



Summer 2018 Newsletter St. Pius X Boys' National School

It's been quite a year . . . from the plummeting temperatures of early March to the record breaking heat of the end of June. Thank you so much for your many words of support when I undertook this role last November. It has been a huge learning curve for me, made so much easier by words of encouragement and guidance from everyone in the Pius community. It has been, and will continue to be, a great privilege to work with the boys, staff and parents of this wonderful school.

I'd like to pay special tribute to our great Parents' Association. A school could not ask for a better group of people who work tirelessly (and voluntarily) to serve up a suite of activities and talks and functions and lots more that is so professional in terms of planning and implementation. Thanks to Bevin and her team. Their work and the contribution the PA makes to St. Pius X BNS are invaluable and much appreciated.

St. Pius X is blessed with a terrific Board of Management under the watchful eye of chairperson. Mr. Ronan McMahon. The Board attends to its obligations and responsibilities thoughtfully with thoroughness and with empathy. Their underlying attitude when making decisions is "Will this be in the best interests of the boys?" The school could not ask for a more dedicated group of people.

I would like to thank the staff of St. Pius for their wonderful work day in, day out – teachers, SNAs, Karen, Helen and our new caretaker JJ. We are so fortunate to have people of the highest calibre and integrity working with us. I'd like to wish Ms. Sinéad Shanley well as she returns to work in Cork and thank her for her immense contribution over the past four years.

Parents, have a lovely summer – don't forget the sunscreen – and I look forward to continuing to work with you for many years to come. Boys, come back safe to us in September – you are what makes this school great: hard-working, kind, generous and welcoming. Well done.

Lorcan Coyle

"It's not what you look at that matters . . .
. it's what you see. *Henry Thoreau*

SCIENCE

It has been another very successful year in St Pius X for science with lots of great experiments taking place as well as a few exceptional events. From erupting volcanoes to making slime, boys got the opportunity to investigate many aspects of the science curriculum. It was a special year too, as we participated in a DCU international sustainability project with just 7 other schools in Ireland. Having researched the importance of sustainability, the boys set out to make our school greener by increasing recycling as well as building a number of insect hotels. The project culminated in a presentation day in DCU at which the boys explained their ideas and work to people from all around the world. It is hoped that we will continue with this next year.

PA Homework Club

Be sure to check out the PA website from time to time www.piusxpa.org We have been asked to let you know that, in addition to their usual magnificent suite of activities, a homework club will operate on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays for the entire academic year commencing September 2018. More information may be obtained and bookings can be made through the Easy Payments Plus system on their website.



Hurling 2018

This has been a very positive year for hurling in our school. Every boy in the school from Junior Infants to 4th class has been given the opportunity to develop his skills in the back yard. Coaching outside of school for 3rd to 6th classes was a great success. We fielded 4 school teams allowing all hurlers from 4th to 6th class to take part in the Cumann na mBunscol leagues. Also, our 2nd and 3rd class boys took part in a fun hurling blitz in Bushy Park recently.

Our sixth class hurlers won the Annual South Dublin Shield v St. Josephs in Bushy Park to mark the beginning of the hurling year. The school's Senior White team competed in the Corn Marino. Unfortunately, they came up short in the quarter-final against St. Pat's Drumcondra. Our Senior Navy team had a great year finishing 2nd in their league amongst seven other schools. The Junior Green team competed in Go Games South 2 and finished in 2nd place which was an excellent achievement. Our Junior White team also did brilliantly. With matches against St. Joseph's, Ballyroan, Lucan BNS, Booterstown and Maelruans, Pius managed to mix it with the best.

We would like to thank all of our hurlers who took part and their parents for their support during the hurling season. Thank you to all our sixth class hurlers who will be leaving us soon. This group of players have created many memories together on the hurling field that we hope they will cherish forever. We wish them all the best in their new schools and indeed their hurling careers.

A huge thank you must be given to our excellent GPO Tommy O'Mahony for the work he has put into hurling in St. Pius. We must also mention the great work of Faughs hurling club and thank them for their continued support. Last but not least, a massive thank you to our many teachers who give so generously of their time and for their continued dedication and commitment to promoting hurling in our school. Pius Abú!

FAUGHS CLUB CAMP

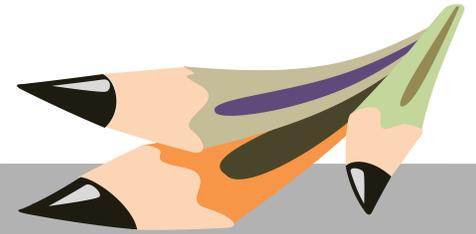
KELLOGGS CÚL CAMP

Mon 27th – Fri 31st August

Mon 16th – Fri 20th July

10am to 2pm

Book online at www.faughs.ie or contact Tommy O'Mahony on 086 8114643



Tennis

Tennis in St. Pius continues to go from strength to strength. The Senior tennis team did the school very proud and qualified from their group and were narrowly beaten in the semi-final against Willow Park in Leinster Primary Schools tennis competition. The team players were:

David Pryce, Jamie Hollingsworth, Charlie Barlow, Matthew McCarthy, David Lynagh and Killian Daly. Well done boys!

