

Nuachtlitis Mí Eanáir 2025



January Newsletter

Dates for your diary:

- School will be closed for St. Patrick's weekend on Friday 14th of March and Monday, 17th of March, 2025
- Grandparents Mass will take place on Thursday 10th of April, 2025 in Our Lady Queen of Peace Church. Tea/Coffee will be served after the Mass in our GP Room. Thank you to the Parents Association for their support.
- Parents Association Cake Sale will take place on Tuesday, 18th of February, 2025
- Seachtain na Gaeilge will take place during 10th-13th of March, 2025. There will be a La Glas/ Irish Historical Characters Day on Thursday March 13th. Dress up in green for St. Patrick's Day or as your favourite Irish Historical Character for Seachtain na Gaeilge. More details to follow.
- Confirmation Ceremony for 6th class pupils in Coosan National School will take place on Saturday, 10th of May, 2025, in Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Coosan at 11am
- 1st Holy Communion Ceremony for 2nd class pupils will take place on Saturday, 24th of May, 2025 in Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Coosan at 11.00am.
- World Book Day this year falls on March 6th, 2025. We will celebrate this day by having a "Pyjama/Non-Uniform" Day. Children may dress up in their pyjamas and bring in their favourite book to read in school.

Enrolment (2025-2026):

Any parent/guardian wishing to enrol a child in our school for the coming school year is advised to download and complete the 'Application for Enrolment' form from our school website. This form, along with our Schools Admission Policy and Admissions Notice will be on our website.

Please download and complete the form in full and return it to Pauline, our secretary in our school office (or by email), to our school's email address coosanns@gmail.com.

The final day for receipt of applications is Thursday, February 28th 2025, at 3.00pm.

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This also applies to incoming infants who already have siblings in the school.

Music in Coosan National School:

Fiddle, Banjo and Guitar in 5th Classes:

Pupils in 5th classes are being afforded the opportunity to learn a traditional Irish instrument (fiddle, banjo and guitar) this term. We hope all the pupils involved, thoroughly enjoy this experience and we thank Ms. Crowley and Mr. Kelly for supporting this initiative.

Ukeleles in 4th Classes:

Pupils in 4th classes will learn to play the ukulele this term. The pupils in Mr. Keogh's class are currently enjoying this experience until Easter and Ms. O' Carroll's class will have their turn after Easter. We hope all the pupils thoroughly enjoy this experience and we thank Mr. Keogh, Ms. O' Carroll and also the tutors from Music Generation Westmeath for supporting this initiative.

Banna Ceoil:

Our school's Banna Ceoil practise each week on Tuesday at lunchtimes. Pupils involved learn lots of new music in a friendly, enjoyable atmosphere! New members are always welcomed! A sincere thank you to Ms. Harney and Ms. Crowley for facilitating.

Catholic Schools Week 2025:

Catholic Schools Week 2025 took place last week in our school from the 20th to the 24th of January inclusive. The theme for this year was "Alive in Christ!".

RSA Road Safety Talks:

Two facilitators from RSA recently visited Coosan National School on 20th, 21st and 22nd of January to facilitate the RSA Primary School Education programme and to raise awareness of road safety to everyone in the Coosan National School Community, especially our pupils.

Cake Sale:

Our 'Annual Cake Sale' will take place in the GP Room this year. It will take place on Tuesday, 18th February. The proceeds will go to the Parents' Association. The PA are asking families to bring in baked and bought treats to sell at the sale (they can be brought to the GP room before school starts). More information to follow. Thanking you in advance for your support!

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Smart Devices:

Mobile phones and any other smart devices in general are not allowed in Coosan NS. This is in the interest of safety and wellbeing of the children and staff in our school. If any parent/guardian needs to contact his/her 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 home address.

School Self-Evaluation:

Our school's current focus for SSE this year is Wellbeing. The school surveyed everyone last year and organised lots of activities to promote wellbeing. We will be arranging similar activities again this year. The school will 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 advance this year.
- Art & Craft: We would like to thank all who have paid the fee of €55 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 on the Aladdin Connect App or to the school office-thank you for your support

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

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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 in the first instance-Go raibh míle maith agaibh.

Sport in Coosan National School:

Hurling:

Hurling training takes place on Tuesdays at lunchtime. We await our grouping and fixtures for this year's Cumann Na mBunscol competition. A sincere thanks to Mr. Kenny, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Creavin, Mr. Kelly and Mr. Broderick for supporting with training.

