



Scoil Chaitriona

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we approach this stage of the school year, we would like to take a moment to express our sincere gratitude for your continued support and involvement in school life. From your participation in parent-teacher meetings and the recent Internet Safety Talk, to the beautiful and thoughtful presence shown at Patricia's memorial ceremony, your engagement has truly strengthened our school community. We also greatly appreciated the enthusiasm and creativity you brought to our Halloween workshop—events like these are made special because of you. Thank you for your partnership, generosity, and the care you show for our school every day. It's hard to believe we are coming up to Christmas already! We have lots of more fun in store!



Upcoming Events/ Dates



- Tuesday 2nd December NEPS psychologist visiting school. Please sign and return permission form to speak about your child if you receive one.
- 12 Days of Christmas will begin for the children from Thursday 4th of December. Please see attached notice.
- Friday 5th December 3rd & 4th class will attend the library for Family Time with a visit from the Christmas elf and a magic show.
- Wednesday 10th we will have Christmas Pyjama day where children can wear pj's to school.
- Tuesday 16th we will hold our Carol service in the hall at 11:30. All are welcome.
- Thursday 18th we will go to watch a Christmas movie in the Abbey Centre. If anyone has any appropriate Christmas DVDs we could borrow, please send in.
- Saturday 21st March Confirmation
- Saturday 25th April Holy Communion

Climate Action Summer Works

Fantastic News for Our School!

We are delighted to share some wonderful news with you. Our school has been awarded a substantial grant of €300,883 under the Climate Action Summer Works Scheme. This funding will enable us to make significant improvements to our school building, helping create a warmer, greener and more visually appealing environment for our pupils, staff and wider school community. The primary use of this grant will be to wrap the entire building with high-quality insulation, greatly improving energy efficiency and comfort throughout the year. We also hope to replace the windows and doors, depending on final project costs. As with all capital works, the full process will follow the required tendering and approval procedures, and we will keep you updated as plans develop. This is a very exciting opportunity for our school, and we are thrilled to be moving forward with upgrades that will benefit current pupils and future generations. We look forward to sharing progress with you as the project unfolds.



Aspire

Our involvement in the Aspire Project continues to be a great success and a very positive experience for everyone in our school community. We have been fortunate to work in partnership with Gaelscoil na gCeithre Maistrí in Donegal Town, and to date, every child in the school has had the opportunity to visit their campus, while their pupils have also spent time with us here. This exchange has been a wonderful way for pupils to mix, communicate and form new friendships, helping build confidence, cooperation and connection between both schools.

One of the most enriching aspects of the project has been our increased exposure to the Irish language. Through shared lessons, activities and conversation, pupils are hearing and using Gaeilge in a more natural and enjoyable way, deepening their understanding and helping it become part of everyday school life.

The Aspire Project has also provided us with the chance to invest in high-quality resources that would otherwise be out of reach due to cost. We are delighted to now have access to Izak9 cubes, STEAM boxes and other innovative teaching materials which are already enhancing learning across the school and opening doors to exciting, hands-on problem-solving experiences.

We look forward to continuing this partnership, nurturing new friendships and building on the wonderful progress already made. The enthusiasm shown by pupils on both sides has been fantastic—and we are excited for what comes next.

Classroom Highlights



Junior & Senior Infants

Junior & Senior Infants have started literacy stations and are doing so well with their letters. They also really enjoyed Sugradh le Cheile this month and a big thank you to parents who attended.



1st & 2nd Class

A huge congratulations to Ms. O'Reilly, her husband Kevin & of course big brother Seamus who welcomed baby boy, Conall! This month 1st & 2nd class have been working on their STEM and teamwork skills. We have also been doing a lot of cosy things.



3rd & 4th Class

3rd & 4th class enjoyed getting back into the town library and taking part in Izak9 lessons and activities.



5th & 6th Class

5th & 6th class have been working on Halloween festivities. They constructed spooky Jack Skellington heads.



PARENTS ASSOCIATION

We are currently seeking enthusiastic parent volunteers to help us set up a Parents' Association within the school. A Parents' Association plays a vital role in strengthening the home-school partnership, supporting events, contributing ideas, and helping to enhance the overall experience of school life for our children.

We would love to hear from parents or guardians who feel they could give some time, share ideas, help organise activities, or simply be part of a positive and supportive team. No previous experience is needed—just a willingness to get involved.

If you are interested in being part of this new initiative, please contact the school office to add your name to the list. We hope to hold an initial meeting in the coming weeks to get things up and running.

Your involvement, whether big or small, will make a real difference. We look forward to working together.

