



Newsletter October 2025

Monthly Roundup

October- A Month Full of Discovery, Creativity, and Fun!

What a fantastic month October has been! Our school has been buzzing with activity, curiosity, and excitement from start to finish. We kicked off STEM Week with plenty of hands-on learning in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths. The children enjoyed getting creative with experiments, exploring computational thinking, and taking part in fun Maths Trails around the school. A big highlight was our 5th class visit to the National Concert Hall for the Magic Maths workshops – a brilliant mix of music and mathematics that everyone loved! Well done and sincere thanks to Thomas Treacy and the STEM team (Jacinta, Neil and Robert Potter) for organising such fun interactive activities for all class levels.

On the sports front, we're so proud of our girls' soccer team, who showed great skill and teamwork in reaching the final of the Kildare Primary School Soccer competition – a wonderful achievement!

As we head into our well-deserved mid-term break from October 27th to 31st, there's even more fun ahead for our school community I am sure. Wishing all our students, staff, and families a happy and relaxing mid-term break – you've earned it!

Upcoming Events and Important Dates

🕒 October 23rd- PTA 'Lights and Shadows Event' 6pm-8pm School Hall

📅📅 Mid-term Break- October 27th -31st. School reopens on November 3rd.

🚗 **RSA Road Safety Workshops** 3rd-7th November

🔧 November 11th **PTA Barnardos Online Safety** talk for Parents/Guardians

🔒 **School Closure** November 11th- **Child Protection Procedures Training** (All staff) and **Barnardos parent/guardian webinar** (online safety) @ 7:30pm

📅 Barnardos Online Safety Workshops for 5th and 6th Classes

🏠 **METNS Open Evening** 7-8pm November 20th

📅 **Parent/Guardian Teacher Meetings**- 24th-28th November (senior infants to 6th class only)



The poster features a central logo with the text 'MAYNOOTH EDUCATE TOGETHER' and a circular emblem containing silhouettes of people. Below the logo, the text 'Maynooth Educate Together NS Open Evening' is prominently displayed in bold black letters. The date 'November 20th' and time '7-8pm' are shown in blue. The background is decorated with colorful school supplies like pencils, rulers, and paper. At the bottom, there is a contact section with a phone icon and a website icon.

Maynooth Educate Together NS Open Evening
November 20th
7-8pm

 Educate Together

 Contact Us
01 5054250

 Visit Our Website
www.maynoothet.ie

Staff Retirement

Eileen Neary

A big congratulations to SNA Eileen Neary, who recently retired from Maynooth ETNS. Eileen worked as an SNA for many years in Maynooth Educate Together NS and St. Raphael's school prior

to this. Her final years in our school were spent supporting the pupils in Butterflies Autism Class.

We wish to thank Eileen for her dedicated commitment to her role as SNA and to the pupils she cared for. Eileen is greatly missed on staff and by our pupils too. Wishing Eileen a very happy retirement, filled with health and happiness.



Garda Aidan's Hallowe'en Safety Talk

Community Garda Aidan Mc Grann visited the school on Wednesday 22nd October to speak with 4th-6th classes. He gave a very informative presentation on **safety for Hallowe'en**, including bonfire hazards, fireworks, and road safety. We wish all who celebrate Hallowe'en a safe and enjoyable time over mid-term break.

Kildare Primary Schools Soccer

Our girls soccer team march on to the final on November 4th in Kerdiffstown Park Pitches, Naas, Co. Kildare. The girls take on Gaelscoil Chill Dara @ 11: 15am in Division 3. All games are 30 minutes per half with five minutes each way extra time and penalties if required.



Best wishes to the girls and their mentors- Clare, Neil, Eoin and Tom who have had a brilliant campaign to date. We are extremely proud of them and how they are representing the school.

Class News

Junior Infants

Gráinne's Class- Sunbeam

We've had a fun and busy month in Gráinne's Junior Infant Class!

In Maths, we explored patterns and even teamed up with our buddy class for an exciting shape hunt during Maths Week. One of the highlights of the month was taking part in a fantastic drumming workshop – we had so much fun! In our play centres, we've been working on activities based around the themes of *school* and *Hallowe'en*!



Noreen'e Class- Sycamore

Junior Infants loved taking part in the drumming workshop at the start of the month. We met our new buddies from Sinéad's 3rd class and they helped us with our history timelines and a maths trail. We can't wait to see them again. We're having great fun learning about Autumn and Halloween and dressing up during our play centres. We even went trick or treating to other classes at school!



