



Nuachtlitir an tSamhraidh 2013

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

On behalf of the Board of Management I wish all our departing 6th Class boys the very best of luck as they make the transition to second-level school. I hope they will remember their years at Beaumont fondly and that they will maintain the highest standards of work and achievement in their chosen schools.

Current government policies continue to have a significant impact on all schools as cutbacks in education budgets present ongoing difficulties in the delivery of a first class education to children. Our school is no exception, but all members of our staff under the leadership of our Principal, Norma Ryan, have taken on these challenges and maintain the highest standards of teaching and learning in our school.

In addition to formal classroom learning our school also prides itself on the range of other activities available to the boys. These include a variety of sports, arts activities and music, as well as participation in numerous competitions, tournaments and projects detailed elsewhere in this newsletter. All of this adds hugely to the experience and enjoyment of the boys while they are in our school and I thank all the teachers and other staff members who give

generously of their time and energy, frequently outside of school hours, in providing these opportunities. This work by the staff is also seen in the preparation of the boys for the sacraments, especially First Holy Communion and Confirmation, two of the big days in the school calendar.

The parents of the boys in our school continue to give the best of support to the school and the Board of Management acknowledges this. Our Parents' Association is very active and its newest initiative is being rolled out this year – a book rental scheme, something that will be welcomed by all.

I thank all the members of the Board for their commitment and contribution throughout the past year and I hope our full school community will continue to participate in the ongoing success of Scoil Barra Naofa Buachaillí.

Diarmuid Ó Drisceoil

Chairperson, Board of Management



CREATIVE SCHOOLS AWARD 2013

The excitement and euphoria of our Sciath na Scol victory this time last year, will live long in the hearts and minds of all in Beaumont Boys. In contrast, it was our growing reputation in the arts that earned the highest accolade for the school, this year.

Mr. Murphy's third class boys were the proud recipients of a prestigious award from the Association of Creativity and Arts in Education (ACAE). The ACAE is a network of teachers and artists dedicated to the promotion of creativity

and the arts in schools and has, as its patron, President Michael D. Higgins. Ms. Nagle, project coordinator, and five boys from the class were presented with the award by Senator David Norris in the Ark Cultural Centre for Children in Temple Bar, in May.

Prior to the presentation, all of the boys spent eight weeks working on a creative arts project based on the theme of individuality and respect for each other's different strengths and talents. They visited the Crawford Art Gallery, created stories, poems and a variety of artworks, and documented the process on a blog and video.

In previous years, our school collaborated with a team of artists from the Crawford Gallery in *Creating Waves*, a pilot project involving the exploration of diverse media with visiting artists and culminating in an exhibition of children's work at the gallery, for the first time in its history.

The momentum for the latest projects in arts education had its origins in Ms. Goggin's fifth class some years back, through their involvement in a textiles pilot project, called *Golden Threads*.

Our school attributes great importance to education in the arts, whether through music, drama or the visual arts. We are very proud, therefore, of our latest achievement and hope to nurture and expand an arts-rich school environment over the coming years.

PRIMARY GAME HONOURS

Hot on the heels of the presentation of the Creative Schools award, came the announcement that two of our 6th class pupils had been selected to play on the Cork Primary Schools teams. Congratulations to Seán O'Sullivan-Green, our Hurler of the Year, who will line out for Cork in their forthcoming encounter with Clare. Best of luck also to Adam O'Reilly, our Footballer of the Year, who will represent our school and county in the Munster Football Final against Kerry.

Adam also enjoyed a superb year on the soccer pitch. Not only was he voted *U12 Cork Soccer Schoolboy of the Year* but he also captained the Cork U12 soccer side to All-Ireland glory.

We are immensely proud of Adam and Sean's achievements.



OPEN EVENING

A new date was added to the school calendar thanks to the success of our recent Open Evening. The purpose of the event was to highlight and celebrate with parents and invited guests the excellent work of the pupils and staff. The occasion was well supported by existing as well as prospective parents, who were afforded the opportunity to visit the school and meet with other parents in a relaxed and informal setting. Special thanks are due to all of the boys who volunteered to present their projects and hobbies or just guide our guests around on the night.

SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE

Bhí ceolchoirm iontach againn sa Halla Mór an tseachtain roimh Lá le Pádraig. Poetry, singing, tin whistle playing ... this concert had it all. Agus ar an Aoine we had more than

100 boys dancing lonsaí na hInse amuigh sa chlós to the delight of many unsuspecting parents who were charmed by the unexpected nimbleness of the boys. All the more amazing given what they had consumed at our Díolachán Cisté not too long before the spórt agus scléip outdoors! Maith sibh a bhuachaillí.



GET ON YOUR BIKE!

Two Sixth Class biking enthusiasts attended a promotional photo shoot at City Hall recently to celebrate Bike Week 2013. The high spirited event saw the boys, along with the Lord Mayor, take to some alternative and unusual cycling machines!!

In appreciation of our efforts to reduce traffic in the school vicinity and promote eco- friendly travel among our pupils, the City Council presented us with a state of the art bicycle shed, as well as an array of colourful lockers for storing safety helmets. We hope to see a further increase in the number of pupils opting to cycle to school in the future.



GREEN SCHOOLS

This year our Green Schools Committee focused on the issue of Litter and Waste. The first step was to conduct an environmental review of the school grounds. Our Green

Team identified one or two litter black spots and formulated ideas to tackle the problem.

The second step involved a waste audit. Refuse bins in every classroom were weighed and the weights recorded. A Package Free Lunch Day was subsequently organised and the bins were weighed once again. Pupils made a great effort to minimise their

lunch packaging on the day. Compared with previous records, bin weights were significantly reduced. With such a positive result we will be certain to repeat Package Free Lunch Days in the coming school year!!



CLASS WEBSITE

Fifth class were very busy during the last term, participating in a Maths Trail, an SESE Trail, orienteering, 60 minute Project Challenges, working as cartographers and experimenting as scientists. To allow parents to view our work, Mr MacSweeney created a class website on weebly. com, to which we uploaded samples of our work. It was great to be able to contribute to the blog and allowed us an opportunity to express ourselves. Some of our parents also contributed to the blog.



FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION

Ms. Farrell's and Ms. O'Brien's boys received their First Holy Communion on Saturday 11th May. As always, this occasion was made truly special by the reverence observed by the children. The reception, hosted by the Parents' Association in the Parish Centre immediately afterwards, provided a welcome and relaxing get-together for the children and their families before heading home or visiting relatives during the remainder of the day.

Bishop John Buckley confirmed our 6th class boys on the 26th of April. The ceremony, which took place in St. Michael's Church, Blackrock was noteworthy in particular for the superb singing and musical accompaniment. Billy Kelly was commended for his solo *All Things Bright and Beautiful* as was Cian Long and the other boys with special duties who lead their classmates through the various stages of the proceedings.

Thanks to the staff involved in both ceremonies: Ms. S. O'Brien, Ms. Farrell, Mrs. C. Davis, Mr. Horgan, Mr. Gannon and Mr. Sexton, for their thorough preparation of the pupils.



FEIS MAITIÚ

Beaumont Boys swept the boards once again at this year's Feis Maitiú claiming the Weston, Harris and Curran trophies as well as a runners up prize for their performances in Choral verse competitions for classes from 3rd to 6th.

Mr. Murphy's boys presented two pieces: "Chinese New Year's Dragon" and "The Horrible Headmonster". The adjudicator praised the boys' strengths as a choral group and also the animation in their faces. The Weston Cup, claimed by Mr. Gannon's class this time around, returned to the school for the third year in a row while Mr. Horgan's class laid claim to the Curran Cup.



CÓR FHÉILE NA SCOL

Beaumont Boys were represented by 3rd and 4th classes this year in the City Hall where they performed a number of songs from "Oliver", among them favourites such as *Food Glorious Food*, *Consider Yourself* and *Be Back Soon*.

Many thanks to Ms. Irene Warren, Speech & Drama teacher, for all her support and help to all the teachers throughout the year.

DUTCH STUDENTS

The pupils and teachers of junior infants and first class were delighted to welcome Dutch students, Charlotte Chuilíng and Elsemarijn Elise for four weeks' work experience in our school, in May. Both students settled in very quickly to our school routines, thanks to the encouragement they received by Mrs. Horgan, Mrs. O'Brien and the SNA team. We know both Charlotte and Elsemarijn will keep in touch and we will follow their careers with interest in the years ahead.



