Allen National School Newsletter

2024/2025 Issue 4

September 27th 2024

Reminder of school closure

School is closed Monday 30th September and Monday 7th October

The Corridors are Alive with the Sound of Music

Music is bringing a smile to everyone's face these mornings, as our pupils and staff enable parents and members of the wider community, to be present and take a few moments to listen to some music. It's working its magic - uplifting their spirits and brightening their day – all part of our Wellbeing Programme.

Let us know if you think it is a good idea or not.

U11 Football

Our U11 Boys Team were away to Robertstown on Tuesday last and what a thrilling game it was, with some brilliant play from both sides. Our lads took an early lead and built steadily upon it throughout the game, to claim victory at the full time whistle. The players displayed great team spirit and true sportsmanship.

Well done to all involved and their coaches Mr Holmes and Ms Brennan.

Our U11 Girls experienced a heartbreaking defeat to Scoil Naoimh Uilig on Wednesday, losing by just 1 point!. They did us proud and played very skilfully in very wet conditions.

Well done to all the girls and their coaches Ms Garry, Ms McEvoy and Ms McNamara.

Up-coming Fixtures

U11 Boys away to Derrinturn, Tuesday 1st October. Kick off 12 noon

U11 Girls away to Robertstown, Wednesday 2nd October. Kick off 12.15pm

SNA Appreciation Day

On Thursday September 28th schools celebrated the incredible work of Special Needs Assistants (SNAs). Their dedication and commitment truly makes a difference in the lives of many pupils and their families. In Allen NS we acknowledged and thanked Ann, Stephanie and Nina our permanent SNAs and Deirdre and Trista our substitute SNAs with a small presentation and a huge round of applause from each class.

Thank you ladies for all your support, care and kindness throughout the year - you are all valued members of our school community.

Journeying towards improved energy efficiency

This week we had architects, quantity surveyors, mechanical and electrical engineers visit the school to help us assess the school building and improve our energy efficiency levels. The team visited the classrooms and took time to speak to some of our pupils and explain the work entailed in each of their individual professions.

They stressed the importance of maths and science. In 1st Class it was noted that the team were all male and Ms McDonagh took the opportunity to encouraged all the girls to work hard on their STEM projects and to be open to doing these kinds of jobs when the get older.

Peace Proms 2025

Peace Proms is a nationwide music program that promotes 'peace through music' and empowers young minds to make a positive impact on the world around them.

Allen NS has participated for several years now and children and staff always look forward to the event. Ms Ní Chaoimh co-ordinates our participation and she has made application to participate again this year. Pupils from 3rd to 6th class have been given the opportunity to express an interest in singing in the school choir. Parents of those expressing and interested have been contacted.

Children will learn the lyrics of an extensive range of songs, perform the songs and choreograph actions for the songs during their weekly Choir session, with Ms Ní Chaoimh and Ms. Brett.

We can't wait to hear them practicing.

Admission to Junior Infants September 2025

In line with the Department of Education Guidelines, applications for enrolment to Allen NS for September 2025 will commence on October 25th this year.

Curricular News

The Board has organised for continued professional development (CPD) for all staff in the implementation and roll out of the Primary Language Curriculum. The Board's Application for Sustained Support to Oide was successful and it began this week with all staff attending workshops on Thursday.

Child Protection Survey

Thank you to all the parents of 2nd, 4th and 6th class pupils who have completed and returned their Child Protection Questionnaire – if you have not yet done so we would really appreciate it if you could complete and return as soon as possible.

Child Protection

Ms McDonagh is the Designated Liaison Person and Ms Fullam is the Deputy Liaison person, in her absence. Anyone with a concern about a child, can contact Ms McDonagh in confidence.

Music Generation Kildare

We are delighted to welcome back Music Generation Kildare with an extended programme this year. Pupils from JI to 6th class began their performance and instrument lessons this week.

Well done to Ms. Brennan's 6th class this week for earning extra free time for their excellent behaviour

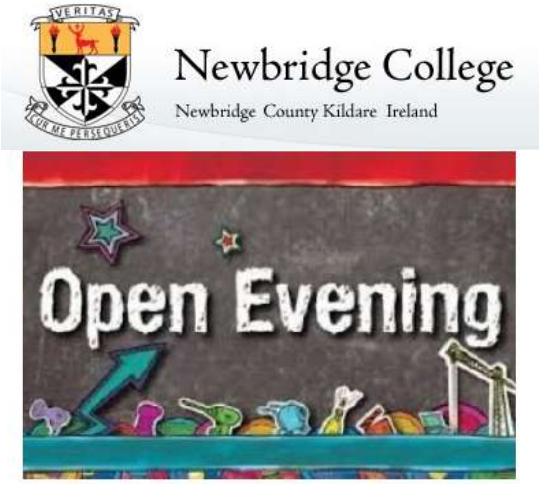
Developing Digital Citizenship

Developing pupil competencies and skills to navigate the digital world is a key focus for the Board and staff this year. Pupils from 1st to 6th classes will engage with a number of programmes and will have opportunities throughout the year for hands on practical learning. The objectives are to develop critical thinking, ability to view things from another's perspective and resilience.

Parents can keep informed of lesson content by engaging with the HTML Heroes and the All Aboard for Digitown Programmes on the Webwise website.

This website, www.webwise.ie offers Internet and Social Media safety information for parents and is well worth a look.

Upcoming Open Evenings



Thursday 3rd October - 6.30pm to 8.30pm

St. Farnan's PPS OPEN EVENING - THURSDAY 3rd October from 5pm to 7pm.

Save the Date!

Save the Date!

Fun Facts

TOPIC: SPACE

There is no sound in space!

The first living creatures intentionally sent into space were fruit flies!

Venus is the only planet that spins clockwise!

Applesauce was the first food eaten in space by astronauts.

Did you know Pluto got its name from an 11-year-old girl - Venetia Burney of Oxford?!

Proxima Centauri is the nearest star to Earth.

Foot-prints on the moon can last for a 100 million years!

Jupiter is the fastest spinning planet in the solar system.

A neutron star can spin 600 times in one second.

Did you know if you could travel at the speed of light, you would never get any older?!

The average star is between 1 and 10 billion years old.

Olympus Mons is the tallest mountain in the Solar system.

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