



April 2025

April was a short but sweet month. There was lots to keep the staff and pupils of METNS busy, with a fantastic Inclusion and Diversity week, athletics, Irish Dancing, GAA, trips to see our Art Exhibition in Maynooth Library, Spring Break and much much more.

We hope that all our school community had a restful break are we are delighted to welcome you all back for what is sure to be another exciting and fun -filled term 😊



METNS 2025

Inclusion & Diversity

Upcoming Events and Important Dates

May 2025

📅 **May 5th Bank Holiday-School Closure.**

🕒 **Incoming Junior Infants 2025- Parents/Guardians Information Evening- 14th May @7:30pm**

👤 **Junior Infant Pupils 2025-'Meet and Greet Afternoon' 29th May @ 1:30pm**

📅 **Standardised Testing- May 19th-31st**

🗺️ **If your family are **relocating** in the coming months, or over the Summer Holidays, please contact Hilary in the office to let her know.**

June 2025

📅 **June 2nd & 3rd June Bank Holiday-School Closures.**

🚌 **School Tours** will take place towards the end of May and throughout June. Payments can be made via Aladdin. If you are having difficulty making payment, please reach out to the principal directly in the strictest of confidence.

🏊 **Active Week- June 16th-20th**

🎤 **METNS' Got Talent- June 23rd**

🎓 **6th Class Graduation-June 24th @ 7:30pm and 6th Class Final Day Farewell June 25th (11:30am)**

🌞 **Summer Holidays- June 27th (Half Day)**

Documents



SCHOOL CALENDAR 25-26 METNS

[Download](#)

172.1 KB



Pupil Expenses 2025 2026

[Download](#)

194.7 KB

School News



I am an Artist!

Some of our pupils, parents and teachers attended Maynooth Library recently to appreciate the artwork exhibition, which comprised of our very own creations. We were all so proud to see such magnificently stunning creations on display for all of Maynooth to enjoy.

We are really looking forward to the exhibition returning to our school in the coming weeks, where it will take centre stage for all to enjoy for many years to come.

[Events - Kildare Library Service](#)

[Tamzen Lundy Designs | Feltmaking | Ireland](#)

SPORTS @ METNS

As always, sports and physical activity have played a major part in the month of April. Check out some of our highlights below, which include weekly Irish Dancing, Rugby Blitzes, Athletics and Circus antics with Fadi from Palestine. Thank you to Professor Colin Coulter

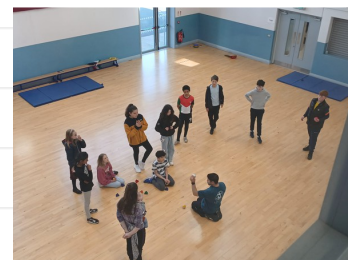
Department of Sociology, Maynooth University, for organising this wonderful event for our pupils in 6th class (Dave's Class).



Athletics



**Irish Dancing with
Siobhán**



Circus Antics with Fadi

Daffodil Day



Daffodil Day 2025

Thank you kindly to all who supported this worthy cause so generously. A total of €2,355 was raised.

The Big Sing 2025!



Our Mascot Le Chéile



Choir Leaders



The Le Chéile Choir 🎵



The Big Sing 2025🎵

A fabulous evening of entertainment was had at the BIG SING 2025. Thank you to all the parents, guardians and staff that came along to support the event and to Ruth and Olivia our fantastic choirmasters. The real credit goes to our wonderful pupils who put on a very energetic performance and represented the school so well on the night.

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DH7-Xb2ICXI/?igsh=NzU5OHA5YmcwYWc4>

Bebras Challenge-6th Class and Student Council Gains!

Well done to Chloe and Elena who represented METNS at the Bebras Final in Maynooth University recently. What a fantastic achievement!



Meanwhile, some of our **student council members** (Cian Tara, Daniel and Anthea) made a courageous and competent presentation to the Board of Management at their April meeting, and managed to secure GAA goal-posts and more board games for the pupils of METNS. They are also making plans to run a chess competition for the school. Amazing leaders in the making!