Buddy Activity-Noreen's Class



Drumming in Sue's Class



Construction in Gráinne's Class

Senior Infants

Sinéad's Class- Juniper

Senior Infants Juniper were celebrating autumn with some leaf rubbings and describing their favourite leaf activities! We had so much fun learning about how nature changes in the season of autumn and exploring the colours of autumn!



1st Class

Sue's Class- Larch

1st Class Larch really enjoyed taking part in drumming (see above). We have been learning about Pablo Picasso and created some scary monsters inspired by Picasso's style of art cubism. The class has been practising singing their Halloween song 'All in the middle of the Night'. STEM week was lots of fun, we joined up with our buddy class (5th class) and they helped the children with a scoot activity. The class found and created shapes out on the basketball courts. They were super at participating in Maths eyes for homework and we had fun answering all the questions about the pictures.

Jacinta's Class- Holly

October has been a very busy and exciting month for First Class Holly. We learnt many interesting facts about lots of different types of animals - the giraffe, elephant and peregrine falcon. As part of our activities for STEM week, we worked with our **buddy classes** to design and launch rockets, experimenting to see how we could make them fly as high as possible. Cole's rocket came very close to reaching space – an impressive effort! It wasn't all work though we took time to enjoy a few maths jokes too

'Who is King of the pencil case? The ruler 😊

'Why is the maths book sad'? Because it has so many problems 😊

We also learned about the **origins of Halloween** and the **festival of Diwali**. As part of our Diwali activities, we enjoyed creating colourful Rangoli patterns by carefully colouring in traditional designs. We also made some autumn scarecrows.



2nd Class

Clare and Steph's Class-Hawthorn

2nd class (Hawthorn) have been very busy in October. We have been learning all about the Animal kingdom. We wrote a report about Tigers, we used the Ipads to research facts about Orca whales and we also explored the fascinating world of Reptiles.

Maths week was lots of fun, we enjoyed the maths scoot around the school and had great success in the Kahoot math quiz.

We have been very creative in Art, making beautiful Autumn trees and 3D cats for Halloween.



3rd Class

Sinéad's Class- Aspen and Tríona's Class- Ivy

Sinead and Tríona's 3rd classes have had a very busy first half-term. Some of the highlights were designing and building houses with lego and enjoying stem week .We really enjoyed learning about flexagons, watching Jack's volcano in action and engineering strong paper bridges. Our favourite activity this term has been making friends with our buddies in Noreen's class. Halloween brought songs, art and spooky stories too!



5th Class

Eoin's Class-Rowan

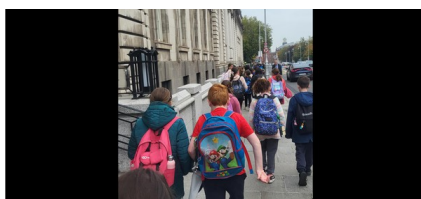
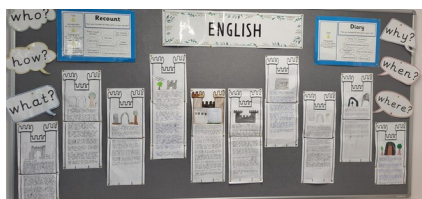
5th class (Rowan) went for a walk to Maynooth castle last month. We have used this as inspiration to write and create. We wrote some fantastic recounts adding time openers, descriptive language and ensured they were written in chronological order. We also constructed our own Castle Grounds. These were more complicated than just making simple castle out of cardboard boxes as the pupils had to construct three defensive features and write about these. They also wrote the story of who lived in their castles and designed a family crest for these inhabitants.

Last week was STEM week and we had lots of activities planned for us by Teacher Thomas and the STEM team. On Monday we went on a trip to Dublin to see a Magic Maths show in the National Concert Hall. This was a very interesting show and thought us about square numbers, triangular numbers, cube numbers, patterns and sequences and also the workings of a Rubix Cube. We also completed maths trails and quizzes. Maths week was really exciting and interesting; it showed us how math is practical and fun. We also made some balloon propelled cars and will race these next week.

Neil's Class- Willow

5th Class Willow have been very busy this October. As part of STEM Week, we took the train into Dublin to attend the "Magic Maths" workshop in the National Concert Hall which was loads of fun. There was even time to stop into Merrion Square playground for lunch and some playtime before getting the train back to Maynooth. Also, as part of STEM Week, we had to put on our engineering hats when tasked with designing and building balloon powered cars. It was a great challenge for the children and was amazing to see the clever designs and re-designs that they came up with.

