



Nuachtlitis Mí Márta 2026



March Newsletter

1. New principal

The school community of Coosan NS extends the warmest of welcomes to Mrs Orla Fogarty as she assumes the position of principal of our school. We wish Mrs Fogarty the very best in her new role with us. May you have many happy years in Coosan NS Mrs Fogarty. We look forward to working with you and the leadership that you will bring to our school in the days, months and years ahead.

2. Diocesan Visit

We were delighted to welcome the primary school advisors to our school earlier in the month. Mr Colm Harte and Ms Margaret Kelly came to support the excellent work of our school staff in supporting catholic education.

3. First confession

Our Second Classes had their first confessions this month as part of their preparation for their Holy Communion in May. Thank you to Ms Walsh, Mr Creavin, Ms Downey, Ms Kelly, Ms Lee and Fr. Pat who prepared the children so well. And to the children in both classes who were so good on the night.

4. Ceremony of Light

Both of our 6th classes had a busy month in preparation for their Confirmation. The Ceremony of Light took place earlier in the month in Coosan Church. Present on the night also were St Marys and Cornamaddy National Schools. Parents once again light their child's Baptismal Candle from the Paschal candle and hand it to their child symbolising their commitment to help and support their child live out the call of their confirmation.

5. Confirmation

Members of our 6th Class, their families and our school community celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation this month. The sun shone brightly on Coosan Church as Bishop Paul Connell, Fr Pat, Fr Charlie, Fr Frank, Fr Padraig and Deacon Tony led this lovely occasion. The children were brilliant on the day and completed their readings and various duties superbly. Our school choir ably and brilliantly led by Ms Lantry sang and performed beautifully. As was the music accompaniment from Niall and Mr Kelly. To echo the words of Bishop Paul, special mention and thanks must go to Ms Harte and Ms O' Flynn for preparing the children so well for the sacrament. It was a very special and lovely occasion for both the children and their families.





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6. Chess Tournament

We were delighted to host a highly successful chess tournament at the beginning of March. A total of 144 students participated, representing seven different primary schools, including 32 pupils from our own third classes.

The emphasis of the event was on enjoyment and learning, giving pupils the opportunity to develop their chess skills in a supportive, non-competitive environment. We are incredibly proud of our third class pupils, who performed brilliantly on the day and demonstrated outstanding teamwork and sportsmanship throughout.



7. World Down Syndrome Day

Saturday, March 21 was World Down Syndrome Day. Members of our staff and children took the opportunity to wear their most colourful socks on Friday, the day before to raise awareness. There was lots of colour and mix and matching on the day.



8. Fire Brigade Visit

Athlone Fire Brigade very kindly visited our 3rd and 4th classes to raise awareness and to provide information to these classes on fire safety. Thank you to Wesley Hudson, Trevor Lee and Kieran Scullion for their time.





9. School Works

Coosan NS are in the process of upgrading and altering the green space behind the basketball court close to the school exit. Phase 1 of the works has just been completed. Our Pizza Garden has been moved to the space close to the set down area in the carpark. A footpath has also been added around the court. This will enable us to avail of more space for the children at the opposite side of the court. Planting of our Pizza Garden will commence immediately after Easter holidays.

We would like to invite you to express your interest in volunteering to support Coosan N.S pupils in planting vegetables and flowers in our school garden. These sessions will take place during school hours between April 20th - May 1st. In addition, we are also seeking volunteers who would be willing to help care for the garden outside of school hours, particularly during weekends and holiday periods, to ensure the garden continues to thrive. If you would be interested please click on the form below.

<https://forms.gle/MdxQT6tVvMv1XZw96>



10. Camogie

Camogie will commence after Easter Break with Mr. Creavin and Mr. Kelly.

11. Hurling

Hurling will continue after Easter with Mr. Kenny. We hope to have our first Cumann na Mbunscol match in the first week back after break.

12. Tennis

Tennis with Clem Higginbotham started on Friday 20th March with 2nd class and will continue for 5 weeks.. Thank you so much to Tennis Ireland and Clem for sharing his expertise and knowledge with us.

13. Girls Soccer

Congratulations to both girls' soccer teams who recently competed in the Regional FAI 5's tournament in Willow Park. Both teams delivered outstanding performances and represented themselves brilliantly.



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A special mention to the team that topped their group and earned a place in the next round, which took place in Mullingar on Tuesday the 24th of March. The girls won the County final and will progress to the Mid- Leinster finals taking place in Navan on April 29th.

Well done to all the players involved!



14. Boys soccer

Well done to both boys' soccer teams who competed in the regional FAI Spar 5's in Willow Park in early March. One team progressed to represent the school in the County Finals in Mullingar.

Congratulations to the boys soccer team who won the County Finals in the Spar 5's in Mullingar on Tuesday March 24th. It was a fantastic achievement! The boys now go on to represent the county in the Mid Leinster Finals in Navan on April 29th. Well done to all!



15. Teleflex - 3rd and 4th class

On Thursday, March 19th, 3rd and 4th class had a visit from members of Teleflex. Teleflex Ireland is a major hub for the global medical technology company who have a headquarter here in Athlone. Four fantastic team members delivered educational programs based on the themes of 'Our city' and 'Its on planet'. It was an extremely engaging, fun and interactive visit and hopefully we can work together more in the future.





16. Laps for Inclusion

Our laps for inclusion event took place on March 26th and was a huge success. The aim was to raise as much money for the Special Olympics to support the athletes competing. A huge thank you to all who donated. We are delighted to say we raised over **€3,700** and donations are still coming in.

The children made their own torches and all children, from junior infants to 6th, participated in our very own 'torch run' around our school carpark to symbolise the iconic torch relay. We hope to be selected as one of the schools to be chosen to receive a visit from the Olympic torch on its journey in June. Even if we are not chosen, we still had such an enjoyable day and a huge amount of fun was had by all.



19. Easter Holidays

Coosan National School will close for our Easter break, at 12 noon on Friday, 26th 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 13th at 9.20am sharp. We proudly raised **€981** for the Irish Cancer Society! Thank you all for generous donations.



Dates for your diary:

- 16th May: 1st Holy Communion Ceremony for 2nd class pupils will take place on Saturday, 16th of May, 2026 in Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Coosan at 11am.
- Standardised testing will take place throughout the school 4th-15th of May 2026 inclusive
- Tuesday 26th May - School closed due to staff training (Primary curriculum)

