

**Scoil Nn. Peadar is Pol.  
Summer Newsletter.  
June 2012**

## Class of 2012 Graduation.

We say 'SLAN' to the class of 2012 and wish them God's Blessing on their life's journey as they leave us this week. Graduation takes place on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> with the usual action packed night – full of entertainment, celebration and delicious food and drinks.

We will miss this talented, energetic bunch who no doubt by 2030 will have made their mark on the sporting, cultural, musical, scientific, creative and academic life of our once again proud restored nation.

## School Holidays/Closures 2012/13

<b>August:</b>	<u>School re-opening</u> - Thursday, 30 <sup>th</sup> August.
<b>October/ November:</b>	<u>Mid-Term</u> – closed from Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> October to Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> November incl.
<b>December:</b>	<u>Christmas Holidays</u> – Closing on Friday, 21 <sup>st</sup> December.
<b>January:</b>	<u>School re-opening</u> - on Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2013.
<b>February:</b>	<u>Mid-Term</u> – closed from Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> February to Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2013 incl.
<b>March:</b>	<u>St. Patrick's Day</u> – School closed - Monday, 18 <sup>th</sup> March <u>Easter Holidays</u> – Closing on Friday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2013.
<b>April:</b>	<u>School re-opening</u> : Monday, 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2013.
<b>May:</b>	<u>Bank Holiday</u> - School closed – Monday, May 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2013.
<b>May/ June:</b>	<u>School Closed</u> : Friday, May 31 <sup>st</sup> . <u>Bank Holiday</u> – School closed – Monday, June 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2013. <u>Summer Holidays</u> – Closing on Friday, 28 <sup>th</sup> June 2013.

## School Garden/HSCCL.

Roz Browne in association with a group of very enthusiastic parents and pupils has done unbelievable work in the school garden under the Home/School project initiative. The garden grounds have been given a complete new 'makeover' and the beds are filled with a huge choice of vegetables and fruits. The external landscaping together with the landscaping along the banks of the Infant School makes the school environment really pleasing and beautiful for staff and pupils alike. The window boxes look particularly beautiful. Other initiatives undertaken by Roz are Computer Classes, Set Dancing, Pilates, Cooking, Baking, Irish Language, Art and Craft, Maths Workshop, English Language and Christmas Decorations.

## Communion and Confirmation Boys.

We congratulate our First Communion and Confirmation boys who received the Sacraments in the last term. The manner in which both groups of boys conducted themselves and embellished the Ceremonies with music, hymns and prayer was commented on by many people far and wide.

## National Concert Hall.

The highlights of last term was undoubtedly our participation in the Waltons sponsored Music Competition in the National Concert Hall, in Dublin. We compliment and congratulate the boys and Ms. Moran for bringing us national honour and recognition on the highest stage possible. Very few will ever get to play in the National Concert Hall but these boys will recall the 16<sup>th</sup> April in future days wherever music is played and enjoyed.

They also played in City Hall, Cork in the annual Cór Fheile performance and what a night we had by the Lee. From Dublin to Cork to the streets of Clonmel at Christmas as well as the numerous school shows and performances we had some musical year.

## Academic Results.

By now all national standardised Drumcondra tests will have been administered and the early indications are absolutely amazing as the school is performing well above the national average with many boys throughout the classes scoring the maximum results. Well done boys and congratulations to your excellent, dedicated, hard working teachers, who brought you to this level of academic excellence.

## Numbers in Junior Infants.

As a consequence of the Holistic Educational experience available in Ss. Peter & Paul's and as a result of the outstanding academic results being achieved our numbers are continuing to grow rapidly. This is reflected in large numbers seeking to enrol in our state of the art Infant Academy as well as boys coming into other classes throughout the school.

## Links with Industry & Business.

Ss. Peter & Paul's has developed strong educational links over the last year with local industries and businesses. This has resulted in personnel from Boston Scientific, Merck Sharpe & Dohme and Abbott coming to teach certain business

and science classes under the Junior Achievement initiative and science promotion scheme. We were particularly delighted to have availed of the expertise of Clare, Bronagh and Karen who taught business and science in school in a very exciting, interesting hands on way - using projects and experiments to enhance the methodology.

### School Library.

We thank Mrs. Catherine Kearney for all her help, support and work in providing us with a school and class library. Her store of books must be in the thousands but Catherine would gratefully accept good books of an age appropriate nature to further enhance the library. If your boy or girl has outgrown the books that are lying around at home, then our school would be delighted to accept same.

### Games & Sports.

Well done to all the boys who year in year out bring honour and glory to Ss. Peter & Paul's through Hurling & Football. Well done to Mark Stokes who played for Tipp V Cork in Pairc Uí Chaoimh last Sunday. Marks father Liam Stokes played for Tipp while his aunt Maeve was a legend in Tipperary Camogie Circles. Briseann an duchais trí shuille an chait.

