FAI Girls Cup and performed strongly in the South Dublin League. With a strong representation from 4th and 5th class, we expect the team to go from strength to strength next year.

Junior Soccer

We are coming to the end of the Junior Soccer Summer term which took place every Thursday on the grass pitches in Marlay Park. 94 children from 1st to 3rd class took part in training every week with the final Thursday being a fun mini tournament with mixed age teams. A big thank you to the 8 coaches and to the parents who stored and transported the bags of balls, cones and bibs each week.

Kathryn Jones and Catherine Cooke are leaving the Sports Committee and we would like to thank them very much for all their hard work and for their contribution to the running of the Sports Committee.

It cannot be said enough that without parental involvement there would be no sport in Taney, so please consider offering to help at some level. The

Sports Committee organize, co-ordinate and run all the various sports, on a near daily basis, but they do rely on the help of other parents to support their efforts. Thank you to one and all on the Committee and to all those who have managed a team, washed and/or transported kit or indeed coached.

PTA AGM & Changes on the PTA

Our 52nd Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday the 13th June. We said our goodbyes to Phil Marsden, Aiden Hanley, Manfred Davies and Viv Cox and welcomed Deirdre Creighton, Ana Kerr, Grainne O'Leary and Karina Keane to the Committee. They will begin their Tour of Duty in September!

We are delighted to announce that Lesley Ellis will be taking over from Viv Cox as Chairperson. Ruth Shanu will be taking over as Treasurer. For those leaving, you will be missed and thank you so much for all your hard work over the last three years.

The other hard-working PTA members are Lesley Ellis, Maura McKenna, Ruth Shanu, Orla Gavin, Karen Sloan and Kate Squires along with Mrs. Lynda Duffy, Ms. Sarah Warren and Mrs. Carpenter (an ex-officio member). Also many thanks to Mrs. Martin who filled in on the Committee for Mrs. Carpenter in her absence.

Phil, Aiden, Manfred and Viv would personally like to thank everyone for their support and generosity over the past three years.

Last but by no means least ...

The PTA would like to extend a huge 'thank you' to all our Class Reps. They have been amazing at passing on our somewhat long-winded, frequent but essential emails to all the parents in the School. They maintain their contact lists, organise social events and are vital to the PTA for information distribution. So well done to you all!



We would also like to thank all the teachers for their unwavering support to our activities throughout the year. They have given the pupils such encouragement to get involved in our School Fair, Christmas cards, Active Week and Sports Day, amongst other things.

We would like to thank Ivan O'Brien who has been instrumental in presenting all the newsletters in the professional format you have seen, along with acting

as our MC for various raffles throughout the year.

Thanks to Nigel Macken, Colin Maleady, Liam Neary, Peter Griffin, Anthony Cameron, Sinead Macken, Eoin Pearson, Julie Maloney in the office, our caretaker Paul and Carmel in the Staff Room and all the teachers and support staff who help with various jobs throughout the year.

Many thanks to Liz Houchin and Gill Crampton our volunteer planters who keep the school grounds looking fantastic.

And of course, we would like to thank the School Staff, all our pupils, all our volunteers (including the PTA, Sports Committee, Active Flag Committee) and everyone who gives their time and effort to make our School events so worthwhile. These things just do not work without people prepared to jump on board and help and we are very fortunate in Taney Parish Primary School to have such a large pool of excellent resources.

Recap of PTA Activities 2016 - 2017

Timeline	Events
September	New Parents Coffee Morning Credit Union Saving Scheme for 1-6th Class
October	School Fair School Christmas Cards
November	Christmas Party.
December	Taney Parish Christmas Bazaar (Toy Stall) Christmas Newsletter
February	Table Quiz
March	Easter Newsletter
May	New Parents Meeting Junior Swimming Display Annual School Concert
June	Sports Day Irish Dancing Display Taney Parish Fête (Tea & Coffee Stall) PTA AGM Senior Swimming Display Summer Newsletter

