

Maynooth Educate Together

Newsletter

January 30th 2025

Dates for you Diary

January

- **School Enrolment** closes today. Please visit our [HERE](#) for details.
- **School Closure (Primary Maths Curriculum Training)**- January 31st

February

- **February 3rd**- Public Holiday
- **February 11th**- Safer Internet Day
- **We Love Books Book Fair:** 12th and 13th February
- **Student Council Bake Sale:** February 14th
- **Mid-term Break:** February 17th-21st **Return to school:** Feb. 24th
- **Grandparents Day:** Rescheduled to Friday February 28th

School News

Happy New Year to all in our school community. January brought lots of DRAMA, Snow & Storms but also lots of wonderful time to focus on our mental, physical and spiritual wellbeing through Wellbeing Week. An outstanding week was organised by the Wellbeing committee, led by Noreen Keane. Mary Quinn and Stephanie Mc Cormac gave lots of support too. The week included Yoga with teacher Triona, a visit from the Irish Guide Dogs, art competitions, smoothie and fruit skewer making, meditation, mindfulness, buddy activities, gratitude activities, getting out in nature, staff walks and much more. The best part had to be NO HOMEWORK!!!!

At last it looks like Spring is on the way and we look forward to the brighter mornings and evenings.





Yoga in full flow last week during wellbeing week. 4th class teacher Trina Cahill kindly took some of our classes and led them in some rejuvenating yoga workshops which they thoroughly enjoyed.



Aaron from Golf Ireland visited the school this week to go through some of the skills of the game such as putting and chipping. There were some great skills on show! Thank you to Robert Leonard for organising this treat.

Niall De Burca

Niall visited us again this year and did not disappoint. What a talented story teller he is. He had staff and pupils rolling with laughter as he engaged us with stories about the Famine, not so marvellous manners and much more, in only the way Niall can. You can find Niall on YouTube. Niall was not the only artist on site. Parent and Artist Tamzen Lundy (Artist in Residence) upskilled some of our staff in felt making. They created original pencil toppers and colourful wall murals which represent some of our school values. Tamzen will also work with some of our classes in the coming weeks.

Principal's Awards



Carlos Ruben- 2nd Class (Tom's). Carlos is working extremely hard on his reading. He is always eager to learn and completes science experiments at home based on his Read at Home. Carlos is also very kind to all the children in the class and is regularly chosen by others to play with when they may be upset. He is a great friend. Well done Carlos! Keep up the great work modelling our school values.

James Dignam 6th Class (Dave) for his wonderful work raising money for the Laura Lynn Children's Hospice raising a total of €549 from his Birdhouse and Candleholder sale at the Winter Shows. James has worked tirelessly since late September and selflessly wanted to donate the proceeds to Laura Lynn. He worked as part of a team with our wonderful SNAs in the Butterfly room, Joan and Phil who taught him these skills. We're very proud of his patience, determination and kindness to those in need. Fantastic generosity, kindness, persistence and hard work James. Well done!

Class	Student Award	Gaeilgeoir na Míosa	Honesty Award
Junior Infants Noreen & Sinéad G.	Olivia	Shara	Finn D.
Junior Infants Aoibhín	Deepta	Agarth	Leona
Senior Infants Carolina	April	Sophie	Charlie
Senior Infants Sinéad	Aatral	Krzys	Nora
1 st Class Annie	Louis	Ivy	Calvin
1 st Class Clare & Stephanie	Kieran	Athena	Jude
2 nd Class Anna	Kacper	Sarah	Finn
2 nd Class Tom	Carlos	Misha	Folarin
3 rd Class Rob L.	Zoe	Matilda	Olivia
3 rd Class Jennifer	Orrin	Beth	Alfie
4 th Class Triona	Liam	Gwen	Daniel
4 th Class Rob P.	Amelia	Fabian	Oscar
5 th Class Olivia	Billy	Eliza	Freya
5 th Class Sinéad	Adam	Shanaya	Elphin
6 th Class Hannah	Joao	Devansh	Shayan
6 th Class Dave	Senan	Oisín	Chloe
Aimee's Class	Cian		
Ruth's Class	Charlie		Séamus

Class News

Ruth's Class have been busy potting plants for spring. We can't wait to see how these will grow and add some colour to their classroom.



