





## DEAR NEIGHBOUR,

Welcome to the latest edition of the Platin Local Community Newsletter. 2018 is another busy year for us in the factory.

We have 140 full-time staff on the team and we have made the health and safety of all staff and visitors a key priority again this year. The initiative to raise awareness and minimise risks for all jobs we carry out on site is to ensure all the workers go home to their families each day in the same condition as they arrived to work.

As you may be aware Platin was granted planning permission by An Bord Pleanála earlier this year to continue our successful fossil fuel replacement programme. We are currently awaiting a decision from the EPA. Further details are provided below on our 2017 fossil fuel replacement achievements.

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

Yours sincerely,

# **David O'Brien**

Platin Works Manager T 041 987 6000

#### 9 YEARS WORKING WITH ST OLIVER'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Irish Cement and students from St Oliver's Community College Drogheda have partnered together on the 'Skills@Work Programme' for the past nine years. The programme is an initiative to introduce 5th year students to the workplace in order to encourage them to remain in school and complete their Leaving Certificate. Students on the programme undertake a number of modules including goal

#### THE PROGRAMME ENCOURAGES STUDENTS TO REMAIN IN SCHOOL

setting, CV preparation, interview skills and also partake in mock interviews with the company. As part of the programme the students visit Platin Works and learn about the day-to-day work carried out by the employees.

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#### NEW PLAYGROUND FOR MOUNT HANOVER SCHOOL



The children of Mount Hanover National School in Duleek were treated to a newly resurfaced playground. The old playground was prone to flooding after heavy rain and in need of repair. Under the supervision of Irish Cement engineers the old surface was removed, a new drainage system installed and the playground re-surfaced with new macadam by Irish Cement's sister company Roadstone. Commenting on the work Lorraine the Headmistress thanked Irish Cement for their support and said that 'we all know how important fresh air and exercise is for our children so we are delighted to have the playground surface restored. The work was a surprise for most of the children and they were thrilled when they came back into school to have a new playground to run around.'

# **FOSSIL FUEL REPLACEMENT 2017**

By using 120,000 tonnes of SRF last year Platin avoided the importation of over 54,000 tonnes of petroleum coke, a fossil fuel that is imported into Ireland from the Gulf of Mexico. The use of SRF in Platin in 2017 reduced our carbon dioxide emissions by over 64,000 tonnes, the equivalent of taking over 13,000 cars off the road.





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# DROGHEDA SAIL TRAINING BURSARY



Irish Cement are proud sponsors of Drogheda Sail Training Bursary together with the three other sponsors; Fast Terminals Ireland Ltd, Louth County Council and Drogheda Port Company. Since it was founded in 2013, this initiative has gone from strength to strength. The Bursary, which is run by Sail Training Ireland a youth development charity, gives local young people the opportunity to undertake voyages on classic sailing ships along Ireland's east coast. As part of the working crew they get to experience all the challenges and excitement of sailing these tall ships, an experience that inspires teamwork, confidence, resilience and a sense of adventure.



### PLATIN SITE VISIT

Children from St Oliver's school on their Junior Cert Geography field trip with their teacher and Aileen Twibill from Irish Cement.

# ONE-MILE WALK FOR





#### WALKING FOR HEALTHY HEARTS, WITH DULEEK CARDIAC FIRST RESPONDERS

Staff and contractors at Irish Cement in Platin held a one-mile walk for charity earlier this year, as part of a '5 Weeks Healthy Lifestyle Programme'. The programme now in its third year is proving to be a great success. The programme seeks to promote the value of workplace wellbeing, a healthy working environment, and healthy living in general. This five-week series of events at the Platin factory includes wellness and fitness workshops, healthy cooking and healthy meal options in the site canteen. This year Platin teamed up with local members of the Duleek Cardiac First Responder Group who volunteer with the National Ambulance Service to give early care to cardiac patients in the Duleek area. The Group who came on site to teach a 'family and friends' CPR course were presented with a donation by the participants.

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