

Nuachtlitis Mí Márta 2024



March Newsletter

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Congratulations:

Congratulations to all the pupils from Ms. A. Kelly's and Ms. Walsh's 2nd classes who recently made their first Confession on Tuesday, March 12th in Our Lady's Queen of Peace Church, Coosan. A sincere thanks to Fr. Pat, Ms. Kelly, Ms. Walsh, Ms. Brady, Ms. Whyte, all parents and families for their support with preparations.

Dates for your diary:

- **Saturday, May 11th:** First Holy Communion in Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Coosan @ 11am
- **Monday, May 20th-Friday, May 30th :** Standardised Tests-1st-6th classes.
- **Monday, June 24th:** 6th Class Graduation Mass in Coosan NS @ 7pm
- **School Closures Term 3:** 3rd & 6th of May, 31st of May & 3rd of June
- **End of Term:** Coosan NS will close for the Summer on Wednesday 26th of June @12 noon

Staffing:

Coosan NS would like to welcome Ms. Watson (Junior Infants a) to our teaching staff. We hope you will be very happy in Coosan NS. We would also like to thank Ms. Claffey for her support over the last few months.

School Buses and Car Park:

This school year three buses provide a service to the school on a daily basis. In order for pupils to access these buses safely, the bus set down area must be clear to allow the buses to safely pull in and park. We need to bear in mind that these are large vehicles. As a school community, we all need to be considerate and supportive of others particularly at the busy drop off and collection times every morning each week. As a general guide for us all, if you wish to walk your child into school, please do so and remember to use the parking facilities. If your child is able to safely disembark from your car independently or with a little help, then the drop off/collection area, located in front of the school building may be an option. Please note that parking and leaving your car unattended in the drop off/collection point or bus set down area is not permitted and leads to traffic congestion, prevents buses from accessing the bus set down area and most importantly dangerous situations for all children. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation with this very important matter.

Seachtain na Gaeilge:

Bhí spórt agus craic againn sa scoil i rith Seachtain na Gaeilge ó 11ú go 15ú Márta 2024. Bhí a lán gníomhaíochtaí ar siúl sna ranganna - ceol, amhráin, cluichí, gníomhíochtaí scríobhneoireachta agus éisteachta, rincí, Tráth na gCeist agus Lá Glas ar an lá deireanach. Bhí sé an-dheas ár dteanga dhúchais agus ár gcultúr a fheiceáil agus a chloisteáil timpeall na scoile.

Seachtain na Gaeilge provided the children with an opportunity to experience our language and our culture in a fun way.

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Sport:

Gaelic Football:

The girls football team finished their Cumann Na mBunscol campaign with a victory against Rochfortbridge-Well done to all involved-special thanks to Mr. Keogh, Ms. Brophy and Ms. H. Kelly.

The boys football team have one group game left to play in their Cumann na mBunscol group. This will be played after the Easter holidays, when the pitches improve-Well done to all involved-special thanks to Mr. Ronaldson & Mr. Kenny.

The Mini 7s competition for both boys and girls teams will also take place after Easter.

Hurling: Our boys hurling team will commence their Cumann Na mBunscol competition after the Easter holidays. We will compete with Scoil na gCeithre Máistrí and Scoil Chroí Naofa, Rochfortbridge for a place in the division 3 semifinals-special thanks to Mr. Kenny & Mr Broderick.

Soccer:

Two girls soccer teams took part in the FAI Spar 5s in Willow Park. Both teams put in great performances but were unlucky not to progress to the county finals-Go raibh maith agat to Mr. Keogh & Ms. Brophy and Ms. H. Kelly.

The boys also had two teams involved in the FAI Spar 5s in Willow Park. The boys enjoyed their day put in a super effort, but unfortunately did not progress further. Go raibh maith agat to Mr. Ronaldson & Derek.

Coaching:

Gaelic football coaching continues after the Easter Holidays for Senior Infants, Fourth classes and our Special class.

Hurling coaching continues after the Easter Holidays for Senior Infants, Fourth classes and our Special class.

Basketball: Junior and Senior Infants, 1st Classes and 5th classes and Ms. McCormack's class availed of Basketball coaching during March.

Swimming: 3rd classes availed of swimming lessons during March.

Gymnastics: 1st, 2nd and 5th classes availed of gymnastics coaching during March.

Fundamentals: Junior, Senior Infants, Ms. F. Kelly & Ms. E. Whyte classes availed of Fundamentals coaching in TUS during March.

Féile Ceoil Na Scoileanna 2024:

Congratulations to our 4th and 5th class choir who performed in the Dean Crowe Theatre last week. Well done to all pupils involved. A special thanks to Ms. Harney, Ms. Roche, Mr. Keogh, Ms. O'Carroll, Ms. Downey, Ms. Elliot and everyone involved with preparations. We are also very grateful to parents/grandparents who came along to support us. Go raibh míle maith agaibh!



