

Dear Parents,

Time has flown and the Summer holidays have come round yet again. We have had a very productive and action packed last term.

I missed the first week back as I was examining for AMI (Association Montessori Internationale) in Thailand. All of the 70 people I examined had done their 6-12 training and had also qualified as National School teachers. It was wonderful to see AMI being incorporated into the Thai National School system and therefore widely accepted and available to many children.

Our First Communion celebration on Sunday, 11th May was a wonderful occasion. Congratulations to Beth, Lia, Gala, Fionn Lynch, Fionn Norse and John. Thank you to all the parents and staff for your help on the day.

On 23rd May we had our IMEB inspection. The following are some of the comments made by our inspector, Patricia Mehigan:

*'You'd love to be a child here...
It's fabulous to see your standard is so high...
The environments are excellent...'*

The Sponsored walk took place on 25th May and a great time was had by all. Thank you to all who took part and supported the event whether you were able to be present or not. €595 was raised and we will use the money to purchase Montessori materials (contributions can still be made in the office).

Many parents enjoyed the parenting course with Gaye Mullen. We will ensure we provide another in the future if there is the interest.

Congratulations to Zoe Morris for your AIJS Special Merit Award for Art and to Milla Little for your Highly Commended Short Story Award.

Carlingford Adventure Centre was a great success yet again this year. The 9-12 group had a fabulous time taking part in the action packed programme. The High Ropes and Kayaking were two of the highlights and we all saw that our skill level had vastly improved since last year.

Our Summer Concert and Sports Day were sun, joy and speed-filled! Congratulations to all our children for your wonderful display of talent and thank you to all the staff and parents for your help on the day and throughout the year. It was a wonderful example of positive feeling we all have being part of The Children's House community.

Congratulations to our four graduates:

Martha, Rachel, David and Caspar. They have contributed in a big way to our school over the years, we will miss them very much but know they will continue to meet with much success. Here are their farewell speeches made at the Summer Concert:

'I remember when I first started here there was only two classrooms and it only went up to nine. Since then the school has grown so much. Not just in size but in spirit. I can't believe I've been here for seven years. It only seems like yesterday I walked into the school in my blue coat with a determined look on my face. Thanks to everyone who has been involved in my time at The Children's House. It has been great and I wouldn't trade it for anything.' **Martha**

'Thank you to everyone here who helped me to fit in when I first started. I've really enjoyed my three years here. I'll miss you all so much – I'll definitely come back and visit. I really enjoyed going on school tours and overnight trips to Carlingford. And finally, I would like to say thank you to Ms Kuh and Ms Corr.' **Rachel**

'Thanks to my friends, some of whom have been with me since the Junior Class. When I came into the class on my first day 10 years ago I could not imagine me here now. I would like to thank Ms Hale and Ms Lawler for teaching me for the first years. I really loved working with the pink tower in those days. When I moved into the Senior Class there was no 9-12 class. We did all our concerts and plays in the Junior Class. It was very exciting when we heard there would be an extension and that the age limit was going up to twelve. I've been in the 9-12 for three years and it is great fun. I want to give a special thanks to Ms Corr and MsKuh for everything.' **Caspar**

'Thanks to all the teachers and friends for making learning seem a lot more fun. On some days we could get a bit giddy and were sometimes moved to a quieter spot. The hardest thing I've ever done in this school was this speech. My mind just goes blank! I really liked going on the outings, especially annual ones like Clara Lara and Carlingford. It's amazing how everything and everyone has grown. We did a lot of competitions like the MS Readathon, which I found really fun. I hope everyone has a great summer!' **David**

To our leavers, we will miss you as well and wish you the very best in your new phase of life. We very much appreciate your time with us.

Wishing you all happy holidays and looking forward to seeing you in August.

Fondly,
Ms Kuh