



**March 2026**



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**Upcoming Events**

## April 2026

📅 **Back To School:** April 13th

🏊 **Water Swim Ireland Class Workshops** 3rd and 4th classes- April 16th

🎪 **6th class circus Workshops** with Fadi- April 21st

👤 **Inclusion and Diversity Week-** April 21st-23rd

👂 **Hearing Tests (Infants)-** April 22nd

🎵 **A Million Dreams School Musical** 🎵

**28th April** (matinee for school pupils only )

**29th April** (7pm)

**30th April** (7pm)

*Tickets will go on sale after Spring Break/Easter*

📅 **PTA meeting-** April 29th Online

## May 2026

✂ **Bank Holiday School Closure-** May 4th

🎵 **Peter and the Wolf Concert 5th Classes (NCH)-** May 12th

📅 **Standardised testing-** 11th-22nd May

📅 **Incoming Junior Infants Information Night-** May 20th @7pm

👥 **Incoming Junior Infants Meet and Greet the Staff and Classmates-** May 26th @ 1:30pm

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## School News

### World Book Day

World Book Day brought with it the usual craziness and creativity of dressing up as your favourite book character. The effort afforded by both pupils and staff was remarkable. However, the focus on the importance of book reading is what Book week is really all about.

DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) was a regular feature each day for all classes, reading with buddy classes and a visit to the Book Fair ensured that the promotion of the importance and fun associated with reading was to the fore. Thank you to the PTA who organised a fantastic book fair again this year with the Maynooth Book Shop. We are proud to support local. All commission made will go straight back into the purchase of books for our library. Books will be chosen from the pupil wish-list.



**Book Fair**



**Dr. Seuss Characters**



**Dress up Day**



## Seachtain na Gaeilge

Seachtain na Gaeilge brought a hive of activity to Maynooth ETNS. From the Ceilí mór, to the siopa gaeilge, Irish games, buddy activities and a visit by our 4th classes to Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich, the celebration of our Irish culture was alive and well.

Well done to all of the pupils who made a tremendous effort to speak the language at every opportunity. Big shout out to Robert Leonard, Ruth O' Connor, Claire O' Connell and Sinéad Sullivan who organised not only Seachtain na Gaeilge, but also Book Week. They did an incredible job. Well done also to our own Coiste (Pupil committee), who were very busy co-ordinating many of the activities that took place. The leadership skills on show were amazing!



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## National Concert Hall

### Music In The Classroom

Our 2nd classes (Tom and Stephanie/Clare) visited the National Concert Hall in Dublin City recently. What a treat for everyone who attended! The children travelled in by bus and got to experience a live orchestra up close and in person. Class Cherry and Hawthorn learned all about the String, Woodwind, Percussion and Brass families and participated brilliantly by singing along to a beautiful song that they had pre-learned. This is definitely a trip that we will repeat in the future. Thank you to Sinéad Staunton for organising it.



## Sports

Our girls and boys soccer teams attended a **soccer tournament recently in the Leixlip Amenities Centre.**

We had two girls teams representing the school, and they did so impeccably. The tournament consisted of 5 aside matches with other local schools. The girls were victorious in some of their matches. Despite the losses, their positive attitude shone through and the girls and their teachers thoroughly enjoyed the day. The Boy's team gave their all on what was a cold and wet day in Leixlip. The competition was tough but the boys never gave up and had a great day of fun and fitness regardless.



**Subsequently, our internal Boys and Girls soccer tournament** took place on Wednesday 25th March, with team Wales (Boys) and Brazil (Girls) taking victory in the final and winning the inaugural cups. Well done to all who participated and showed great sportsmanship throughout. You are all champions!

**5th and 6th classes** attended an **athletics meet for cross country** (Cumann na Mbunscol) in Rathcoffey on Thursday 26th March and again represented METNS with great pride. Some fantastic grit and determination was on show. Well done to all who competed in a tough long distance event.

Thank you sincerely to **Eoin, Tom, Mary, Neil and Clare** for all of their support in mentoring and organising these events with such enthusiasm and commitment.



## Daffodil Day 2026



Daffodil Day took place on March 20th in METNS. As always there was wonderful support shown by staff, parents/guardians and pupils alike. The total raised by the school for this very worthy cause was €2,058. Well done to our wonderful secretary Hilary and all her helpers who run this event each year.



March was a busy and exciting month in **Class Sunbeam (Gráinne)**!

We had great fun celebrating World Book Week. The children enjoyed lots of activities, including D.E.A.R time (Drop Everything And Read) and on World Book Day they came to school dressed as their favourite characters, which brought lots of fun and excitement to the classroom. We spent the week listening to many stories, and the children especially enjoyed reading alongside their 4th class buddies.

