

Nuachtlitis Mí Feabhra 2026



February Newsletter

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Dates for your diary:

- *18th February:* Mr. Cunningham's final day as Principal of Coosan National School. We wish him well in Scoil Bhríde in Galway.
- *5th March:* We are delighted to announce that we will be hosting our very first Chess Tournament. We will be hosting a number of other schools from the Westmeath and Roscommon area. We will be entering 8 chess teams from our two third classes and are really looking forward to improving our chess skills on the day in some friendly competition.
- *3rd March:* 1st Confessions; will be on Tuesday 3rd March at 5.30pm in Coosan Church.
- *16th and 17th March:* School will be closed for St. Patrick's weekend on Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th of March; school will re-open on Wednesday 18th March at 9.20am.
- *10th March:* Ceremony of Light; for our pupils participating in the Sacrament of Confirmation, Tuesday 10th of March @8pm in Coosan church.
- *21st March:* Confirmation Ceremony for 6th class pupils in Coosan National School will take place on Saturday, 21st of March, 2026, in Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Coosan at 11am.
- *27th March:* Easter Holidays: School will close a 12 noon on Friday 27th March and re-open on Monday 13th April at 9.20am.
- *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.

Enrolment: The closing date for this year's enrolment application has now elapsed. Any enrolments that come into the school from now on will be placed on a waiting list.

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Book Week 2026:

- We had a wonderful Book Week this week with lots of lovely activities and events to celebrate reading, books, and imagination. An exciting programme of events for all classes included the following:
- Our annual Book Fair which will conclude on **Monday 2nd March** as per timetable. Children may pay with cash and can also use a World Book Day token worth €1.50 towards the cost of a book
- Workshops with Writer in Residence Orla McGovern for 6th class
- A puppet show for all classes
- Author visit from James Hannon for 4th and 5th classes
- Story time with parent volunteers for Infant classes
- Dress up Day
- A selection of photos of all Book Week activities will be placed on the school website.



Music in Coosan NS: Pupils in 5th classes are being afforded the opportunity to learn a traditional Irish instrument (fiddle, banjo and guitar) again this term. Thank you to Mr. Kelly and the music tutors from Music Generation for supporting this initiative.

Ukeleles: Pupils in 4th classes in Ms. Blaneys' and Ms. Lantry's classes are currently enjoying this experience until Easter. Thank you to all teachers involved and also the tutors from Music Generation Westmeath for supporting this initiative.

Fruity February: Fruity February took place this month. The aim was to encourage children to increase their intake of fruit and vegetables and build on the success of the Food Dudes programme, which concluded before Christmas. We conducted a weekly survey (Tuesdays and Thursdays), recording how many pieces of fruit and vegetables each class brought to school. Each week we had a winning class from the junior end and a winning class from the senior end with weekly prizes in recognition of their efforts.

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Nutrition talks, and health promoting activities along with some planting and growing of our own fruits and vegetables will also be happening in the near future. We hope that the ideas of eating fruit and vegetables, fueling our bodies correctly and healthy eating in general will outlast this initiative and will continue long after February,

Lunchbag: Student Council members have been surveying their classes regarding the Lunchbag meals. They have also met with Colm to taste some new samples and these new options will be available from next Monday.

Teacher In service: Teachers participated in in-service for Day 1 of The New Primary Curriculum Framework. Day 2 in-service will take place May 26.

Parents Association Cake Sale: Thank you to our Parents' Association for our annual Cake Sale and Coffee morning. Thank you to our children and school community for all the lovely baking that was brought into school on the day. All proceeds from the cake sale and coffee morning goes to the Parent's Association for new equipment for the children every year.

If you have any questions about the PA please contact Olivia on 0862679441. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 3rd of March at 8.30pm in the school. All welcome always!

Sports:

- ***Swimming:*** 4th classes will participate in swimming every Tuesday for 7 weeks starting the last week of February.
- ***Fundamentals:*** Junior Infants have been travelling to TUS every Wednesday for the last 3 weeks to learn and develop their Fundamental Movement Skills.
- ***Basketball:*** Basketball continues on Tuesdays with Paddy Mullaly
- ***Hurling:*** The school's Boy's Hurling team will begin competitive action soon when they take part in the Cumann na mBunscol competition. Training takes place every Friday at lunchtime.
- ***Gaelic Football:*** With our new GDO Philomena takes place every Thursday.
- ***Soccer:*** FAI 5's competitions taking place in early March.
Boys: Two teams from the school will be involved in the Athlone Regional FAI 5s competition in March in Willow Park. Best of luck to all!
Girls: Two teams from the school will be involved in the Athlone Regional FAI 5s competition on Friday the 6th of March in Willow Park. Best of luck to all!
- ***RINKA:*** 1st and 2nd classes concluded 6 weeks of RINKA. RINKA will be back in school for our Fun Days in May.

Friends for Life: Takes place with our 5th classes. An Interactive curriculum that helps children develop coping skills, emotional regulation, and problem solving through engaging and age appropriate activities.

Health & Safety: In the interest of all pupils' health and safety, we kindly ask everyone to remember that if pupils are unwell, please do not send them to school. Consult your GP, follow

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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.

New Jerseys: The Lunchbag have kindly agreed to sponsor our school with two new sets of jerseys for our school teams.



Our New Principal: Finally we would like to welcome our new principal Mrs Orla Fogarty to Coosan NS on March 10. We wish Mrs Fogarty many years of happiness in Coosan and we are really looking forward to meeting her soon.

Le gach dea-ghuí
Mr. S Kenny
Acting Principal