



Newsletter September 2025

Monthly Roundup

September has almost come to a close and we hope that all our parents/guardians, pupils and staff have settled in well to a new school year. This month 4th classes have started 🏊 **swimming lessons** in the National Aquatic Centre, ⚽ **GAA** has resumed and soccer commences for our more senior boys and girls.

5th and 6th classes have been making use of their LEAP cards and visited 🏰 **Maynooth Castle**, where they learned a lot about the history of Maynooth Castle and surrounding area. 6th classes have also been receiving **cycling lessons** 🚲 and are really enjoying the experience. 2nds-6ths received some skipping lessons from the legendary Mark McCabe, while junior infants have settled in very well to METNS. **County photos** were present to take their first school photos last week 📷.

The 26th September marked **EU day of Languages** . We celebrated our school diversity 🌐 on this date with **international dress, food and music**. A number of parents/guardians set up cultural displays in the school hall. Thank you most sincerely to all our volunteers for supporting us and sharing your knowledge, time and stories with us.

We are also learning some basic phrases this year, in many of the languages that make up our school community. In September and October we are focusing on **Spanish** . Well done to Tracey Gunn on co-ordinating these events with the support of Carolina Tercero Bernardo.



Upcoming Events and Important Dates

👥 October 1st- PTA Meeting (Hybrid)

🥁 October 3rd-Jabba Jabba Jembe Drumming

🔧 14th-16th October- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)

💉 22nd Oct- Optional Flu Vaccines

🎃 Oct. 24th Mid-Term Break. School re-opens on October 3rd

School News

Intercultural Celebrations

Last week we celebrated the many cultures that make up our rich school community. This culminated with a fabulous international day on Friday 26th September, whereby some of our parents/guardians displayed food, art, music, dress, history, photographs and artefacts from a wide

variety of countries including Poland, Moldova, Turkey, Spain, Lithuania, Wales, Kenya to name but a few.

Our pupils learned so much and really enjoyed the morning. Congratulations and thanks to Tracey and Carolina who organised the event so well. It was a great success!



Sports



The girls got off to a great start in soccer with a 3-2 win in St. Conleth's Derrinturn. Goals from Eabha Lyons (1) and Sofia Forde (2). Well done girls, you represented METNS impeccably.

The boys had a great time at Maynooth Soccer pitches earlier in the week, however unfortunately, it was not to be their day. Well done to all pupils for their participation. We are proud of each and

every one of you.

Cultural Displays



Wales



Lithuania



Poland



Well Done Finn!

Well done to Finn Noud (5th Class) who represented Ireland in BMXing in Copenhagen during the summer. This is an incredible achievement. We are very proud of you Finn and how you represented yourself, your family, school and country!

Some Class News



A Lidl Adventure



Elaine's Class- Butterflies

Elaine's class took the bus from Maynooth to Celbridge on Friday 19th September. The children learned how to plan their trip on Google Maps, what time the bus would be at and how to use their Leap cards.

When we got to Celbridge, the children shopped for ingredients for this week's baking and were allowed to pick a small Friday treat for two euro or under. The children did fantastic shopping and were amazing at paying for their purchases. The bus journey home

was very enjoyable and the children looked like complete experts getting on and using their leap cards on the return journey. Well done to all the children.

We enjoyed undertaking some Science Experiments. Dancing Raisins and Moving Sticks!

The children had great fun discovering why raisins danced in sparkling water but not in tap water. They then created cool dancing raisin jars using food colouring. With tooth picks they explored the effect of water when it is soaked into wood, it moved and made a star!! We are all looking forward to more science experiments soon!

Junior Infants



Noreen's Class- Sycamore

Noreen's Junior Infants have settled into school life brilliantly! We've been busy learning new Irish words such as 'Dia duit' and 'Slán', and enjoying fun PE games like "Stuck in the Mud", 'Duck, Duck, Goose', and 'Traffic Lights'.

In class, we love playing with playdough, reciting our rhymes, and we even learned a funny one about Humpty Dumpty! We also went on a little tour of the school, where we met Lorraine, Hilary, and Martin, and got a peek inside the staffroom! We looked at some books in the school library too.

The children are practising how to hold their pencils correctly, making lots of new friends, and having fun playing together in the yard. On Friday, children in the class taught us how to say hello in Italian, Romanian, Spanish, Portuguese, Polish, and Hungarian. Thanks to Maya and Arthur's parents for sharing their Kenyan and Moldovan cultures with us too.

Senior Infants

Sinéad Staunton's Class- Juniper

The display board is titled "Handa's Surprise" in a central blue banner. It features 15 individual drawings of plates of food, each labeled with a child's name. The names are: Isaac, Anna, Sam, Rachel, David, Daniel, Sam, Erin, Olivia, Mike, John, Emma, Lucy, and Sam. Each drawing shows a plate with various items like fruits, vegetables, and other food items, representing the surprise in the story.

Tríona's class- Ivy

September has been a fun and creative month in Triona's 3rd Class as the children have been busy exploring the theme "Buildings and Construction."

