



ST. PATRICK'S NATIONAL SCHOOL  
Ballinamuck  
Co. Longford

☎ 043 3324063

🌐 [www.ballinamuckns.ie](http://www.ballinamuckns.ie) ✉ [ballinamucknschool@gmail.com](mailto:ballinamucknschool@gmail.com)

22nd May 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Congratulations to the children in 6th class who made their Confirmation on Wednesday 24th April. Bishop Connell presided over the Confirmation ceremony and it was lovely to see the two school communities in the parish come together to celebrate Confirmation for the first time in many years. Thank you to Mr. Beirne for his time and effort in preparing the children so well.

Last Saturday, ten of our children from 2nd class made their First Holy Communion. Thanks to Fr. Ber for a lovely ceremony. Thank you to Ms. Mulligan for preparing the children for this important sacrament and especially for all your time and dedication in coordinating and conducting our choir this year. Thanks also to all children involved in our choir on both occasions - your singing stood out on both days. Sincere words of appreciation to our staff members for their help with the organising of the day, the Parents Association for flowers in the Church and the parents of last year's Communion class who provided delicious refreshments after the ceremony.

Children in 5th/6th class and their teachers had a hugely enjoyable visit to Cavan Museum on Friday 3rd May. Thank you to Emma Clancy, Jonas and the staff in the museum for a very enjoyable day. The children enjoyed handling artefacts, modelling World War 1 clothing! , walking through a recreation of an actual trench whilst also stepping back to the time of the Uprising in 1916. The tour ended with the children exploring the museum to find answers to clues to complete a museum booklet.

On Friday 10th May, a special gathering took place on the grounds of our school as part of the 50th Anniversary Celebrations of the opening of Moyne Community School. Our school was originally built as a vocational school. From 1940 to 1974 secondary school children attended our school. Former teachers, family members and representatives of deceased staff of the former Céard Scoil were in attendance. There was a lovely plaque presented to our school which was unveiled by Michael Denning, a former woodwork teacher who would have taught in the current 5th/6th classroom.

Well done to our Cumann na Mbunscoil Mixed team who lost out to Aughnagarron last Wednesday in Pearse Park. The game ebbed and flowed, particularly for the first half and beginning of the second half. Unfortunately, it was not to be on the day but as always our children did themselves and their school so proud. Well done boys and girls.

Congratulations to Longford Minors on defeating Dublin to claim their first Leinster title in 14 years. A phenomenal achievement. Well done to all the players, Enda McGahern, David Mimmagh and all involved.

It was great to hear the children talk about their involvements in the Community Games Athletics over the last few weeks. Well done to all the children who took part in Monaduff. Special plaudits go to Paddy, Paudie, Séan, Mollie, Ben and Chloe for picking up medals and qualifying for the next stage in Ballymahon. Best of luck children.

There is great excitement building in the parish as Gaels Utd's under 10 team compete in the All Ireland Indoor Soccer finals taking place in Kenagh Community Centre, Longford this Saturday. Best wishes to Leinster Champions Alfie, Chad, James and Peter in their pursuit for gold.

Joe Flaherty will visit our school on Friday week to speak to our children and answer questions as part of our Blue Star Programme. Thanks to Mrs.McGuinness for coordinating.

Our annual bake sale on Tuesday 4th of June will kick off our new Well-Being week this year. Further details will be posted on Aladdin. We are scheduling a WOW (walk on Wednesday for the 5th June). Our well-being students committee will meet in the coming days to finalise events for the week.

Active Schools Week will take place on the week beginning 10th June. Amongst the activities organised include Ryan Francis Fitness, Fun Fitness Ireland Sports Day, RSA road safety, Table Tennis Competition, FAI soccer Blitz. Further events to be finalised.

The Stay Safe and RSE Programme is being delivered at all class levels. Information has/will be sent home accordingly. You can familiarise yourself with the content of the lessons at <https://www.staysafe.ie/parents.htm>

Standardised testing began this week for literacy and will continue next week as children from Senior Infants to Sixth Class sit the Drumcondra Numeracy Paper. Please see the short video and link for information. [https://ncca.ie/media/1429/understanding-standardscores\\_eng.pdf](https://ncca.ie/media/1429/understanding-standardscores_eng.pdf)  
[https://ncca.ie/media/5521/english\\_report-1080p.mp4](https://ncca.ie/media/5521/english_report-1080p.mp4)

School tours this year are as follows. Third class to 6th class will be going to Rooskey Adventure Centre on Friday 14th June. The children will get a chance to experiment with canoeing , abseiling etc. The Cost of the tour is €45. Children from Infants to Second class will be going to Mollie Moos Pet Farm on Monday 17th June. The cost of the junior tour is €25. Further information will be posted on our Aladdin Communication App.

St.Patrick's N.S is now taking enrolments for September 2024. You can download the application form and Admission Policy on <https://ballinamuckns.ie> If you are aware of anyone interested in enrolling their child/children in our school, please let them know.

Is mise le meas,



School Principal

**Dates for your Diary:**

28th May	Transition Day (6th class pupils go to Moyne)
29th May	Hurling Blitz - children from 4th, 5th and 6th (Newtownforbes)
4th - 6th June	Well-Being Week ( School Closed 3rd and 7th June)
10th-14th June	Active Schools Week
14th June	3rd-6th Class Tour
17th June	Infants - 2nd Class Tour
20th June	Half Day (Summer Holidays)