BBQ

This year's BBQ was probably the best ever – due in no small way to the glorious sunny weather, but also to the meticulous planning and preparation by parents and staff to ensure that every aspect would run smoothly and according to schedule.



Sincere thanks to our sponsors, Mr. Charlie Murphy, Mr. Tom Scally, Mr. Jim Cashman, Mr. Padraic Conway and Mr. Des Cahill; to our staff, in particular, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Horgan, Mr. Keating and the silken-voiced Mr. Buckley. As always however, the top plaudits for the evening must go to Valerie O'Riordan and her BBQ team as well as to Eimear Connolly and her PA committee for the treats and greets. Well done to all!

SCHOOL TOURS

From Mrs. Horgan's R1 school tour in May to the tours of the senior classes which concluded in mid-June, there was a variety of experiences for all the boys to enjoy. The fine weather greatly enhanced the outdoor activities, whether down on the farm, orienteering or visiting Croke Park. Check out some of the Class News tabs on the website for more detailed accounts.

BLACKROCK CASTLE OBSERVATORY

We were delighted to be able to attend various activities/ events that took place during the year in this wonderful facility adjacent to our school. Some of the boys from Rang 4 visited a most interesting exhibition entitled 'A Mission to Mars' where they had an opportunity to interact with none other than Leo Enright, who has for many years been RTE's expert on space travel. Indeed the boys recited a piece of choral verse entitled 'An Alphabet Trip Through Space' in the courtyard of the castle for the Lord Mayor and other dignitaries at the official launch of the exhibition.

The boys attended a workshop later in the year to mark 'Earthday' where the theme explored was the importance of caring for the environment. We wish to thank, Ms. Clair Mc Sweeney, Brú's Mum, for keeping in the loop regarding all the major events at the Observatory.

CÚRSAÍ SPÓIRT – SCIATH NA SCOL

Our Sciath na Scol hurlers came close to contesting a second consecutive final but were pipped by just one point in their clash with Midleton CBS, who went on to become eventual winners.

Our footballers acquitted themselves well throughout their campaign, signalling that we have much to look forward to in next year's Sciath na Scol.

Great credit is due to all players as well as mentors Mr. Horgan, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Buckley and Mr. Keating. Special mention goes to Oran Crowe for his noteworthy contribution to the Sciath Na Scol hurling team this year. This was a remarkable achievement as Oran is still only in 3rd class!

INDOOR HURLING

Mr Murphy's 3rd class got their first taste of hurling action when participating in the Sciath Na Scol Indoor Hurling Blitz. The boys competed against teams from GS Mhachan, GS Ghoirt Álainn and Scoil Nioclás, Frankfield. It's fair to say that the future is very bright for hurling in the school as these boys swept aside all before them in emphatic style.

PRIMARY SCHOOL SPORTS

Our athletes, competing in Roinn A – the Premier Division, gave a good account of themselves. Hugh Collins came ever so close to winning the u/10 County Championship when finishing a close-up second. Kevin Morgan ran exceptionally well to claim a Bronze in the u/11 section race, and the afore-mentioned athletes combined with Brian O'Neill and Oran Crowe went on to win the u/11 Relay in scintillating style.

BEAUMONT SPORTS/ FUN FOR ALL DAY

Our annual Sports were held in lovely sunny conditions on the last Friday of May, and a very enjoyable day was had by all. The boys certainly strode out in great style, as did their parents. Ciara O'Callaghan emerged victorious in the Mothers' Race but was chased to the line by Colette Crowe who, three days later, sprinted up Patrick Street when finishing the Cork City Half Marathon. One fit lady!



The Dads were somewhat reluctant to declare for the Fathers' Race. Perhaps the prospect of toeing the line in opposition to Olympian Robert Heffernan was a daunting prospect! Eventually we had a great race and Martin O'Leary breasted the tape closely followed by Michael O'Neill. Árd Fhir!

