



When Parents and Teachers work together - Children are the winners



March 2026

A message from the principal

As we come to the end of my first term as principal, I would like to sincerely thank you all for your warm welcome and continued support in helping me settle into the school community.

It has been a very busy but truly enjoyable term, filled with many wonderful highlights. Our pupils have taken part in a wide range of activities, including quizzes, dancing and sporting events, and of course the standout moment was our fantastic school production of *The Sound of Music*. The talent, enthusiasm and teamwork on display were a credit to everyone involved.

Thank you to the Parents' Association for their support all term and for organising for the Easter Bunny to deliver an Easter Egg to every child in the school today!

I hope you enjoy reading our school newsletter and reflecting on all that has been achieved over the past few months. Wishing you all a restful and wonderful Easter break.

Kind regards,
Elizabeth

GAA Coaching

GAA Coaching has been continuing in the school this term.



1st, 2nd, 5th & 6th Class have been enjoying Hurling coaching with Giles O' Grady.



Infants, 3rd & 4th have been practising their football skills with our new coach, David Bryant.

The future looks bright for Ballyduff GAA!



The Sound of Music

The hills around North Kerry were certainly alive with *The Sound of Music* this March! The children's performance was undoubtedly the highlight of this term. Their singing, dancing and showmanship entertained young and old and we are very proud of every boy and girl for their dedication and hardwork bringing the show to life.

Thanks again to Amanda and John Breen of Kilmoyley School of Music for coordinating the event. We all look forward to reliving the magic when we receive the USB recordings after Easter!

Announcements



Clothes Collection: It's a perfect time for a Spring Clean! We will be hosting a used clothes collection on 5th May 2026. Bags can be dropped to the school any morning after Easter.



Thank you all parents for parking in the church car park. Please remind all relatives not to turn or park at the school gate.



Curious Minds Before & After School Care operate every day from 7-9am and 2-6pm. If you would like more information, please contact: curiousmindsbookings@gmail.com

Inside our Classrooms

CURRICULUM REDEVELOPMENT

As you may be aware, this is a time of change in Primary School Education in Ireland as a redeveloped curriculum was recently launched. This year, teachers across the country are engaging in 2 days of professional development in the Primary Curriculum Framework. We had our first training day on Monday, 2nd March and will have our second day on 25th May. In addition to this, all teachers are receiving in school support in the redeveloped Primary Mathematics Curriculum.

We will also be having whole staff training on Autism Awareness and supporting Neurodivergent children with the NCSE on Monday, 22nd May. These days are allocated by the Department of Education and Youth.

We strive to look for opportunities to enhance children's education inside and outside the classroom - this is a glimpse of some of the cross curricular work which is happening across the school!



STUDENTS COUNCIL

The Student Council are looking forward to meeting again after Easter. There are lots of plans for the summer term. We can't wait for the fine weather to return so we can put on our gardening gloves and spruce up our school garden!



The more that you read, the more things you will know.
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.



Dr Seuss

SAFER INTERNET DAY

Safer Internet Day took place on Tuesday 10th February. All classes had lessons on how to stay safe online and we had a poster competition. For more on staying safe online, see www.webwise.ie/parents



ST BRIGID'S DAY

All children in the school celebrated St Brigid's Day by remembering her story, singing songs and making St Brigid's Crosses with rushes. It is important that we keep our Irish traditions alive.



WORLD BOOK DAY 2026

We celebrated our love of books for World Book Day on 5th March. Junior & Senior Infants entertained us all with their annual Book Character fashion show. All classes also shared their favourite books, took part in shared reading and received a free book.

SACRAMENT PREPARATION

Second Class have been busy preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Holy Communion over the past few months. They received their First Confession on 20th February and will receive their First Holy Communion on Saturday 18th May.

Sixth Class will receive their Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Ray on Thursday, 30th April in St John the Baptist Church, Causeway.

Outside our Classrooms

CAUSEWAY CS TRANSITION DAY

Fifth and Sixth Class visited Causeway Comprehensive School on Wednesday for an induction day. They took part in a range of engaging activities, including engineering and woodwork, and were given a guided tour of the school facilities. Pupils had the opportunity to explore lunchtime clubs in the library and to experience subjects such as Music, Art and Home Economics, where they were treated to delicious buns and pancakes. The visit helped to build excitement and confidence ahead of their transition to secondary school.

CREDIT UNION QUIZ



We had two teams represent the school in the Credit Union Quiz in Tralee on Sunday 8th February in MTU. It was a great experience for all involved and we were all very proud of their performance.

IRISH DANCING



Infants, First & Second Class have been introduced to their first steps of Irish Dancing with Michael Murphy. Hopefully some of the boys and girls are inspired to keep up their 1, 2, 3's at home!

CHESS CLUB



Chess Club is now up and running again in the school for children from 3rd to 6th Class. We hope to enter a few competitions in the coming months with other local schools. Get practising!



As part of our Active Schools initiative, we successfully completed four weeks of the "Active Break Every Day Challenge." Each day, the pupils engaged with a movement break video filmed in various locations around Croke Park. This initiative not only promoted daily physical activity but also provided a unique behind-the-scenes insight into the stadium. It was both an enjoyable and educational experience.



Savings Stamps

Well done to all children who have been busy saving every week for their school tours. Saving is such an important life skill and it is important to start from a young age. Savings Stamps from An Post are available to buy every Friday, in school, for €4.

When children have saved enough for their school tours, they will now be given their own stamp book to continuing saving. Children can continue to buy stamps each week at school but these books and any excess stamps will be sent home for parents to store securely.

More information about school tours and our saving stamps will be sent home with children after Easter.

School Sports Updates



BASKETBALL NEWS



Both the boys' and girls' basketball teams played in their first competitions this week in Causeway. Although they did not come away with a win, all players performed very well and demonstrated great skill throughout the games. They showed excellent teamwork, supporting and encouraging one another from start to finish, making it a very positive and enjoyable experience for everyone involved.

CUMANN NA MBUNSCOIL MINI-SEVENS



The boys' and girls' football teams proudly represented the school in the Allianz Cumann na mBunscol Mini 7s competition on the 19th and 20th of March. Both teams performed superbly, progressing from their groups to reach the quarter-finals, where they were unlucky to fall just short. Well done to all involved.

We now look ahead to an exciting term, with hurling and camogie beginning after the Easter break, along with the FAI Soccer Competition. Plenty to look forward to!

ATHLETICS



On Tuesday, March 10th, some boys of took part in the Cumann na mBunscoil Cross Country Competition held at Caherslee. Despite challenging conditions, they delivered outstanding performances, with several strong finishes across the races. A special congratulations to Brandon Scanlon in 4th class, who achieved an impressive 6th place overall out of a field of well over 100 competitors—an excellent accomplishment.

St Brendan's AC hosted a schools' Indoor Athletics competition in Causeway on 15TH February We were delighted to be awarded third place for our overall school performance

All of the students represented the school with great pride and determination. Well done to everyone involved!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- THURS 30TH APRIL**
Confirmation: St John the Baptist Church, Causeway
- SAT 16TH MAY**
First Holy Communion
SS Peter & Pauls' Church, Ballyduff.
- FRI 22ND MAY**
School Closure Day- Staff
Autism Awareness Training
- MON 25TH MAY**
School Closure Day- Staff
Curriculum Training
- FRI 26TH JUNE**
Summer Holidays - School
Closes 12:00pm.
- THURS 27TH AUGUST**
School reopens for the
2026-2027 school year.