Aimee's Class had a heart-warming visit during wellbeing week from the Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind. These two beautiful assistance dogs (Zelda and Elodie) received a very warm welcome from our pupils and staff.



This month's themes in **Triona's 4th Class** have been "Chinese New Year" and "The Vikings". Chinese New Year has been explored through reading, researching and investigating the continent of Asia and the many countries which celebrate the lunar new year, with many fascinating traditions and customs. The children learned about the animals of the zodiac and created beautiful artwork for this year, The Year of the Snake. Also, in history the children have been learning about Viking life and mapping the journeys and settlements of The Vikings in geography. They have been engaging in both STEM and STEAM projects, designing and constructing wonderful Viking longboats. Unfortunately, Grandparents Day was unable to take place this month due to stormy weather and school closure, but the children created fantastic grandparent projects, from which they learned an enormity of interesting information and wonderful stories.



3rd Class – Hazel (Robert L's Class)

January has been a great month with a range of different activities taking place in Robert's Class. Wellbeing Week was a big part of the month. The children really enjoyed it. The yoga and the healthy smoothie making were a big hit. Unfortunately, Grandparent's Day did not go ahead due to the weather. We had a visit from the Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind which was very interesting and insightful. The children had lots of great questions about how the dogs were selected and trained to become guide dogs.



Healthy eating for wellbeing week in Jen's 3rd class! The children made fruit skewers. They were delicious and were eaten within seconds! 🍌🍇🍓





Aoibhín's Junior Infants (Chestnut). We've been learning lots about the different clothes people wear to school and all about classrooms in schools. We decided to create our own school uniforms and had so much fun working in groups!



Noreen and Sinéad's Junior Infants (Juniper class) worked on a healthy body and a healthy mind during our Wellbeing Week. We visited the school garden and looked for bugs, we relaxed with yoga and meditation, we had great fun doing artwork with our buddies and we made delicious fruit salad in our classroom! We also got to meet two Guide dogs Zelda and Elodie.



Spring has certainly sprung in 5th class (Sinéad Sullivan's Elm Class). The pupils enjoyed learning how to finger knit and joined together their knitted pieces to make 69m in total. They combined their handywork with the class next door (Olivia's Class) to create a monster train that trailed the whole way around the school, upstairs, downstairs and into every corner. Ella and Elana are flying with their crochet. Look at the size of their first granny squares below.

Both 5th classes are learning about the **Great Irish Famine**. They have a challenge for you...*Do you know where you can see these shoes which represent the many people forced to emigrate from Ireland during the Famine.?*

Here's a clue if you need it... These shoes rest near where you may hear a train, some quacks and children's cheer.



Senior Infants Larch (Sinéad Staunton's Class).

During wellbeing week, we took part in many lovely activities including meditation and mindfulness colouring - we got to sit with our friends and bring in cushions to be nice and cosy! We also made some fruit smoothies which got a 10/10 and created some lovely art with our 4th class buddies! These can be seen in the display area by reception. We have also been working on the theme of School in literacy and Aistear and learning all about different schools and all the different roles and parts of the school. We drew pictures of our beautiful school too!



Parent Teacher Association NEWS

- **Recent Lotto Winners €20 each:** Rajesh Debtalla (2 weeks), Matyas Szabo, Anna Czarska, Vinayak Verlekar and Damian Galligan. Congratulations to all our winners. You can still sign up to support our lotto here [Maynooth Educate Together National School - Home - Our Fundraiser](#)
- **Thank you to all our parents and guardians for the lovely end of year gift, a hot drink from the Beanery Coffee Van.** It was a most appreciated gift on a cold Winter's Day.

Lorraine Murray

Principal