



DEAR NEIGHBOUR,

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

I am happy to report that the factory is running well and the team in Platin are busy manufacturing and supplying high-quality cement to customers in Ireland and the UK. Making cement is a high-tech process which requires qualified and experienced individuals to run the factory. This year we have been busy recruiting new mechanical and electrical apprentices and graduate engineers to join the team in Platin.

I am also proud of the work my colleagues do in support of the local community from guiding site tours to visits to the classroom, supporting local charities and events and their commitment to making the factory a great place to work. We have new hanging baskets, and the large biodiversity mural by local artist Ciaran Dunleavy, who might be back to create another piece of outdoor artwork soon!

Our fossil fuel replacement programme is running well, and we are steadily reducing the need to import fossil fuels which helps us to decarbonise our cement product and keeps us on the path to hit our target of 80% fossil fuel replacement by 2030.

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

Yours sincerely,

David Chambers

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ON TOUR IN PLATIN

Some recent visits to Platin, from the top – Enterprise Ireland inside the Limestone Dome – 6th Year students Sacred Heart Secondary School, and bottom – players and coaches from Duleek AFC.



DROGHEDA MEN'S SHED - MEMORIAL BENCHES



We recently welcomed some members of the Drogheda and District Men's Shed to Platin. Their members undertook a project for the cement factory of making three benches to be placed around the site inscribed with the message "In memory of past colleagues". The idea for the benches and inscriptions came from some of our employees in the Fitting Shop in Platin.

The bench in front of the biodiversity mural was unveiled by members of the Men's Shed, including Ray Clinton a former employee of the Platin Fitting Shop, some of the current Fitting Shop Team and representatives from Platin management.

SUPPORTING THE SUPPORTERS!

Irish Cement were pleased to sponsor the Duleek/Bellewstown Boys U9 team as they travelled by bus to cheer on their club's Intermediate side to a semi-final victory. We then provided sponsorship for the Intermediate team in the final where they battled hard only to lose out by a single point at the final whistle.



PLATIN IN BLOOM



During the summer there was a real splash of colour in our Platin cement factory with a row of beautiful hanging baskets along the wall of the Mechanical Building. The idea for the hanging baskets came from two of the Fitters on site, Johnny O'Brien and John McDermott. Since the baskets have been installed both Johnny and John have been tending to the flowers to keep them in top condition. The baskets have become a very popular addition for staff and visitors alike.

BIODIVERSITY IN PLATIN



Wildlife photographer Hugh Sweeney was on site in Platin during the summer to photograph some of the rich biodiversity that exists on the site. Here is a small selection of his images. During his visits he also photographed many other species including some spectacular birds of prey including Peregrine Falcons, Buzzards and Red Kites soaring above the factory.

SKILLS @ WORK PROGRAMME IN ST OLIVER'S



It was back to the classroom in St Oliver's again for Paul Owens and Frank Hughes as they discussed Sustainability with the 2nd Year pupils and their teacher. As part of this programme volunteers from Irish Cement spend time in the classroom with 2nd Year pupils explaining about their roles in the business, on the job training and their qualification pathways. There were some great questions from the pupils.

The idea behind the programme is to get the pupils thinking about future career opportunities and encouraging them to remain engaged with education in school.

DROGHEDA WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S REFUGE CENTRE



During the summer Johnny McArdle, Cormac Reilly, David Chambers and Helen Bennett from our Platin factory visited Drogheda Women's and Children's Refuge Centre to present a cheque for €2,000 to Susan Keogh (CEO) & Chelsea Johnston (Support Services Manager). The money was raised by staff who took part in the Bru Na Boinne Walk/Run on the 9th June. During the visit the team from Platin had the opportunity to see around the centre and hear about the importance of the services provided by the staff in the centre.