FAI 5 A SIDE

Beaumont Boys performed very well in this year's Aviva Health FAI 5's for Primary Schools. The first round games were played on Apr 23rd in Mayfield FC. We defeated Scoil Eoin, Ballincollig, St Patrick's, Gardiner's Hill and Togher NS in our group to qualify for the Cork Finals. We faced a difficult opening match against St Anthony's but we pulled off a great win to upset the odds. Unfortunately, we couldn't maintain that level of performance when going down to very strong Douglas and Carrigaline teams. However, the boys enjoyed the experience very much. Panel: Adam O'Reilly (captain), Liam Ross, Cormac Collins, Harry O'Riordan, Sean Green, Ross Malone, David Hanley and Karl Waterman.

MUNSTER PRIMARY SCHOOLS' TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Our tennis team, comprised of Philip Donnelly, Cian Punch, Liam Foley and Eoin Nation played at home in St. Michaels LTC versus Tramore, subsequently travelling to Tipperary Town for a match against the local primary school. Although we lost both matches it was good to see the school represented at this level.

PITCH AND PUTT COUNTY CHAMPIONS!

Beaumont Boys had the honour of competing in their first ever Cork County Pitch and Putt competition in Ballincollig, recently. The team – made up of David Hanley, Eoin Keating, Ross Malone and Iain Aherne – produced amazing shots throughout the day taking first place. Well Done Boys!

GOLF

Once again the boys from 6th class participated in our annual golf outing to Mahon Golf Club. Mr Gannon, Mr Murphy, Mr Horgan and Mr Buckley also participated along with past pupils of the school. While the "older" golfers struggled through the rounds, our budding Rory McIlroys showed us the way. This is fantastic fun every year and we are sure to unearth the next big golf star from our school. The school would like to thank Mahon Golf Club for all their help in the past few months.

BASKETBALL

A team from Mr. Sexton's 4th class competed in a basketball blitz held in Douglas Community School which was co-ordinated by Fr. Matthew's Basketball Club. Out of the 8 participating schools, Beaumont qualified for the final against Monkstown, who were eventual winners.



Well done to all the team: Caleb Leahy (captain), Joey Griffin, Dean Corrigan, Rory Harrington, Cormac Leahy, Billy Cremin, Eoin O'Sullivan, Darragh Cronin and Olan Gribbon.

ROUNDERS

During the lovely sunny week at the beginning of June, Mr. Buckley was spotted introducing class groups to the game of rounders. It was great to see this traditional game being revived in our school.

ANYONE FOR CRICKET?

As an extension to the above, Cricket Ireland treated boys from 3rd to 6th to a day of skills training in this sport, on the 14th of June. Many thanks to Mr. Peter Dineen of Munster Cricket for facilitating this novel event.



LITERACY & NUMERACY INITIATIVE

Ms. A. O'Brien, in collaboration with Mrs. Moore, Ms. Hurley, Ms. Evelyn Lynch and Mrs. Mgt. Coveney, introduced the *Literacy Lift Off* programme during the year. The programme was very successful in that it raised the average reading age of senior infants pupils by 1 year. Ms. O'Brien, with Ms. Sinead O'Brien, also pioneered the *Ready Set Go* maths programme, which extended the pupils' understanding of maths in a practical and fun way.

ZEBO – THE LION KING!

What a year it has been for past pupil Simon Zebo. A little less than a year after winning his first cap for the Irish rugby team, and three months after scoring a try against Wales on his 6 Nations debut, not forgetting the audacious flick which went viral on 'You Tube', he has been selected to be a British and Irish Lion, the ultimate goal of every professional rugby player. We are looking forward to Simon visiting the school in September where he can count on a welcome to beat all welcomes.



OTHER SPORTING PAST PUPILS

As the Summer unfolds watch out for the following:

- Richard Dineen, Aonghus Ó Drisceoil and Mark Ryan on the Rockies Senior hurling panel.
- Joe Logue, Alan O'Callaghan, Shane Dorney and Niall Cashman on the Cork Minor Hurling panel.
- Eoghan Buckley on the Cork Junior Football Team.
- Do support, if possible, the St. Michael's Premier Intermediate team, backboned by 8 former pupils. Hopefully, they can bring glory home this year where they so narrowly failed last year.

Best wishes also to:

- David O'Leary starring for Limerick City F.C. in the Eircom League.
- David Meyler, who will be playing in the Premiership next year with Hull City.

We look forward to welcoming our new junior infants, current pupils and their families when school re-opens on Friday, 30th August.