We've been enjoying some festive activities for Halloween and **Diwali** this past week and are coming up with ideas for the Dress-Up and Crazy Hair fundraiser on Friday to raise money for the School Musical later in the year. We're all looking forward to the mid-term break to re-charge the batteries before the second half of our first term in 5th Class.



Creative Writing



School Trip



Construction



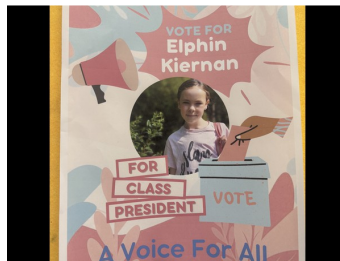
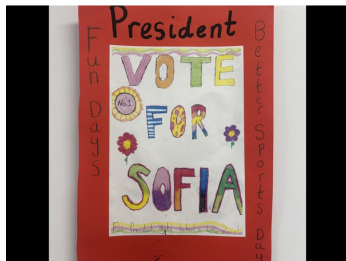
STEM Week

Science Fun

6th Class

Olivia's Class- Elm

Olivia's 6th class have been super busy this month with their presidential election! We have been learning all about the voting system and had our own candidates campaigning for class president. Each candidate selected their own party and got straight down to business writing their speeches, canvassing in other classes, making posters and stickers to hang up and give out all around the school. Then it was voting time, and the candidates had to give their speeches to both 5th classes. After much deliberation, voting ballots were collected and counted. It was a close race, but in the end one candidate was elected as 6th class Elm President. Well done to Anthea and The Figure of Five Party on their win!



Student Awards

Principal's Award

This month the principal's award goes to Sophie Bonner from Sue's 1st class. Sophie works hard at all times and produces excellent school work, in particular her handwriting which Sue describes as 'outstanding'. She is kind and thoughtful and is a great friend too. Well done Sophie! We are all very proud of you.

Community News

Credit Union

Sincere thanks to **Maynooth Credit Union** who gifted our school €1756.69. This has been utilised to buy Jago building blocks for our infant class and some ipads for our Autism Classes. We are so thankful for this generosity afforded to our pupils.

Joining the credit union is a fantastic way to encourage your children to save- a lifelong skill. If you are interested in finding out more about the Credit Union Child Savings Accounts- please follow the link [Childrens Savings | Life Credit Union](#)

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

A Million Dreams in METNS: Musical Update! 🎭🎵

Get ready for the spectacle! We are officially in the planning stages for this year's school musical, 'A Million Dreams in METNS'!

The excitement is building. Our fantastic 6th Class students have created and displayed vibrant posters around the school. To inspire our performers, 4th, 5th, and 6th Class students enjoyed a special screening of the movie, 'The Greatest Showman,' on Wednesday, October 21st, 2025.

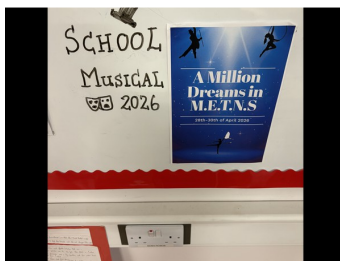
Audition Details:

- Children in 4th, 5th, and 6th Class who are interested in auditioning should have received their audition pack.
- Auditions will take place the week of November 10th-14th.

Support the Show: Crazy Hair Day This Friday!

A huge thank you to the parents who have already lent us wonderful circus-themed costumes and props.

Please support the musical's production costs by participating in Crazy Hair Day this Friday 24th October. Come to school dressed in your best Hallowe'en costume (optional) or with Crazy Hair, and bring a **€2 contribution**. Your support makes the magic happen!



PTA

Well done to our newly appointed PTA committee, for organising a really great event on October 23rd. We hope that all our families enjoyed the celebrations.

The PTA have also organised an **online safety webinar** for parents/guardians in conjunction with Barnardos. Please see Aladdin message sent with online booking link.

Our Fundraiser School Lotto

Congratulations to our weekly lotto winners to date for the month of October; **Áine Mullins, Alyson Murray and Maebh Fox**. Our winners received €20 each. Thank you for your continued support.

The **jackpot now sits at €1,025** and you can still sign up here : [Maynooth Educate Together National School - Home - Our Fundraiser](#)

Lorraine Murray

Principal