Incoming Junior Infants 2025

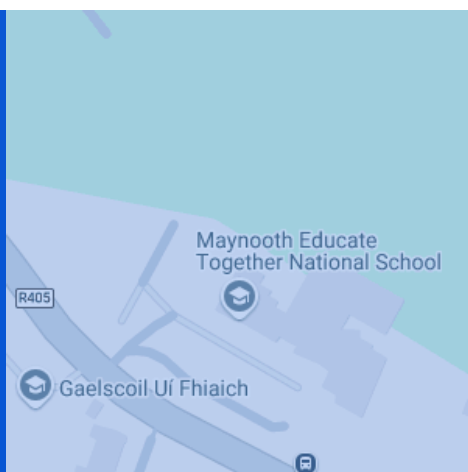
Event Information

Incoming Junior Infants-Parents/Guardians Information Evening

When?

Wednesday 14 May 2025, 07:30 p.m.

Where?





Pupil Blog



Fairtrade Article by Eli Coogan

Eli has been researching Fair Trade and has questioned some of our pupils on their knowledge too. Check out her amazing writing!!!

Download

172.7 KB

Standardised Testing

Understanding Standardised Tests in Irish Primary Schools

Standardised tests assessments are upcoming. They are conducted annually in Irish primary schools to measure a student's performance against predetermined standards. While they provide valuable insights into a student's academic progress, it's essential to understand their limitations. These tests are just one snapshot of a student's abilities, representing their performance on a specific day. Results are reported to the Department of Education in 2nd, 4th, and 6th class for statistical purposes and to inform special education teaching allocation. We also use them internally as one source of information when we are allocating our support teaching.

Parents play a vital role in supporting their children through these assessments. Reassuring your child before and after the tests, if needed, is essential. Let them know that these tests are nothing to worry about and are simply tools to help their teacher understand how to teach them best. Creating a positive and stress-free environment around testing can help children approach these assessments with confidence and ease.

Inclusion and Diversity Week 2025



What an amazing Inclusion and Diversity Week we had this year. We learned about Dyslexia, Down Syndrome, Autism, Roma and Traveller Communities and LGBTQ+. We celebrated our individual and familial differences and similarities and acknowledged that we are all equal. METNS also hosted some very informative presentations and displays from Kildare Traveller Action and Maynooth Access Group.

WE ALL BELONG!

Thank you to our wonderful SNAs who organised a fantastic week.



Aoibhin's/Sinéad & Noreen's Junior Infant Classes

Aoibhín's class had a very busy few weeks leading up to their break. They have been learning Irish Dancing and all about inclusion and diversity. They also found out about the life cycles of frogs and got to see real tadpoles. Before they finished up for break they also had an egg hunt. It was so much fun!

Sinéad's and Noreen's Junior Infant class- Juniper enjoyed the events of Inclusion and Diversity week, planted French beans, and learned about Supermarkets and People who help us in our community. They also took part in an Easter Egg hunt with 3rd class buddies and enjoyed 'bubble breaks' in the sunshine!



Senior infant children from Carolina's Class- Holly enjoyed their last Irish dancing session. Many thanks to Siobhán Kellett for such an enjoyable experience. We certainly have some talented

dancers across the school.

Senior Infants Larch, Sinéad Staunton's Class over the month of April, have been working hard on their writing skills with teachers Sinéad and Elaine. Today they published their favourite piece that they had written and it will be displayed on the writing wall upstairs in the school. Keep an eye out for our special pieces if you are walking around the school!

4th Classes

Triona's 4th Class- Rowan

During the month of April, Triona's 4th Class have been focusing on Ireland as a theme, learning about The Celts, Celtic Ireland, exploring Irish geography, Irish culture, native wildlife and plants and learning about iconic Irish individuals.

The children explored the theme creatively through project work, beautiful Celtic artwork and Irish dance and song. They also received a superb workshop from Biodiversity Ireland, where they delved deep into the importance of all aspects of Irish nature and wildlife. After learning about the famous Irish milliner Philip Treacy, the children engaged in a STEAM millinery project designing and constructing amazing and unique "Junk Kouture" hats. These wonderful creations were modelled on a classroom catwalk and the hats were presented by the groups, explaining their theme, inspiration, design and construction.

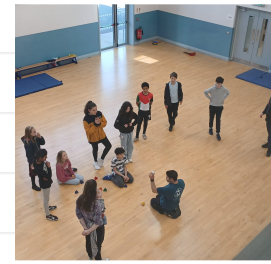
We all thoroughly enjoyed "Diversity Week" this month, celebrating our differences and unique ways of learning. We were extremely fortunate to receive workshops and talks from external groups, which were both fun and informative.



