

**Weekly Newsletter 22nd of May, 2017                          Issue 2.33**

**First** **Communion**

The 2nd class children of Avoca National School made their Holy Communion on Saturday,20th of May. Fr Byrne officiated at this beautiful ceremony. Congratulations to the following Communion candidates.

Jack Power,Shane Whelan, Eimear Brennan, Anna Mableson, Rebecca Cleary, Kieran Byrne, Dylan Fitzpatrick, Aiden Fleming,Aimee Wolahan, Ciara Burke,,Aimee Fox, Belle Ryan, Freya Reddy, Megan Wolahan, Matthew Lyons Jackson,.Elise Kinahan, Ben Fleming, Liam Kinsella, Rocco Goodship, Megan Dalton

Many thanks to Ms C. Byrne for preparing the children so well for all of the Confirmation ceremonies. Thanks also to Mrs McGrath and Ms Van Eesbeck for preparing the choir for this ceremony. Thanks to Ms Griffiths for accompanying the choir. Many thanks to Liz, Siobhan and Gerry for their help and support in producing the booklets and for decorating the church for the ceremony.

The church looked lovely on the day. Thanks to Clodagh Whelan for co-ordinating this task and also to her helpers leading up to the ceremony.

The cup of tea and delicious goodies were very welcome after the ceremony. Many thanks to Veronica O Neill for co-ordinating the catering. Thanks to the parents from First Class who assisted her. Thanks also to anybody else that baked, served and cleaned up on the day.

**Bursary.**

**Each year Avoca N.S awards a 500 euro bursary to a college student. The purpose of this is to help fund with college expenses. The school accepts applications from students who have successfully passed their First Year College exams and are in the Second Year of their chosen course. Please email a letter of application and a two page C.V. to** avocans@hotmail.com **by May 30th.**

**Standardised Tests,**

Standardised Tests for Second Class will be administered this week.

**Levy**

A detailed letter requesting this levy was sent home last week. Your payments in the past were very much appreciated and they go a long way in helping to improve the learning experiences of your child at Avoca N.S. Thank you for your continued support of the school. For anyone wishing to do the transfer electronically here are the bank details.

***Bank of Ireland. Current A/C No. 41194606 – Location: Arklow, Co. Wicklow***

***IBAN: IE25 BOFI 9064 5141 1946 06      BIC:   BOFIIE2D***

**Cake Sale.**

The 6th class cake sale will take place on Thursday, 15th of June. They are very busy advertising and making preparations for what promises to be a bumper cake sale. You will meet them going around the village looking for raffle prizes and I know that they would be grateful for your support. They are also looking for volunteers to bake delicious goodies for the sale. If you would like to help, please let Ms Byrne ( 6th class teacher) or the office know.

**New Website**

We are very proud to unveil our new school website. Please take a moment to look at it on [www.avocaschool.ie](http://www.avocaschool.ie) . The former website may come when you try to access it. After a few attempts the new website will come up in your browser. The gallery is password protected. The password is a2017.Regular updates will be posted this website going forward.

**3rd and 4th class Football Blitz.**

The 3rd and 4th classes took part in a football Blitz and won it outright. Even though they were competing against schools with larger populations, they still emerged as victors. Well done to Cormac Moore, Josh Browne, Josh Byrne, Adam Earley, Kian Fluskey, Paddy Harper, Lee Kenny, Donnacha Murphy, Jack Murphy, Roan O Neill, Glen Power and Joe Sinnott.

**Wicklow School Sports.**

Well done to all of the children who took part in the Wicklow Sports in Charlesland, Greystones earlier this month. Well done to Eve Short and Steven O’ Toole who were medal winners on the day

**Trocaire Boxes**

Please return any Trocaire Boxes to the school by Friday,26th of May.

**Spelling Bee**

We wish Brian O Hara the best of luck as he represents Avoca National School at the Leinster Finals of the Eason’s Spelling Bee. Brian will be competing at this event in Dublin on Wednesday, June 7th.

**Playing Surface Project**.

To date, our fund for this project amounts to 13,300 euros. We are hoping to raise in the region of 30k in order to provide an adequate amount of hard surface playing space at the rear of the school. We will be holding a number of fundraisers over the coming year. After our highly successful Bingo we are going to hold a Parents and Friends’ End of Year Disco in the Woodenbridge Hotel. Music is by our own and (Today FM’s) Phil Cawley. Finger Food will be generously sponsored by the Woodenbridge Hotel. The admission fee will be 10 euros per person and tickets will be on sale at the school in the coming weeks. We would be grateful for your support.

Enrolments for the coming year.

We have spaces in most classes for the coming year. If you know of anyone who is looking for a school for their children for next year and would like to come and see us, please ask them to ring the office on 0402 35331 or email us at avocans@hotmail.com

**Calendar of Events for the remainder of this academic year**

Saturday, 20th of May- First Holy Communion

Friday, 26th of May – Accord talk to 6th class

Thursday, June 1st 3rd, 4th and 5th classes visit to St Patrick’s Cathedral Dublin

Wednesday , June 7th – Meeting at 2.p.m. for Parents of Infants starting in September 2017

 Cool4Kids in the school from 2.30 to 3.30 p.m. for anybody who wishes

 to purchase uniforms

Thursday, June 8th 5th class tour to Let’s Go camp in U.C.D

Friday, June 9th Junior and Senior Infant tour to Imaginosity

Thursday, June, 15th 6th class cake sale

Friday ,June 16 th 1st and 2nd to Tayto Park

Tuesday, June 20th Sports’ Day (weather permitting)

Thursday, June,22nd 6th class tour to Lillyput Adventure Centre , Westmeath

Friday, June 23rd 3rd and 4th classes tour to Kilkenny Adventure Centre

Tuesday, June 27th 6th class graduation

Wednesday, 28th of June- School closed for the summer holidays at 12.30 p.m.

30th of June- Adults’ End of Year Disco

School Calendar for 2017-18.

Please find attached a copy of the calendar for the coming academic year.

School Timings and Attendance.

Please note that there is no supervision for children prior to 9 a.m. It has been noted that children are dropped off before 9 a.m. I am requesting that this practice be discontinued immediately.

Just a gentle reminder in relation to a message that was circulated last year regarding attendance: In order to be marked present for the day, your child needs to have been in school for 2 hours and 30 minutes of the entire school day. The rolls are audited at the end of each day to ensure that all marked present fulfil this condition.

**Parking.**

**The spaces near the path nearest to the school are still a set down area in the mornings. PLEASE DO NOT PARK HERE. ALSO I WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD FOLLOW THE NATURAL LINE OF TRAFFIC AROUND THE CAR PARK. Please observe these requests.** If you are using the set down area, please try to help your child in getting out of the car as quickly as they can in the morning. Once your child is on the path with his/ her belongings, please move along as quickly as you can to allow others to take their place. Please resist the temptation to chat to the neighbours at this dropping off the point. In the evenings, please pick up your children as quickly as possible and leave the car park promptly to alleviate congestion. The disabled car parking space marked out at the first parking space on the path side near the entrance is no longer a disabled space, even though it is marked as such. This space has now moved to the top of the line. Please observe the no parking spaces which have cones on them.Please do not under any circumstances park in the staff car park.

**Contact details**

If your contact details have changed, please let the office know the updated details.

M. Cahill

Principal