



DEAR NEIGHBOUR,

Welcome to the latest edition of the Platin Local Community Newsletter.

Safety in the workplace is the top priority every day in Platin. We carry out regular reviews of our safety performance and also share best practice and learn from our colleagues in Europe and the United States. In Platin we recently introduced a new safety helmet for all our employees along with a requirement to use the chin strap to ensure the helmet stays in place at all times.

Our fossil fuel replacement programme is running well, in addition to the SRF, which we have been using since 2011, we are also now using a Liquid Fuel which is pumped from storage tanks directly into the kiln. Further reduction in our need for fossil fuel will be required for Platin to hit the target of 80% fossil fuel replacement by 2030.

Despite the wet weather over the past few months, we have hosted numerous site visits by local schools, colleges and customers, and we have more visits planned over the coming months. We are also continuing to work with Hugh the wildlife photographer to photograph the wide variety of animals and plants living in and around Platin. I look forward to sharing more of these images in future Newsletters.

Please feel free to contact me if you any questions or comments.

Yours sincerely,

David Chambers

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WALK ON WEDNESDAYS



Irish Cement and St Oliver's have been part of Business in the Community's World of Work programme which engages 2nd year students in School Completion Programmes.

24 students from St Oliver's Community College recently completed their 'Walk on Wednesdays' sustainability project. As part of the programme the students documented their journey from idea development to execution demonstrating their commitment to environmental sustainability. During their project the students choose to reduce car journeys and walk to school each Wednesday.

Kate Horton, BITCI's Northeast Regional Co-ordinator said "It is very rewarding to see how the World of Work programme strengthens partnerships between schools and businesses over time. Their ongoing commitment to supporting the students is remarkable. I commend both St. Oliver's and Irish Cement in partnering on this sustainability project to keep the programme current and relevant to the pupils, guaranteeing to improve their understanding and resolve to be proactive in tackling the biodiversity and climate crisis".



ON TOUR IN PLATIN

We were delighted to host the first ever site tour of our Platin cement factory by pupils from Coláiste na hInse, Bettystown this week.

The tour was lead by Frank Hughes and Paul Owens. Another group of students from Coláiste na hInse are booked in for a second tour. Thanks for visiting us and we hope you found the tour interesting.

RACING IN TO 2024



Following a very competitive season in 2023, including becoming the first ever female winner of an Irish Championship Circuit Racing event at Mondello Park, Holly Dunnion was welcomed back to Platin recently to receive her Irish Cement sponsorship cheque from Helen Bennett for 2024.

Holly is busy at the moment preparing her race car for the 2024 season, and working hard on her fitness for the tough season of racing ahead. The team in Platin are excited to follow Holly's progress again this year and we look forward to more success in 2024

NEW BIRD BOXES FOR PLATIN



Our friends from Drogheda's Men's Shed made these lovely nest boxes for the site in Platin. The idea came originally from an employee who suggested that the bird boxes would add to the rich biodiversity on site. The locations for each of the nest boxes was carefully chosen and we hope as the season progresses some feathered residents will make Platin their new home.

SUPPORT FOR DULEEK AFC

David Chambers, Platin factory manager, presents a cheque to Dylan Moore, Colin Woods, James Hartnet and Martin Curran from Duleek AFC. The funds were to help the club with their recent all weather pitch resurfacing project. The club is a very active club with hundreds of players of all ages, training and playing each week. The pitch will see plenty of action in the seasons ahead.

BIODIVERSITY IN PLATIN



Wildlife photographer Hugh Sweeney has continued to visit Platin during the last few months to photograph some of the rich biodiversity that exists on the site. Here is a small selection of his images, including a small herd of deer that are regular visitors to the site. During the quieter winter months when wildlife is less active, he was impressed by the number of birds of prey he saw around the site including Buzzards, Peregrine Falcons and Sparrowhawks, all three pictured above.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HOSPITAL



The team in Platin were delighted to host a visit by Wendy Rock, Barry Matthews and Fiona Macnair from the Oncology Unit, Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda, for the official presentation of a cheque for €6,730.47. The money was raised by employees from the factory who took part in last year's Movember/No Shave November fundraising activities.

