



IMPORTANT DATES

June 25th 2021

School closes for summer break

26th August 2021

School re-opens

25th - 29th October 2021

School closed
Mid-term break

22nd December 2021

School closes for Christmas break

6th January 2022

School re-opens

21st - 25th February 2022

School closed
Mid-term break

17th & 18th March 2022

School closed
St Patrick's Day

8th April 2022

School closes for Easter break

25th April 2022

School re-opens

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

The Parents Association and Clarecastle GAA are running a joint Cash for Clobber collection this year.

CASH FOR CLOBBER



Cash for Clobber has, for many years, proven to be a wonderful way of raising funds for the benefit of the school, and this year it will also benefit our local GAA Club.

The collection will be held on the week beginning 23rd August. If you get a chance during the summer, gather any old clothes, bags, belts or shoes and drop them to the collection point during that week. Please refer to the message which was sent on Aladdin from the school office last week for contact details if you would like to volunteer to help. All offers of help will be greatly appreciated.

THANKS VERY MUCH!

Many thanks are being extended to our very supportive Board of Management and Parents Association. Their continuous work to enhance the provision of education for all pupils in the school is very much appreciated. A special word of thanks must go to those members of the Parents Association whose youngest child leaves us to start

secondary school. Your hard work and commitment while your child attended Clarecastle NS are very much appreciated.

THANK YOU SO MUCH

Thanks also to the Parents Association for the delicious treat last week of ice-cream from Deasy's Centra for everyone in the school. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all.



To ensure that all the great work can continue, new volunteers are always welcome and always needed. If you are willing to help and would like to get involved in the wonderful work that is done for the school, be sure to join the monthly meetings of the Parents Association during the new school year.

THANKS JOHN!



We are very grateful to John Power who volunteered again last autumn to take the photos for the school calendar. Thank You John!

SEVENTH GREEN FLAG SUCCESS

The Green Schools Committee have been very busy in recent months preparing their application for the seventh Green Flag. A very detailed document accompanied by photos of the many activities and projects that were done by all classes was submitted to An Taisce as part of the application. The committee then met with a representative from An Taisce via Zoom on Monday and displayed their knowledge excellently during the assessment. The wonderful news was received on Tuesday afternoon that Clarecastle NS will be awarded its seventh Green Flag which is a fantastic achievement. Congratulations and well done to all on the great work!



POSTER DESIGN WITH CLARECASTLE TIDY TOWNS

Members of the Green Schools Committee recently paid a visit to the Peoples Park to support the work of Clarecastle Tidy Towns Committee. The children were invited to design posters to encourage visitors to keep the park clean and tidy.



The children prepared lovely posters to encourage everyone visiting the park to ensure that this local amenity is kept beautiful for all to enjoy. Many thanks to the Tidy Towns Committee for encouraging our pupils to get involved in such a worthwhile project and do remember to bring your litter home on your next visit!

VISITS FROM CLARECASTLE BALLYEA HERITAGE AND WILDLIFE GROUP

Clarecastle Ballyea Heritage and Wildlife Group recently paid two visits to the school. The first group met with members of the Green Schools Committee for the launch of their postcard competition, which was open to all Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Class pupils. The theme of the competition was 'Daoine agus Áit' – People and Place. Pupils were invited to submit a sketch, a painting or a photograph depicting their local area or what is special about the people there. The winners of the competition were Grace Dwyer, Eoin Malone Duggan, Rhys Healy, Hollie Lynch, Grace O'Brien, Aoibhinn Corbett, Jensen McInerney and Mariah McDonagh. Well done to all!

Jean Ryan and Paul Ellingstad also paid a visit to First Class on May 24th and joined them on a guided walk in the Peoples Park. They had prepared a Biodiversity Workbook for the children. Armed with the workbook, which contained pictures of wildflowers, birds and minibeasts, and with their pencils, pupils recorded the plants and species that they saw during the outing. A most enjoyable time was had by all.



As an aid to the school, Clarecastle Ballyea Heritage & Wildlife Group have recorded illustrated talks on local history. They have also made a recording on Biodiversity in the Parish covering the Quay area, Killone and Ballybeg Woods.

These recordings have been made available to the school and have been much enjoyed by the pupils. They can be seen by all on their website.



