21st June 2022.

Dear Parents,

We hope that you and your families are well. We are delighted to be able to bring the action-packed school year of 2021/22 to a close. A lot have been achieved this year, some of which is mentioned below.

**Ms. Davis’ Retirement**: We said goodbye to our Principal Ms. Davis who had been part of our school for 26 years. Thanks for all the help and contributions of time and effort that made it possible to give Ms. Davis a lovely send-off.

**Confirmation**: The children of 5th and 6th Class had a great Confirmation Day with a lovely ceremony, Fr. Moorhead and Fr. Gallagher from Tullamore, presiding. Congratulations to the children and to their families.

**First Holy Communion**: Congratulations to the boys and girls from Rang a Dó who made their first Confession and Communion recently. We are so thankful to Ms. Norris who prepared them so well for this Sacrament. Thanks also to Ms. Ryan who accompanied the singing on the day with lovely music.

**Clothing Collection**: Thanks to everyone who contributed to our clothing collection, we collected 1950 kg of clothes. The money will be divided between the Green Schools Committee and the Camogie club.

**Open afternoon for Junior Infants**: We were delighted to meet next year’s Junior Infants and their parents recently. The children had an opportunity to visit their new classroom, mingle with their new classmates and to meet Ms. Walsh in their small groups. We look forward to seeing them at the end of August for a bright new beginning!

**School Reports**: Teachers have been working very hard recently compiling end of year school reports, which you all should have received by now. The end of year report is a document written by the class teacher and intended for the attention of each child’s parents only. Your help is appreciated in ensuring that children do not discuss the information contained in their reports outside of school in their friend groups, as this can sometimes cause anxiety and upset.

**Sports Day:** We held a very successful Sports Day on Friday June 10th last. There were lots of fun activities, including Athletics, Yoga, Dance, Obstacle Course, Parachute Games and of course Novelty Races. The children had great fun and we were able to avoid the showers. Many thanks to Ms. Howell for organising this and to the facilitators at all the stations too. Míle Buíochas to Pamela Nugent and Peadar Nugent for helping with the escort up to the hurling field.

**Farewell to Ms. Norris**: Sadly, we are saying goodbye to Ms. Norris, after 9 years with us in Rath. She is a great addition to the staff of the school where she is going, but we will miss her very much here.

**End of Year and Graduation Mass**: We will be celebrating the end of our school year and the graduation of 6th class, not to mention saying goodbye to Ms. Norris, at Mass at 12pm on Tuesday 21st June next. All parents are welcome to attend.

**Extra-Curricular Activities**: This term has been action-packed with the children experiencing Dance, Swimming lessons in Birr, Coding and Computers, and of course the many hurling games and training sessions throughout the year.

**Close of School**: School will close for the Summer Holidays at 12pm on Friday, June 25th and open again on Tuesday, August 30th at 9:20 am. We would like to wish all pupils and parents a safe and happy Summer.

**Thank You**: Lastly, I would like to thank everyone, staff, pupils and parents alike, for the wonderful welcome I experienced as I took up the post of Principal in Scoil Náisiúnta Naomh Eoin. My first term has been great fun and I look forward to working with you all for years to come.

Kind regards

Susan McDonnell