We were also delighted to begin GAA sessions with Declan. The children are enjoying developing their GAA skills and are having lots of fun each week.

As part of Seachtain na Gaeilge, the class participated in lots of activities, including a céilí, where everyone had the chance to dance and celebrate Irish culture together.



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## Butterflies

### Butterflies- Elaine's Class

In March the Butterflies class were embracing the themes of World Book Day and Spring. We planted marigolds, watched the frogspawn turn into tadpoles and froglets. We did lots of Spring Art too! We made Eaton Mess, Flapjacks an Waffles - all a big success. In STEM we made catapults and had fun with bubbles.



**Spring Creations**



**Planting Marigolds**



**Our Art Work**

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# Senior Infants

## Claire and Sinéad's Class- Chestnut

Senior Infants in Room 4, Chestnut, have been making the most of the nice spring weather. We have been outside in the garden with our buddy class chitting potatoes. We've been continuing our rugby coaching with John outdoors. We also got to bring in a toy from home to play with because we have been working hard together in our classroom! We brought our toys outside to our fabulaous outdoor classroom to play with in the beautiful March sunshine!



Outdoor Classroom Fun



Rugby coaching with John

## Sinéad Staunton's Class- Juniper

On World Book Day senior infants were so busy reading with their buddy class and doing a book hunt around the school. We took part in lovely story time in class and for Show and Tell brought in our favourite books from home to share with our friends and teacher.



Book Week Hunt



Show and Tell



# 1st Classes

## Sue's Class- Larch

March was a fun month filled with showing off our irish dancing skills at the céilí. We have been learning all about the Netherlands and enjoying running to the capital. As part of seachtain na gaeilge, the children fully embraced the irish language through fun activities. We had a lovely art lesson working with our buddy class to create lovely clay candle holders. To celebrate our theme of friendship we created a lovely friendship wall.

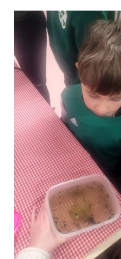
## 3rd Classes

### Sarah's Class (Ivy) and Sinéad's Class (Aspen)

Third Class have had a wonderfully busy and exciting month, even though it was a short one! We celebrated World Book Day with great enthusiasm and enjoyed paired reading sessions with our buddy class.

A highlight of the month was our bridge engineering project in collaboration with Intel, where we worked in teams to design and build our own structures. During Seachtain na Gaeilge, we took part in fun quizzes and activities, making great use of our Irish in an enjoyable way.

In Science, we explored the life cycle of a frog. We were lucky enough to care for real tadpoles in our classroom and observe their changes up close. We also worked with our buddy class planting some potatoes.



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## 4th Classes

### Robert Potter- Ash and Carolina's Class- Hazel

March has been a busy month for **4th Class Ash**. We have been learning about the Vikings and went on a trip to Dublinia to learn more about their way of life in Ireland and further afield. In maths we have been learning about area and perimeter and used trundle wheels and square metres made from old newspaper to measure the size of the basketball courts. Thirteen members of our class managed to squeeze themselves into a square metre.

**Carolina's class** have also been learning about Vikings as part of the SESE curriculum. It is a topic that was of great interest to the class. The pupils were fascinated by the warrior and trading nature of the Vikings and how they had a lasting impact on Europe and beyond.



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## Student Awards

### Principal's Awards

This month the **Principal Award** goes to **Frankie Flanagan** from **Senior Infants (Sinéad Staunton)**. Frankie sets an example of hard work, kindness and respect. Keep it up Frankie, we are very proud

of how you are maturing and showing such effort!

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

The countdown is on to our long awaited musical. Thank you most sincerely to all who donated, sponsored and supported us in any way. We could not do this without you all.

### ♪ A Million Dreams School Musical ♪

28th April (matinee for school pupils only )

29th April (7pm)

30th April (7pm)

*Tickets will go on sale after Spring Break/Easter*

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## Community News and PTA

### Our Fundraiser School Lotto and Bonus Prizes

Congratulations to our weekly lotto winners (€20 prize) to date, for the month of March 2026. Our weekly winners were Charlene Donnelly, Bojan Afric and Cristina Onofreiciuc.

The **jackpot now sits at €1625** and you can still sign up here : [Maynooth Educate Together National School - Home - Our Fundraiser](#). You can also check out the fabulous outdoor STEM and play items purchased from lotto proceeds for the outdoor classroom, on the above link. Sincere thanks to the PTA for funding these.

**Lorraine Murray**

Principal