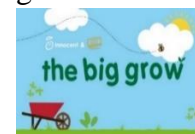
Many thanks to all involved for the valuable resources and for giving your time to highlight the local history and biodiversity for our pupils. It is all very much appreciated.

PICKER PALS, THE BIG GROW AND INCREDIBLE EDIBLES INITIATIVES

The Green School Committee registered the school to take part in Picker Pals, The Innocent 'Big Grow' and Agri Aware's 'Incredible Edibles' projects.



Picker Pals saw Fourth Class participate in a litter picking programme, while the other two initiatives encouraged pupils to sow and grow food. Pupils brought home the plants they sowed for the 'Big Grow' project and enjoyed tending to and watching their healthy treats grow.



The 'Incredible Edibles' produce continues to grow in the Community Garden. The project book, which contained photos and descriptions of the work involved, was submitted to Agri Aware and was awarded the level of Gold Incredible Edibles School! Many thanks to all the parents who submitted such lovely photos of all of the work that their children carried out at home and well done to all the pupils on their great work!

ACTIVE SCHOOLS AND WELLBEING FUN



Pupils have thoroughly enjoyed our annual Active Schools and Wellbeing activities in recent weeks. The activities began with tennis in the astroturf pitch, which saw all classes enjoy the game and practise their skills.

They were also treated to yoga and orienteering in the school yard and finished up this week with some fantastic Zumba Fun. Well done to all!

ACCELERATED READER

This year pupils have continued to show their enthusiasm for and enjoyment of reading. More than 5,000 books were read which gives an approximate total of 89 million words. Well done boys and girls! Keep up and enjoy reading during your summer holidays!



CUMANN NA mBUNSCOL

Clarecastle NS was due to organise the Cumann na mBunscol games before the pandemic. In the absence of the games, the committee continued with ordering helmets and hurleys for our pupils and for pupils in all schools throughout the county. The massive order of equipment was recently delivered to the school and from here, orders were distributed to all the schools involved.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION



Our Second Class and Sixth Class pupils will be looking forward to their First Holy Communion and Confirmation ceremonies which are scheduled for September. Confirmation is due to be held on Saturday, September 18th and First Holy Communion on Saturday, September 25th. Best wishes to all pupils for their special day.

TREE PLANTING CEREMONY



Many thanks to Cormac McMahon and to the medical manufacturing company Zimmer Biomet, who recently sponsored the planting of three mature trees in our school yard. They were planted close to where the outdoor classroom and sensory garden will soon be situated. Fourth Class helped in the planting of the trees.



ZIMMER BIOMET

This is the second time in this school year that Zimmer Biomet kindly donated to the school. Last August, the company supplied a 'Back to School Covid-19 Safety Pack' which contained hand sanitiser dispensers, gloves, disinfectant wipes, safety stickers and signage for the classrooms and for outdoors, all of which were most welcome in supporting the safe return to school. Many thanks to all concerned.

GRADUATION MASS

Congratulations to Sixth Class on their lovely Graduation Mass which was celebrated on Thursday morning in Clarecastle Church. Well done to all who were involved in the preparations and many thanks to Fr Malone for making the ceremony so special.

BEST WISHES TO SIXTH CLASS



Warm wishes for success and the very best of luck are being sent to Sixth Class as they embark on the next stage in their school lives and leave us for secondary school. Keep up the great work that you have all done since you started school in September 2013! You have been a pleasure to teach!

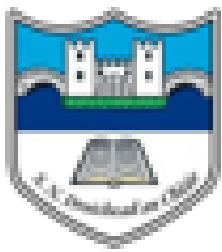
Go n-eirí go geal libh inniú agus i gcónaí!

HAPPY SUMMER 2021!



We wish you all a happy, a healthy and a safe summer and look forward to welcoming all – both the new Junior Infants and our present pupils - back to school in September.





School Calendar 2021 - 2022

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17th & 18th March 2022	School closed – St Patrick's Day
8th April 2022	School closes for Easter break
25th April 2022	School re-opens after Easter Break
2nd May 2022	School closed for May Bank Holiday
6th June 2022	School closed for June Bank Holiday
24th June 2022	School closes for summer break