



9th June 2016

****Junior Infants****
will host our “Big Assembly” on Friday 17th June at 9am
in the School Hall. Parents welcome!

Lost Property is on display at the front of the school. Unclaimed items will be sent to the recycling centre. Please label your child’s belongings!

End of year school reports will be issued the week of 13th June. All reports will include standardised test results. If you have any queries, please contact the School Office.

Dates For Your Diary

Tuesday 14 th June	3 rd & 4 th Class School Tour
Friday 17 th June	Junior Infants Host “Big Assembly”
Friday 17 th June	International Day
Saturday 18 th June	Summer Fair
Monday 20 th – Friday 24 th June (all week)	Active Week
Thursday 23 rd June	Pre-School, Junior & Senior Infants School Tour
Friday 24 th June	Annual Sports Day (weather permitting)
Wednesday 29 th June	6 th Class Graduation Ceremony
Thursday 30 th June	School Closes for Summer Holidays at 12pm
Tuesday 30 th August	School Re-opens after the Summer Holidays

Upcoming School Tours

Class	Date	Tour	Total Cost
3 rd & 4 th Class	Tuesday 14 th June	Funtasia <i>Depart school 8.30am sharp</i> <i>Return to school 2.45pm approx</i> <i>Lunch Included, Bring Snack, Swimwear, Towel</i> <i>(more info to follow)</i>	€28.50 Per Pupil
Pre-School Junior Infants Senior Infants	Thursday 23 rd June	Airfield Farm <i>Depart school 9.00am</i> <i>Return to school 1.10pm approx</i> <i>Bring Packed Lunch (more info to follow)</i>	€17.00 Per Pupil

Payment for School Tours can be made online at www.stmatts.ie or at the School Office.
(Please send exact cash or cheque made payable to St. Matthew’s National School).
 If you are available to help with any of the school tours, please speak to your child’s class teacher.



Dress up for Bloomsday – Thursday 16th June

Children are invited to dress up in traditional clothes to celebrate Bloomsday!



What is Bloomsday? More than a hundred years ago (1904), a young writer (called **James Joyce**) left his house to go on his first meeting with his future wife (called **Nora Barnacle**). They met at Merrion Square in Dublin. She worked at a hotel near Trinity College (called Finn’s hotel). He was delighted to be meeting her and it really was a tale of **Happy Ever After**.

Years later, he wrote a book called Ulysses to help him remember that day forever. The main character in the book is called **Leopold Bloom**. Bloom spends the entire book walking around Dublin in one day. So, this day became known as **Bloomsday**.

Why do we celebrate it? We celebrate Bloomsday because James Joyce is one of the greatest writers Ireland ever produced and **Ulysses** is one of the world’s greatest books. Bloomsday is celebrated in other countries too by people interested in James Joyce.

Why dress up in the style of 1904? To give us a better feel for the time in which James Joyce lived and wrote some people like to dress up in old-fashioned clothes. You will see young and old alike gathering in various places in Dublin dressed in stripy jackets and boater hats.



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St. Matthew's Summer Fair 2016 Saturday, 18th June from 1.30pm-4pm

The Parents' Association is working hard at making this year's school Summer Fair a great event.

We've got exciting entertainment from Young Einsteins, a Carnival Room with Jolly Jars (back again! by popular demand) as well as mouth-wateringly tempting cakes and goodies in the Fair Café. Why not enter the 'Great St. Matt's Bake Off' this year? We will have prizes for the baking of children and adults.

You want to see Ireland vs Belgium in the Euros? We've thought of that too! We're arranging a dedicated room where the football game will be projected in its entirety for your enjoyment.

There will also be games and stalls for toys and books amongst other things. You'll be able to relax and spend a marvellous afternoon in the company of your friends whilst enjoying the barbeque, a cool beer or glass of wine (sorry, adults only!).

The children are starting to work on their 'Midsummer Night's Dream' project work to mark 400 years since Shakespeare shuffled his mortal coil. Kathleen McMahon will announce the winners.

How can you help?

From Monday, 13th June we will gratefully accept the below items that can be sold at the Fair:

- * Books and DVDs
- * Toys and games
- * Bric-a-brac

As always, please ensure all items are complete & fit for purpose. Thanks!

Your fantastic baking for the Fair Café - Saturday, 18th June

We are always delighted to accept the delicious 'bakeables' you so kindly donate to make the cake stall such a wonderful sight. We would love to receive this on the morning of the Fair.

Summer Raffle

The raffle always garners lots of attention – we are sourcing lots of fantastic items to give you as prizes. If you can also offer us a prize, we will be most grateful! Please contact your friendly P.A. rep. *We have been so fortunate to receive an Ireland Rugby team jersey that has been signed by the players!*

Would you like to help at the Fair?

If you can spare an hour to oversee an attraction or stall, then welcome on board! Please talk to your P.A. class rep or add your name to the list on the school notice-board at the bike racks.

Admission to the Fair

Please note that, as in previous years, there will be an admission charge at the door of €1 per person. Wristbands will be available to buy from Monday 13th – Friday 17th June.

***** The PA Committee thank you for your marvellous support *****

Jolly Jars

Jolly Jars have been very popular with the children, as you know. They want to see them again at this year's Summer Fair!



Could you please spend a few minutes over the weekend to make one with your child or children? We'll be accepting them in the school from Monday.

Thanks so much for your support - you, the St. Matthew's parents are amazing. The PA

Children's Shoe & Clothes Collection

Hi all, I'm doing a children's shoes & clothes collection for "Shoe the Children/Jacket Off Your Back". If you have any items, please drop them off at 69 Sandymount Road on Saturday morning or Sunday afternoon (11th/12th June). Adult's shoes are also being collected. Items go to help homeless in Ireland, refugees in Greece, and the poorest in Romania and Moldova. <http://www.jacketoffyourback.com/>
Thanks so much, Taly (Beth and Francis's mum)