Our footballers were narrowly defeated in the County Final by Templemore C.B.S. Thanks to Paddy for all his work in this area.

### News from around the Classrooms/Classes.

**Mrs Donnelly's & Ms. Lawlors Juniors** headed for Parsons Green where the Boat Ride, the Swans egg and the 'Crocodile' were the major highlights. All boys in Infants are really looking forward to their sports Day on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> in the High School Gym.

P.E. with Karen Morrissey as well as the visiting student teachers were among the many highlights of the last term.

**Mrs ODea's Senior Infants** had a wonderful trip to Copper Coast Farm in Waterford. Not even the torrential rain of the day could dampen their enthusiasm as they arrived in rain gear for their trip. They learned all about money business and trading from Pat Keating of Boston Scientific.

**Ms. Cooney's first class** really enjoyed their trip to Monkey Maze in Cork followed by a picnic and nature walk in Glengarra Woods on the way home.

These boys were full of chat for me and Eric Dargon showed me his Michael Jackson project complete with Moonwalk stage. Their famous person and country projects were outstanding.

**Ms. Marnanes 2<sup>nd</sup> class** had just enjoyed their chips and chicken nuggets – a treat for being so good on First Holy Communion Day. They went to the ‘Lets Go Activity’ centre in Waterford. They learned all about business and commerce from Mark Bourke a financial consultant from Waterford. No NAMA mistakes in this class in the future.

**Ms. Power’s third class** told me all about their tour to Cahir Castle home to the Butlers – the powerful Norman family of South Tipperary. They sang the Fields of Athenry down in the bowels of the Earth – Mitchelstown Caves - and had a treasure hunt in Glengarra Woods on the journey home. They tell an interesting story about the strange peculiar wind emissions causing pungent odours around the castle long ago.

**Mr Fenlon’s 4<sup>th</sup> class** were busy in the computer room when I visited honing and upgrading their computer skills under the expert eye of IT expert Mr. Fenlon. These boys had a wonderful day out to Kilfinnane Adventure Centre. I was intrigued by their computer programming skill which is based on the mathematical principle of coordinate geometry.

1. Thanks also to Mr. Fenlon for his wonderful work on tabulating and scoring the Drumcondra Standardised tests using the most up to date computer technology. Visit the school website to see Mr. Fenlon’s most up to date school news on [www.peterandpaulschool.net](http://www.peterandpaulschool.net)

**Mr Ring’s and Ms. Kearney’s fifth classes** had an action packed day in U.L. Limerick. Kayaking, wrecking ball, swimming, total wipe out, football and rafting were some of the activities engaged in.

Both classes did a huge amount of reading and project work, ranging from the European Cup Finals to the History of both World Wars. Other activities enjoyed by the boys were the Tile Mirror Mosaics, personal projects and engineers week facilitated by Karen Blakely from M.S.D.

**The 6<sup>th</sup> class** tour to Dublin was again an action packed day of history, culture, sport, fun, games and no little food & drink. This years tour was the longest yet starting at 5 a.m. and finishing about midnight. This years highlight apart from Quazar and Bowling was the open top 24 stop Bus tour of the City’s greatest Sites and the first time ever trip to the gigantic Dundrum Shopping Centre.

These boys had a very enjoyable sports Day on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June and we had the **talk** on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup>. A trip to Boston facilitated by Clare, Bronagh and Helen was also a term highlight. Sincere thanks to Audrey and Leona for looking after my boys while I was on administrative duties.

### **Resource/Learning Support/Language.**

Sincere thanks to all involved in this very important area of Education, Catherine Condon, Catherine Kearney, Yvonne Moran, Cathal Ryan, and Leona Parsons.

We are indebted to Resource co-ordinator Catherine Condon whose dedicated, selfless work resulted in more children accessing this support and the present existing services being maintained for these children. The whole school community are indebted to her for the professionalism and resolute spirit she showed over the last term on behalf of her students and staff. In the face of monumental odds she increased supports and teaching hours for many extra pupils and maintained supports and services in spite of the most draconian cut backs in educational history.

### **S.N.A.'s**

Sincere appreciation and thanks to Monica, Stella, Audrey, Therese and Helen for all their help and support throughout the year.

Ancillary Staff.

Thanks to Oliver, Linda and Siobhán.

### **Office.**

A great debt of gratitude is owed by us all to Val in the office without whom the school could not function successfully.

### **Conclusion.**

It is great to see Mr. Hickey back amongst us after his recent illness. Mr. Hickey's brief absence from the helm allowed me the opportunity to experience at first hand the wonderful spirit, camaraderie and togetherness that is 'Team Ss. Peter and Paul's'.

I thank one and all for your kindness, support, understanding and cooperation to me as I took my first tentative steps in Administration.

**Finally wishing all our B.O.M., Parents Council, Parents, Students and Staff a happy, safe and restful summer.**