The children in 4th and 5th classes who performed at Féile Ceoil Na Scoileanna last week

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Book Week 2024:

We had a very eventful Book Week 2024 with lots of class and school activities. Junior and Senior Infants enjoyed the experience of parents coming into their classes to read their favourite story. First and Second classes had storytime from members of Moate Library Team

Third and Fourth Classes also enjoyed a quiz from our Moate Library visitors.

Fourth and Fifth classes were delighted to welcome James Hannon to speak about his experience of writing children's books. please see below

Sixth classes enjoyed a workshop with Órla McGovern, a novelist and dramatist, from Galway

All classes browsed, enjoyed and bought books at our Scholastic Book Fair and the week ended with "Dress up as your Favourite Character Day". It was a busy, yet most enjoyable week!

Huge thanks to Ms. Harney, Pauline and everyone involved with organising Book Week 2024!



Together we have raised...**€3,804**.....
for our school to spend on **FREE BOOKS**



We are very grateful to all parents, guardians and staff for your support in making our Book Fair a successful one! As a result of your generosity, we now have raised the above amount to spend on books for our libraries. Míle buíochas!

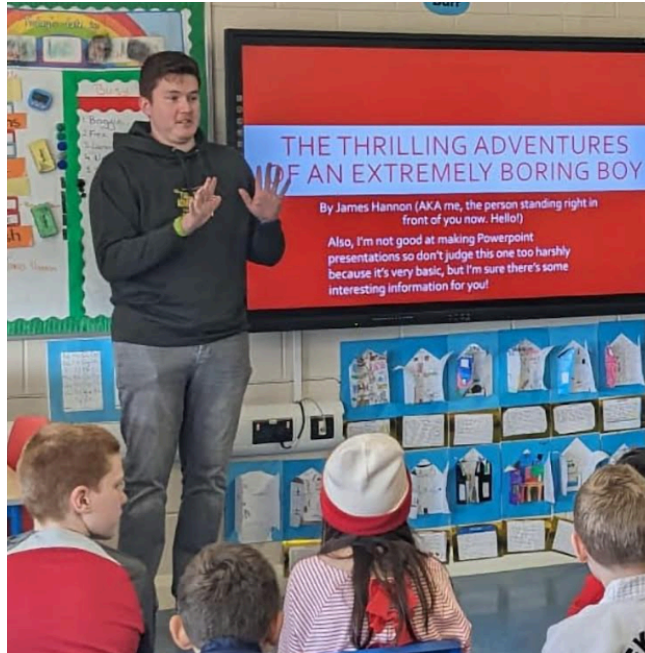


The children and staff enjoyed our Dress Up as Your Favourite Character Day!

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Writer and Past Pupil James Hannon visits Our School for World Book Day:

Coosan National School warmly welcomed back a former student and now a published author, James Hannon, for a special visit in honour of World Book Day last year. Last year, James penned his debut children's novel, *The Thrilling Adventures of an Extremely Boring Boy*, a captivating sci-fi/fantasy adventure tailored for readers aged between eight and twelve. Over 700 copies of the book have been sold to date, capturing young imaginations far and wide. James, a primary school teacher himself at Summerhill National School in Athlone, returned to Coosan NS on March 7, where he engaged with eager students from the 4th and 5th classes. During the visit he delved into discussions about his book and shared valuable insights into the sci-fi and fantasy genres. The children were lively participants, posing insightful questions and displaying a keen enthusiasm for the art of storytelling. Reflecting on his return to Coosan National School, the 31-year-old author expressed his gratitude, saying, "It's amazing to be back at Coosan National School. The support I received here as a student was instrumental in fuelling my passion for writing, and I hope that I can be an example for future Coosan authors to pursue their writing dreams." In an exciting announcement, James revealed that the highly-anticipated second book in his Ballinacrack Chronicles series, entitled *An Incredibly Daring Heist Brought to You by A Ten-Year-Old Criminal Mastermind*, is slated for release in June, much to the delight of readers of the first book. James's visit was a highlight of our World Book Day celebrations, and we are immensely proud of his achievements. James's visit not only provided students with valuable insights into the world of writing but also served as a reminder of the boundless possibilities that come with dedication and perseverance. For those eager to embark on the thrilling adventures penned by James Hannon, *The Thrilling Adventures of an Extremely Boring Boy* is available for purchase at ballinacrack.com, offering readers the chance to dive into an enchanting world of imagination and discovery.



James Hannon speaks about his book to Fourth Classes.

