



SCOIL BARRA NAOFA

Newsletter 28th of January 2026

A Cháirde,

We hope that everyone is well settled back in school after the Christmas break. We ended Term 1 on an extremely positive note with our Christmas Carol Service. A big mile buíochas to all the teachers and staff involved. It was a real team effort. We have had a busy start to 2026. 3rd to 6th class are doing hurling skills training with Dylan Barrett. 1st and 2nd class have started Irish Dancing. We will also be entering the two teams into the Munster Primary Tennis Competition. We have begun our research into our local history projects. Thank you to members of the Monkstown Heritage Committee who have come into a number of classes to speak to the pupils and study old photos of the village. We celebrated Catholic Schools Week last week and on Wednesday a number of grandparents came into the school to talk about their school days. It was a lovely experience for all involved.

We are delighted to get all our corridors and halla painted. Thank you to Eadaoin Cotter & Catherine Barry (Pebble and Sash) who guided me in selecting the colours and to Sean Byrne Painters from Passage, who did a wonderful job. Caithlin O' Gorman, a very talented mural artist, is creating a stunning mural of our lovely parish inside the entrance of the school, incorporating significant landmarks and our core values of love of learning, happiness, respect, inclusion and positive attitudes.

We are also delighted to be in a position to launch our new website. Thank you to Mutually Web design for the terrific job they did. To Tim McSweeney for his drone footage and to Audrey Hastings for her photographs. Please keep an eye on the website for regular updates in the 'Latest News' section, policies and our calendar.

Orla Ní Shé & Foireann na Scoile

Upcoming Dates

2nd February Bank Holiday St. Brigid's Day

6th February: Pa event in the Golf Club from 7pm

13th of February: 6th Class Book Sale

Thursday and Friday, 19th /20th February, School Closed for Mid Term Break.

23rd of Feb- Community Garda - Internet Safety Talk (Senior Classes) & Role of the Garda and Road Safety (Junior Classes)

27th of Feb: School closure New Primary Curriculum

Thursday, 5th of March World Book Day

Friday, 6th of March: Local History Day 11am-1pm

16th of March : Extended bank holiday school closure

26th of March: 4th class Grandparents Day

New Autism Class for SBN

On Tuesday last we were sanctioned a new Autism Class which will be opening in September. This is a very positive development for our school. The staff will be engaging in training over the next few months. The Autism Class will be located in our Bubble room.

Our trip to the Naval Base

By Aoife and Sophie

On the 7th of January, our class went on a trip to the Naval Base. We were given a tour by three members of the Navy. They showed us where they stayed, and where they ate their food and the church they go to on Sunday. We got to see where they stored their guns and we even got to try them (when they were not loaded). They told us about the college across the way from them and explained what careers we could do as part of the Navy. We were also lucky enough to see the Navy members marching. The final thing they showed us was the big ships and they told us about the new ones they had just got in from New Zealand. We look forward to using the information that we learnt for our local history projects.

The Glucksman Gallery Domain of the Dinosaurs

By Aoife and Sophie

Last Tuesday, our class went to the Glucksman Art Gallery. To start off the tour, we looked at the dinosaurs. There were four stations, and all were very interesting. They had the skeleton of the dinosaurs at each station and all the bones were displayed in front of it. We then went on to pictures and the detail on them was spectacular. Next, we went downstairs and went into the art room. We all had the opportunity to make a postcard, which would be displayed later on in the week at one of their events. Overall, it was a worthwhile experience and we learnt a lot of interesting facts about dinosaurs.

Green Schools:

In the next few weeks we will be submitting our application for our renewal flag on the Marine Environment. From early February , 3rd to 6th classes will be having lessons from a guest presenter on the topic of marine science. Each class will be guided in doing projects on ocean literacy. Each of these classes will do a different topic based around ocean literacy.

Student Council:

One of our main achievements this term was that the school safeguarding statement was officially agreed in December. This is an important step in making sure our school continues to be a safe, supportive, and respectful place for all students and staff, and it reflects the values we stand for as a school community.

Looking ahead, we're excited to introduce a 'Teach the Teacher' activity. Each class will choose two or three students to teach their teacher about something they know a lot about, whether it's a skill, a hobby, or a subject they're passionate about. This gives students the chance to take the lead, share their knowledge, and show that learning can go both ways.

Book Swap – Thursday, 12th February

On Thursday, 12th February, Sixth Class will be holding a book swap fundraiser in school. They are asking each child to bring in up to five good-quality books that they have finished with at home.

On the day, children will also bring €5, which will allow them to choose a minimum of three books to take home. This gives children a chance to refresh their home libraries while encouraging a love of reading and re-using books.

We kindly ask that all books sent in are in good condition and suitable for children. Please start sending in the books this week to allow us to organise them into approximate age categories. Thank you for your support.

Frasaí na Míosa

Tá mé fuar

Tá mé préachta leis an bhfuacht

Tá sé nimhneach fuar

Tá mé fluich go craiceann

Tá sé ag cur báistí

Tá sé ag stealladh báistí

Seanfhocail

Ní hé lá na báistí lá na bpáistí.