All of the Third class boys have almost completed their 7 week coaching program in the new Bushy Park Tennis academy which has been a great success.

Furthermore, all Fourth class boys took advantage of their free lesson in Templeogue Tennis Club which the boys greatly enjoyed and improved on their skills. Hopefully the boys can practise and improve on some of these new skills over the summer months!

Rob Kealy

Soccer

The school soccer team enjoyed a really successful year. In what was the schools first 11 a-side team in recent times, the boys got to the quarter final winning their 3 group games convincingly. The array of skill on display was a joy to behold. The 5 a-side teams also represented the school with distinction at the SPAR FAI finals. We look forward to the coming year and we're sure that there will be some stars unveiled again when the trials take place!

John Murtagh

GOLF:

We have come yet again to the end of another successful golfing calendar culminating in the participation of the Castle Schools Cup. All involved had a tremendously enjoyable experience. Fortunately the weather gods were very kind to us and the boys played to their best in the favourable conditions.

Sincere thanks to Hilary Haydon for his time and sponsorship of the event.

A sincere thank you to the boys, their parents and our backroom team of teachers (who supervised our training sessions in Spawell) for their participation and support throughout the year. A big thank you to Hugh, the golf professional in the Spawell for his time and expertise. Keep practising and playing over the Summer months. We look forward to another enjoyable and eventful year in September and we envisage even greater numbers willing to participate.

FOOTBALL:

What a successful year it's been for football in St. Pius! Just recently, we had two teams take part in a blitz in Terenure College, organised by Templeogue Synge Street and Terenure College. Both teams finished top of the table after an unbeaten run against local schools St. Joseph's, St. Mary's, Ballyroan and Colmcilles. The boys showed unbelievable skill, sportsmanship and determination in all games and were deserving winners on the day. Many of these boys will make the transition from junior to senior next year and it's safe to say the future of Pius football is in safe hands! It was a great day for all involved and a fitting way to bring a very successful year to a close. 2nd and 3rd classes took part in a blitz in the VEC grounds and put on an excellent display of football. Many thanks to Kevin, our GPO from Templeogue Synge Street, for organising this great day out and it was a wonderful opportunity for the boys to get a taster of playing in a Pius jersey! Huge thank you to all the parents for your continued support and also to all the teachers involved in football. We are all looking forward to starting back training in September and if this year was anything to go by, it promises to be an exciting one and the future is looking very bright indeed!

An Ghaeilge i bPius

Bhí bliain gnóthach againn i mbliana anseo sa scoil leis an nGaeilge. Bhí an Ghaeilge le cloisteáil go minic mórthimpeall na scoile agus go mór mhór sna seomraí ranga.

Bhí Seachtain na Gaeilge ar siúl i Mí Márta agus is cinnte gur bhain na buachaillí agus na múinteoirí an-taitneamh as. Bhí réimse leathan imeachtaí ar siúl an tseachtain sin, bhí Ceolchoirm, Paráid na Scoile, Craic is Comhrá, Léamh le Cara agus Tráth na gCeist ollmhór sa halla. Tá imeachtaí Seachtain na Gaeilge ag fás gach bliain!

Is í bliain na Gaeilge atá ann i mbliana agus ba mhaith linn an Ghaeilge a chur cinn an méid is gur féidir linn. Tá sé ar intinn againn dul i mbun Gaelbhratach na scoile a fháil don scoil an bhliain seo chugainn nó an bhliain ina dhiaidh sin agus mar sin, caithfidimid an teanga a labhairt an méid is gur féidir linn. Mar a deir an seanfhocal 'Beatha teanga í a labhairt'!

Do bhuachaillí rang a sé go raibh maith agaibh as ucht Raidió na Scoile a choimeád beo i rith na bliana agus go n-éirí an bóthar libh an bhliain seo chugainn sa mheánscoil.

Mol an Óige agus tiocfaidh sí!



School Choir

Another great year for St. Pius X boys' school choir! We were delighted to see so many new, eager faces at our first choir practice all the way back in September. With continued enthusiasm and energy, almost 60 boys from 3rd to 6th class maintained the massive dedication needed to attend the weekly practices right throughout the year. Having performed so beautifully at the Christmas Carol Service, the choir went from strength to strength, with Mr. Murtagh's class coming on board to add an extra special element to our school choir. The hard work and dedication really paid off when the boys' voices were heard at the Confirmation Mass in St. Pius X Church in April.

Never before has the school choir been applauded for its performance during a ceremony ! Its popularity is reflected in its high numbers and we are looking forward to new members from third class this coming September. We also look forward to welcoming back our super talented boys from this year's choir. Well done to all the boys involved this year; as always they pulled out all the stops and once again did us proud!