Nuachtlitris Mí Márta 2024



"My Favourite Story Project"

Sam Maguire Visits Coosan National School!

Sam Maguire visited Coosan this week! Everyone in the school had the chance to see the famous All Ireland winning trophy! A sincere thanks from everyone in Coosan to parent and Westmeath GAA manager Darren Magee for arranging this special visit-míle buíochas Darren!



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Smart Devices:

Mobile phones and any other smart devices in general are not allowed in Coosan NS, in the interest of all pupils and staff's safety and wellbeing. If any parent needs to contact their child, they can contact the school office on 0906478356. In the event of an emergency, the school will contact parents/guardians to alert straight away. Please inform the school office if there has been any changes to your contact number, email or address.

School Self-Evaluation:

Our school's new focus for SSE beginning this year is Wellbeing. The school will involve everyone in the school community pupils, parents/guardians and school staff over the course of this new cycle and provide more information in due course.

School Fees:

- **Swimming:** Pupils from Coosan NS will attend swimming lessons similar to last year. The charge per pupil will be €50.
- **School tours:** Fees for school tours this year will be placed on Aladdin in March this year.
- **Art & Craft:** We would like to thank all who have paid the fee of €50 per pupil and remind any family who has not done so to please do so at your earliest convenience.
- **Basketball:** We would like to thank all who have paid the fee of €20 per pupil and remind any family who has not done so to please do so at your earliest convenience.
- **Voluntary Contribution:** In Coosan NS, we are very privileged to have such a wonderful new school building and fantastic grounds. The challenge the school faces both now and into the future will be in maintaining these wonderful facilities as well as running the school in the normal manner each school year. For this reason, the school is asking for a voluntary contribution from each child of €50 capped at €100 per family. This is not compulsory and any contribution will be very much appreciated-thank you!

Payment for all of the above can be made via on the Aladdin Connect App or to the school office.

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Uniform:

Please note the following regarding your child's uniform and appearance at school:

- Pupils must come to school in full uniform, clean and tidy.
- No jewellery is allowed except a watch, single pair of small earrings (i.e. ear studs or sleepers, one in each earlobe).
- Facial piercings are not permitted.
- No make-up or fake tan may be worn.
- Pupils with long hair are expected to wear it tied up, in a neat and tidy fashion (not obstructing vision), with no unnatural colours allowed.
- Shorts of an appropriate length and a single colour in keeping with the school uniform are permitted especially when the weather is nice.

Supervision of Pupils:

Please note that the children are supervised from 9.20am-3pm each school day. The school grounds are open to the pupils but we cannot accept responsibility for children arriving before the official opening of the school or remaining on the grounds after school. On wet mornings pupils are admitted and supervised from 9.10am.

Health & Safety:

In the interests of all pupils health and safety we kindly ask everyone to remember:

If pupils are unwell, please do not send them to school, consult your GP, follow public health advice and inform the school so that we can support your child in the case of a long period of absence and when they return to school.

We have children with a variety of allergies attending our school. The school kindly asks that treats are not sent in for the whole class as a birthday celebration and wish to remind everyone that foods with trace elements of nuts are not allowed due to severe nut allergies in our school.

Chewing gum is not permitted in Coosan N.S.. The school would appreciate the support of parents/guardians in ensuring that it does not come into school-Go raibh maith agaibh.

Time-Keeping:

School starts in Coosan N.S. at 9.20 am and it is very important for every child's educational benefit that they are present at this time. Thank you for your support.

Invitations & Cards:

Reminder to all parent(s)/guardian(s) that the practice of sharing invitations/cards by pupils amongst their classmates in Coosan National School is not permitted. This is in the best interests of all pupils in the school and to prevent unnecessary distress and upset. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Parents Association Update:

The Parent Association would like to thank all those who volunteered and contributed to "Cash for Clobber". The event was a great success and all money raised will go to the South Westmeath Hospice. We would like to congratulate the 6th class students who made their Confirmation and the 2nd class students who made their First Confession. Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 9th April at 8.30pm and we encourage parents to come along to a meeting for a cup of tea to see what's involved. We always love to see new faces. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more updates.

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Thank you:

The School raised €700 on Friday 22nd of March from our non uniform day in aid of the Irish Cancer Society. Thank you all so much for your generosity!

Easter Holidays:

Coosan National School will close for our Easter break, at 12 noon on Friday, 22nd of March. This will be a non-uniform day in aid of 'The Irish Cancer Society' as we celebrate Daffodil day.

Coosan National School will reopen on Monday, April 8th at 9.20am sharp.

Le gach dea-ghuí

Ms. S. Cunningham

Principal

Coosan N.S.

Beanachtaí na Cásca oraibh go léis!

