

December Newsletter

Dates for Diary

Friday 19th December Christmas holidays

Monday 5th January School re-opens

Christmas Holidays

<u>The school will close at 12:00 noon on Friday 19th December</u> (which is the last day of term), and re-opens on Monday 5th January 2026.

Homework Club

Well done to all the children who have attended our Homework Club since September. There is no Homework Club tomorrow, Tuesday 2nd, as teachers will attend teacher training after school. We will continue as normal next week and the final day of the club for this term will be Tuesday 9th. Homework Club will resume immediately after the Christmas break.



Christmas Jumpers

Children may wear their Christmas jumpers and any bottoms on Friday 5th & Friday 12th December and for the last week of school. If children do not want to wear the jumpers, they are free to wear their school uniform. Please note these days are not non-uniform days.

Cinema Trips

All classes will go on a cinema trip to Brunswick Moviebowl this Christmas.

•	Junior, Senior Infants & First Class	Zootropolis 2	Tuesday 16 th
•	Second, third & fourth classes	Home Alone	Monday 15th
•	Fifth & sixth classes	Home Alone 2	Monday 15 th

Separate notes will be issued with arrangements and cost of the cinema trips.

Christmas Plays

All classes are busy practising for Christmas plays. The singing is beautiful and we look forward to putting on wonderful performances to celebrate the Christmas season.



Primary School Survey

The Department of Education & Youth has invited all parents and guardians to take part in the Primary School Survey to help shape the future of our schools. The survey is very short and we encourage all families to have their say. You will be asked for your views on patronage/ethos (our school is under a catholic patronage), co-education/single sex school and on the language of instruction in

our school. If you have any questions about the survey, please contact the school office. The deadline is December 16th.

Spraoi & Sport

Spraoi & Sport have invited our infant classes to their "Tir na Nollag" experience in the local Garden Centre. We are in the process of organising this and it promises to be a very exciting event for our small pupils.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Thank you to all the families that contributed to this worthy cause. A total of 40 boxes were donated. Your generosity is much appreciated.

St. Vincent de Paul

We are supporting St. Vincent de Paul again this Christmas. All money collected locally is distributed to our own community. Our parents have been very generous in recent years and this is much appreciated. Envelopes will be distributed this week for your convenience.

Safety in school grounds & carpark

In the interests of safety, parents are asked <u>not</u> to drive into our school carpark. This applies at all times including Breakfast Club, After-school and Homework Club. Children should always use the most convenient pedestrian entrance and exit to avoid walking through the carpark or across the vehicle entrance. (Some families do have permission to drive in. Please speak to Mrs. McLaughlin, principal if you have any concerns.)

Parents' Association 50/50 Draw

Thank you to all the families and friends that supported the 50/50 draw in recent weeks. Your support was much appreciated. Recent winners were Harry and Louie Ward, Master McFeely and Mary McLaughlin (Conor Mason's granny). The Parents' Association will be organising other fundraising events before Christmas. Please check their face book page.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Mrs. Aisling Devlin and her husband Johnny on the birth of their baby boy, Seán Devlin. We wish them every happiness at this special time.

Staffing

We welcome Ms. Rebecca Lynch as our Junior Infants teacher to cover Mrs. Devlin's maternity leave. We wish Ms. Lynch every success in her new role. Thank you to Ms. Kirsty Gallagher for looking after the class so well since Mrs. Devlin went off.

Transfer Programme Sixth Class

The transfer programme to post primary school has started for our Sixth-Class pupils. They are invited to the Carndonagh CS musical production on Wednesday this week. This is always a spectacular event and the boys are very excited about it.

HSCL News

As HSCL my role is to support you as parents/guardians as your child makes their way through primary school. Please feel free to contact me at any time if a problem arises e.g. School refusal or if you just want a chat. You are welcome to come into the school to my office, or, if you'd prefer, I'd be more than happy to come out to your home.

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.

A 'Dyslexia Awareness' course was run in the Colgan Hall on Friday mornings from 9:30–11:30 am from Friday 7th November for 4 weeks and Monday evenings from Monday 10th from 7-9pm. We hope to run this again at a later stage in the year.

'Literacy with Computers' continues in the Colgan Hall on Wednesday mornings from 9.30-12.30pm.

The 'Walking Group' will move to a Monday morning at 9.45am. It's free, there's no commitment, a chance to socialise, exercise and a time for you.

Thank you to all the parents/guardians who dropped in Christmas jumpers. We have jumpers available if you need one for your child.

Cumann na mBunscol All County Quiz

Jack Bracken, James Doherty, Alfie McClean and Harry Ward represented the school last night in Letterkenny. The boys enjoyed the experience.

Sporting Activities

Soccer: The boys have just one game remaining in the six-a-side league campaign. A total of twenty-one games were played against other schools in the peninsula. More than forty boys from fourth, fifth and sixth classes enjoyed their weekly games. Congratulations to Jayden O'Donnell on his selection to the Inishowen U11s Academy squad.

Hurling: Nathan Rice, Alfie McClean, Jayden O'Donnell, Kane O'Donnell and Niall Doherty represented the school at the Cumann na mBunscol indoor blitz in Foden on Monday.

Cathal Doherty is currently doing fundamentals with the **Senior Infants**.

Conor O'Donnell is doing Gaelic and hurling skills.

Thank you to **John Gibbons** will finish in the school soon. We hope to see John back with us in the near future.

Anne McLaughlin, Principal.

