



# St. Declan's National School



Bourne Avenue, Ashbourne, Co. Meath - A84KT02  
School Roll Number: 19486K  
Charity Number: 20201057  
Phone: 01-8350594  
www.decsash.ie  
Email: info@decsash.ie  
Twitter: @decsash

Principal Teacher: Cian Kearins

Deputy Principal Teacher: Cathy Collier

## **JUNE NEWSLETTER 2021**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

### **Well done**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all most sincerely for all your cooperation and understanding throughout this most challenging year. It is a true testament to your resolve and partnership with the school that we have been able to remain open with the least disruption to our school life. Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir! On behalf of all our teachers, a huge thank you to all our parents for your patience, dedication and commitment to your child's learning over the past year in school and remotely at home. You all deserve a well-earned break. Well done to all our boys and girls who have shown us how resilient they are when faced with a challenge. We are extremely proud of each and every one of them.



### **Thank you**

My next thank you goes to the staff of St. Declan's NS. They have been a wonderful support to the children in their classes as well as a support to each other during the past few months. I would like to acknowledge the dedication of our hardworking Parents Association who under the guidance of Caoimhe and her team have been working hard all year. Our monster draw was a phenomenal success bringing in €7,804. We held the draw in school yesterday morning and the overall winner was one of our SNA's Maura Rooney. We will post all results of the draw on our parents Facebook page and our school website. The PA handed over a grand total of €18,000 to the school today from fundraising event over the last year. The money raised will go towards the creation of our much needed sensory/OT room, our Music Generation project and redecorating our outdoor classroom space. A huge thank you to everyone who supported all of our fund raising events. Sincere thanks to our Board of Management for working throughout the year on updating policies and assisting in the general day to day running of the school. We are installing slide robes in twelve classrooms over the Summer and we are getting the exterior of the school painted. We are also replacing the boiler as part of our Emergency Works Scheme.



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## Book Rental

Thank you to all parents who have paid their book rental fees. Parents who haven't paid can still pay online by following the link payment request sent to all families via email. All book rental materials will be distributed in the new school year. All booklists were emailed to families via Aladdin but they are also available to download on our school website [www.decsash.ie](http://www.decsash.ie).



## Junior Infants 2021-2022

Welcome to our three new Junior Infant classes who will be joining St. Declan's in the next academic year. We met them online at an induction meeting earlier in the month but we can't wait to meet them in person. The Junior Infant teachers for 2021-2022 will be Ms Molloy Room 27, Ms Mc Enroy Room 28 and Mr Mulroe Room 29.



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## Active Schools Week

We had a very busy week in St. Declan's for Active Schools Week. We had our Junior and Senior Sports Day which was enjoyed by all. A number of our teachers helped out during the week with different sporting activities. Ms Jenkinson and Ms Brogan took classes in the hall for dancing. Ms O'Halloran and Ms Fitzgerald facilitated yoga classes. Yas from Aniss Stage School came in for dance classes. The older classes took part in rugby and GAA with coaches from Donaghmore/Ashbourne GFC and Ashbourne Rugby Club. We were delighted to receive a visit from Meath Ladies Football captain Maire O'Shaughnessy and fellow team mate Aoibheann Cleary. They brought the Mary Quinn cup from their All Ireland win over Westmeath in December. Our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes went out to the yard to greet them and the girls spoke to the classes about the hard work and determination required to play for your county. The girls officially opened our Sli Na Slainte (Healthy Walkway) with our Active Schools Committee. We finished off the week with Jersey Day. Thank you to Mr Farrell our Sports coordinator and our Active School Committee for organising the week. It was a huge success.



## Sacraments

Our Confirmation is due to take place on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of September for all three classes. Our communions are due to take place on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> of September 2021. Times have yet to be confirmed for both days. More information will follow closer to the date. Well done to all the children from Room 15, Room 16 and Room 19 who made their First Penance with Father Ciarán and Father John in our PE hall earlier in the month.



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## Dec's Got Talent 2020

Congratulations to all the children who took part in our Dec's Got Talent show last week. We really enjoyed looking at all the show. All classes tuned in to watch the performances via Zoom and were joined by the judges- Ms Curran, Mr Farrell, Mr Finnegan and Ms Jenkinson. It was hosted by Mr Ryan with Mr Mc Keown and Ms O'Connell on music and sound production. The level of talent was incredible and we were blown away by the creativity and confidence of all the children who took part. We had a combination of singing, instrument playing, dancing, science projects, football skills and ventriloquism. The judges had a very tough decision to make after all the acts performed but they eventually agreed that the new and upcoming act prize went to **DREAMS from 3<sup>rd</sup> class Room 11**, Marie Antoinette Fitzsimons, Ruby Mouat, Emma Mulligan O'Grady, Eva Donnelly and Lucy Kelly. The girls gave a fantastic performance of the song "Million Dreams" from The Greatest Showman. The overall winner of Dec's Got Talent 2021 went to **Taylor Jade Kelly from 6<sup>th</sup> Room 4** with her amazing dance performance. Thank you to Mr Mc Keown for coordinating the event. It was a fantastic day of entertainment. See our school website [www.decsash.ie](http://www.decsash.ie) for full details.

## Prayer Service

We held a lovely Prayer Service for the entire school to attend via Zoom on Monday morning. We were joined by Father Ciarán for the service. It was lovely that we could all be part of it. We looked back on the positive and the negative of this school year and we look forward to the year ahead. Thank you to the children who read out the prayers of the faithful.



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CLASIS OF 2021

Good luck to our eighty four 6<sup>th</sup> class children as they move on to a new stage in their lives. We are so happy that they got to return to school for their last term to make lots of memories of their final year in St. Declan's. We had their graduation for them in the hall and streamed it live to parents, as we couldn't have a normal graduation with the current restrictions in place. Congratulations to Rachel Richardson who won Pupil of the Year Award and to Matthew Cowley who won Sportsperson of the year. Congratulations to Nathan Day Daly, Emma Nulty Finnerty, Fayomade Owoade, Erik Byrne, Kady Mc Hugh, Toke Alicia Jones, Jean O'Donoghue and Conor Mc Cabe for their outstanding attendance in our school over the past eight years. Thank you to the three 6<sup>th</sup> class teachers Ms O'Halloran, Mr Ryan and Ms Jenkinson for their dedication and hard work for the past 2 years with their classes and to all the teachers and SNA's who have worked with these classes over the past eight years. We wish them all the very best of luck in secondary school and we will miss them all in St. Declan's. See our school website [www.decsash.ie](http://www.decsash.ie) for full details of the ceremony.



## **New School Year 2021-2022**

We are due back to school on **Tuesday the 31<sup>st</sup> of August**. We are not too sure yet what things we will have to keep in place in our school to comply with government guidelines but we will be in touch over the Summer when we have more up to date information. I hope you all have a safe and relaxing break. It is definitely a year that will never be forgotten. On behalf of myself, Mrs Collier and all our staff take care of each other and good bye for now to each and every one of you.

Cian Kearins Principal

Cathy Collier Deputy Principal