

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

February 2025

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 20 th & Friday 21 st February:	School closed, mid-term
Saturday 1 st March:	Confirmation
Monday 17 th March	St. Patrick's Day, School closed
Friday 11 th April	Easter Holidays

Mid-term break

The school will close on Thursday & Friday this week, 20th and 21st February for the mid-term break.

Easter Holidays

The school will close for two weeks for the Easter holidays, starting on Friday 11th April.

Enrolment

Enrolment forms for next year's Junior Infants are now available from school office, phone 9374136 or email stpatsboyscarn@gmail.com Alternatively, you may call into the school office to collect a form. Forms are available on our school website www.carnboysschool.ie. The form should be printed and signed and returned to the school. We are delighted to welcome boys and girls again this year.

We also welcome applications for our Autism Class. Please contact the school for advice on the application process for this.

Please feel free to visit the school to meet with principal and see our facilities (appointment should be made through the school office).

School Name

The new name for our school is **Scoil Naomh Pádraig**. The Board of Management contacted the Department of Education about changing our name earlier this school year. Our official name **was** Scoil Naomh Pádraig Boys. The board requested that we drop the "Boys" in order to be inclusive of our girl pupils and to acknowledge our status as a mixed school. The Department of Education agreed to the change. We now have three girls in our Junior Infants class and will welcome girls in September 2025.

Board of Management

The Board of Management met recently. The Working Together 2024 guidelines were adopted by the board. We are working on our new Anti-bullying policy, Bi Cinealta and this will be in place for September.

Carndonagh CS Transfer Day

Pupils from 6th class completed their Transfer Day in Carndonagh Community School on Tuesday 11th February. The boys really enjoyed the day and we wish them well as they start the transfer process.

Confirmation

The sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated for children from the Scoil Naomh Pádraig and St. Patrick's GNS on Saturday 1st March at 1:00 pm in Sacred Heart Church. We wish God's blessing on all the children on this special occasion.

Congratulations

Huge congratulations to Master John McFeely on his award for Primary School Sports Teacher at the Donegal Sports awards in Letterkenny recently. Master McFeely was recognised for his great work with our pupils over many years and the award was very well deserved.

Credit Union Quiz

Congratulations to the two teams who represented us so successfully at the credit Union quiz in The Inishowen Gateway Hotel in Buncrana. The junior team members were: Harry ward, Dillon Doherty, Rodijs Cirksis and Alfie McClean. The senior team members were: Lochlainn Harkin, Matthew Kelly, Rory Bradley and Alex Doherty. Thank you to Mr. Philip Cuffe and Mrs. Hirrell who attended also.

Sport:

Soccer: Sixth-class pupils took part in a five-a-side football competition on Tuesday 18th with St. Patrick's Girls' School as part of the Transfer Programme.

Gaelic Games: Connor O'Donnell is doing Gaelic games with Senior Infants and fifth and sixth classes.

Fundamental Skills: John Gibbons is doing fundamental skills with Junior Infants, first and second classes.

Hurling: Cathal Doherty is currently teaching hurling skills to third & fourth classes.

Vex Robotics:

Members of the robotics team represented the school at the North-West VEX IQ regional competition being held at ATU on Thursday 16th January. The boys from 5th and 6th class have worked very hard assembling the game, designing and building a robot and modifying their robot design. This year's competition game was titled Rapid Relay. The boys were placed 8th out of 29 teams, and they did the school proud. Ethan McLaughlin was placed 9th in the individual skills challenge. It was a great experience for the team.

Thank you to Mrs. Hirrell and Ms. Gallager for accompanying the boys for the day and for all the enthusiasm and hard work for the competition.

The team were: Dargan Crossan, Ethan McLaughlin, Edward Doherty, Quillan Hirrell, Lochlainn Harkin, Darragh Doherty, John McElhinney and Vladislav Honcharov.

TY Students

We were delighted to welcome back three past-pupils for work experience in our school. Ruairi Doherty, Eanna McElwaine and Jack O' Brien joined us last week and they were a great addition to our team. We wish them well with all their Transition Year activities.

Student Teacher

We are very proud to welcome Ronan Brown, past-pupil as a student teacher. Ronan is currently doing his teaching practice in our Senior Infants class and learning from the great teaching and classroom management of Ms. Louise McDaid. We wish Roanan well with his studies.

HSCL:

Home Visits: Home visits continue to be an integral part of my role, taking up approximately 30% of my time. Home Visits allow the parents an opportunity to have a chat about how they and their child are settling into school life. Many parents and children have been made aware of and have joined groups as a result of these Home Visits. I fully understand that Home Visits do not suit all of our parents but please feel free to contact me at any time on the HSCL number.

'Healthy Me': Our 'Healthy Me' program is starting on March 4th for 6 weeks with Sheila Keyes and Alison Bardini facilitating it. The focus is on gathering to share experiences and discuss tips and advice on how to make small changes, while being consistent and staying positive within your family. It's a place and space to work through some of the challenges you maybe have as parents E.g. managing technology and healthy eating.

Book Club: A Book Club will commence on Thursday 27th February at 10am in Carndonagh Community Library. It is intended to be a positive, welcoming space for readers of all levels. Contact HSCL for more information.

Maths – Fetac Level 3: Well done to the parents who are consistently showing up every Wednesday in the Colgan Hall, working on our Maths assignments. This will continue throughout the year. Lots of credit due to these parents.

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