In SESE they have been looking at different styles of homes around the world, researching iconic buildings, comparing houses over the years and learning all about renewable sources of energy in sustainable housing. In English they have been reading and writing about famous buildings and structures, and in Irish they have been focusing on “Sa Bhaile,” learning lots of new vocabulary based on the home. They have also had a lot of fun with Paul Klee inspired art, STEM construction challenges and a STEAM project, which involved designing and constructing amazing Eco Homes. This month the children were busy in our beautiful school garden too, weeding and harvesting the lovely vegetables...and the soup, which they made from the veg, was really tasty! 😊

5th Class

Neil's Class-Willow

We have had a great start to the new year in Willow Class. The children have been really busy working on a range of different projects and activities such as recount writing in literacy, tower building with marshmallows and spaghetti in STEM, country projects tied to the many wonderful and interesting cultures linked to our class, learning about the Jewish faith and their main symbols and studying the Normans and their spread throughout Ireland to name a few. We took a trip to Maynooth castle to support our work on Normans and medieval life in Ireland and learned all about the fascinating history of the Fitzgerald family and their history in Maynooth Castle.



Gardening- 3rd Class



Paul Klee inspired Art

Student Awards

Principal's Award

This month, the principal's award goes to a third class pupil- **Emma Wilhelm**. Emma has been extremely kind to a new pupil who has just joined her class. Learning English from scratch is not easy, and Emma has been so supportive and kind to her new classmate, helping him to learn the language and to make new friends. Not only this, but Emma works so hard on a daily basis, giving 100% effort to everything she does, and all with a beaming smile. Well done Emma. We are so proud of you!

6th Class

Ruth's Class-Oak

It's been a busy and exciting September for the 6th Class Oak students! They've been fantastic yard buddies, helping the new Junior Infants feel welcome and helping them to settle into school. In history, the class has been diving deep into local Maynooth history. They even got a special guided tour of Maynooth Castle on



Monday, September 22nd, where they travelled back in time to learn all about the powerful Fitzgerald family and what Maynooth looked like in the 1500s.

The class also has some new, tiny pets! They are thrilled to have hatched their own aqua dragons and will be busy feeding, growing, and observing them in the coming weeks. On top of all that, they're gearing up for a cycle safety course. The students are learning key rules of the road and will soon be ready to practice their new cycling skills on the street.

Community News

Rainbows Peer Support Group is coming to our school soon. Please monitor Aladdin Connect for upcoming information.

A Million Dreams is coming to M.E.T.N.S!

Exciting News!!!!

✂️ The school are delighted to announce that we are putting on our first ever musical show inspired by themes and music from the award winning film 'The Greatest Showman' from the 28th-30th of April 2026!

👧 **4th, 5th and 6th Class students** will have this amazing opportunity to be involved in this spectacular show both on and off stage. Auditions for main parts will be open to 5th and 6th Class children this year, with 4th class children performing in the chorus.

📅 Auditions will take place for 4th-6th Class

children after the October midterm break (More information to come in the coming weeks).

📅 **Rehearsals** for our show will begin in January 2026. Rehearsals for children will take place during school hours but some after school rehearsals may be needed the week before the show depending.

We would be very grateful to parents, guardians and the wider school community if they could **support upcoming fundraisers** so we can make this the greatest show for our superstar pupils. If you are in a position to sponsor the musical in any way please reach out to via the school office.



Parent Teacher Association (PTA) NEWS

PTA AGM

The PTA are having their Annual General Meeting on **October 1st @ 8:30pm (Hybrid Format-online and in the school hall)**. A new committee must be elected on the night and there are **several exciting role possibilities available**. Why not put yourself forward and make a real impact? **ALL** parents/guardians are welcome and encouraged to attend. This is an important opportunity for all new and current parents to learn about the work of the PTA and how it supports pupil life.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank **Kalis O' Sullivan** for her time and commitment to the role of Chairperson over the last year. She has done an amazing job. A new Chairperson is now required if the PTA is to continue forward into the future. Sincere thanks also goes our outgoing treasurer **Siobhán Deegan** and recording secretary **Lyndsey O' Neill** who have given such dedication to their roles over a number of years. Also to **Tim Dare** who has supported Siobhán in his role as co-treasurer. We really appreciate the work of the entire committee.

Class representatives have been sourced for almost all classes and the PTA and Board of Management are hopeful that a new injection of life can be breathed into the PTA. Volunteers however are essential and are still required for some classes. Please reach out to the PTA if you are willing to support in any way. Attending the AGM is the best way to do this.

Our Fundraiser School Lotto

Congratulations to all our weekly winners who have won prizes since June 2025 and to those who have won since our return to school on August 28th. Thank you for your continued support.

Our weekly winners (€20) were Marco Brocchi, Robert Potter, Niamh Keating, John O' Flaherty, Elaine Smith, Siobhan Deegan, Sinéad Sullivan (x 2), Alyson Bagnall, Ana De Prada Perez, Bojan Afric, Brian Mc Carthy, Michael Maher and Lenka Byrne.

Our Jackpot was won for the first time since its initiation on 21/8/2025 by Hilary Kellett- €3,000. Big congratulations to Hilary, a very worthy winner!



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. This year we are focusing on upgrading interactive whiteboards, supporting school sporting trips, supporting artist school performances (Music, Art, Drama) etc.

Last year 2024/2025- your contributions went towards the purchase of board games across the whole school, the building a pergola/decking area at the rear of the school in our outdoor

classroom, garden signage and new goalposts. Your support means so much to the children and is really appreciated.

The Jackpot now sits at €725.

Lorraine Murray

Principal