6th Class

Dave's 6th Class Birch

Dave's 6th class recently participated in a **Circus Workshop on Classical Dancing** with Fadi Zmorrod from Palestine. Fadi worked with small groups to ensure they got familiar with balancing, plate spinning, diabolo, unicycle and juggling. The workshop was thoroughly enjoyed by all and was facilitated by the Sociology Department of Maynooth University. Check out the photos below.



Student Awards

Principal's Awards

Ethan Cameron Shanley from 3rd Class, deserves the principal's award this month, as he shows great empathy and compassion for others. He makes time to converse and interact meaningfully with others, especially those who may not have another child to play with on a given day. He does this in a very genuine, friendly and kind manner. Ethan also works extremely hard in school each day. Well done Ethan, we are very proud of you!

Elena Naughton Lehtimaki from 6th Class- also receives the principal's award. Elena is a very hard-working, kind and diligent student. She is always very respectful of her peers and the school staff. Elena has represented the school wonderfully in various ways throughout her time here, on the sporting field and through Bebras Challenge. Well done Elena. We are all very proud of you!

David Carman- 4th Class is an extremely polite, respectful and friendly boy and is an exceptional member of his class with his calm, caring and patient manner. He consistently demonstrates a positive attitude to all learning experiences and shows admirable creativity and individualism in assignments and projects. He is at all times, diligent, focused and hard-working, producing work to a very high standard, while also taking feedback on board with gratitude and positivity. His willingness to help others and his class teacher in a seemingly effortless and subtle way is something to be commended and his strong sense of integrity is a credit to him. Well done David with the smart choices you make, the kindness you show and for simply being the best that you can be. We are extremely proud of you!

Community News

Our Fundraiser School Lotto

Congratulations to our most recent weekly winners, who received €20 each.

Joanna Donizak, Ozgur Bayram, Lyndsey O' Neill and Bojan Afric.

You can still sign up here -[Maynooth Educate Together National School - Home - Our Fundraiser](#)

to help support with the cost of school resources for our pupils.



The Jackpot now sits at €2,200 and The Big SUMMER DRAW is also on the way. We have some exciting prizes up for grabs.

National Summer Giveaway Competition, **€2,000 for a Summer Getaway, €1,000 for a Garden Makeover or 2 X Oasis Premium Tickets.**

So far this year, your support has meant that we could purchase durable garden signage, books for our pupils to increase reading fluency, goalposts and other PE resources and a contribution towards our outdoor classroom pergola. We really appreciate your generosity.

Board Games Club

We are delighted to let you know that **Board Games Club** currently have a limited number of spaces available this term. The club offers children a wonderful opportunity to develop their critical thinking, teamwork, and problem-solving skills in a fun and relaxed environment. It runs every Tuesday 2.10 to 3.10 at a cost of €35. The dates are May 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th , June 10th, 17th and 24th . If you would like your child to join you can email Jacinta or Tracey at boardgamesclubmaynooth@gmail.com

PTA

The Summer Fair is Scheduled for June 8th. It always promises to be a fantastic fun-filled event for our families. However, we need your support to make this happen. Please reach out to Kalis and the Committee if you are available to plan, book, help clean up, sell tickets, supervise gates etc. Every little helps. maynootheducatetogetherpa@gmail.com

BOM Agreed Reports

Agreed Reports from the Board of Management Meetings are available to view on our school website. www.maynoothet.ie

Please support Hilary and Martin in their quest for pension pay parity.

Support pension parity in schools

FORSA



What's the issue?



We don't have the same terms and conditions as our school colleagues who are SNAs and teachers. Why not?

We're fighting for pension parity in schools, a single contract of employment for all caretakers and secretaries, and access to decent sick leave and bereavement leave.

We're the first to arrive and the last to leave. Without us, schools simply don't function.



How can I be part of the campaign?

- Sign the pledge and share it with your school community
- If you're a member, come to union meetings
- Wear the campaign badge and distribute the stickers



Sign the pledge to show you support pensions for School Secretaries and Caretakers!



Lorraine Murray

Principal