Boys Gaelic Football:

Training sessions take place on Wednesdays at lunchtime for the pupils in our senior classes. A sincere thanks to Mr. Ronaldson, Mr. Kenny and Mr. Creavin for supporting with Boys Gaelic football. The boys team still have one group game to play and hope to qualify for the knockout stages of the Cuman na mBunscol competition.

Girls Gaelic Football:

Training sessions take place on Thursdays at lunchtime for the pupils in our senior classes. The girls gaelic football team are through to the knockout stages of the Cuman na mBunscol competition. A sincere thanks to Mr. Keogh and Mr. Creavin for supporting with Girls Gaelic football.

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Soccer:

Coosan NS will take part in the upcoming Primary 5's competition similar to last year. Training for the boys and girls in our senior classes will commence soon and take place at lunchtimes.

Swimming:

3rd classes are attending swimming lessons presently in the Athlone Regional Sports Centre.

Senior Infants Fundamentals in TUS:

Senior Infants are currently participating in a four week FUNdamentals programme. The primary focus of these sessions are Fundamentals of Movement (FOM) and Fundamental Sports Skills (FSS). The secondary focus is on developing the children's co-operations skills through group activities and team games. Each session follows a similar format where the sports hall is divided up into 5 stations with each station focusing on different aspects of FOM and/or FSS, as well as the strands and strand units from the Athletics' curriculum. For example, catching and throwing, running, balance, bouncing, striking, jumping, understanding and appreciation of Athletics. A sincere thanks to Ms. McElvaney, Ms. Curran, Ms. Newman and Ms. Shanahan for arranging.

6th Class Sportshall in TUS:

On Wednesday, 5th of February, both Mr. Creavin and Ms. McDonagh's 6th classes travelled to TUS Midlands campus in Athlone to participate in their Sportshall Athletics programme. The day was a great success and all students took part in athletics events such as javelin, long jump and triple jump, as well as completing fast-paced relays and obstacle courses. A sincere thanks to Ms. McDonagh, Mr. Creavin, Ms. Elliot and Mr. Kenny for arranging.

Entering & Exiting the School on Foot:

When dropping off/collecting your child, please use the footpaths at all times. A number of parents/guardians are walking with their children through the teachers' car-park. Please use the designated footpaths and pedestrian crossings at all times.

Set Down Areas:

In the interests of everyone's health and safety the school kindly asks that all members of the school community respect and use the car park and set down areas as they are designed and adhere to the guidance on the signage displayed. Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir.

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Congratulations:

Congratulations to the Coosan National School swim team who were in action last weekend in both the Connacht Minor and Senior schools competitions. The team achieved 2 silver medals, 2 Bronze medals, personal bests (PBs), and qualification for the Irish Schools Championships and will now go forward representing both the school and Connacht. This is a testament to all their hard work, dedication and the support of their parents.



Special mentions to:

Evanna Mcloughlin who swam in the 50m Freestyle and 50m Breaststroke, winning silver medals in both.

Tara Mcloughlin who swam the 50m Freestyle and 100m Individual Medley(IM), winning Bronze in the Freestyle.

Paul Fallon who swam the 50m Butterfly and 100m IM, winning Bronze in the Butterfly.

James Mcloughlin competed in the Senior schools and swam in both the 100m Freestyle and 200m IM and achieved a PB on the day.

Well done to all and we wish them all the best of luck in the Irish Schools Championships in March!

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Parents Association Update:

The PA is excited for all the events, old and new that we are organizing this year; the first one being our Coosan Annual Bake Sale and Coffee morning, which is on Tuesday the 18th of February. This is always a fun event for the whole community. Please come along to the GP room in the morning, sit down and have a cuppa and sample the delicious homemade cakes and buns on offer!

Please contact Olivia on 0862679441 if you have any questions about the PA, or if you would like to join the volunteer list. Being on the volunteer list keeps you abreast of events that the PA are busy with at Coosan School throughout the year. There is no obligation; you can be involved as little or as much as you want. All help is greatly appreciated!

Our next PA meeting will be on Tuesday, 3rd of February 2025, 8.30pm in the GP room. We hope to see you there!

Mid-Term Break:

The school will close on Thursday, 20th and Friday 21st of February, 2025 for Mid-Term as per school calendar.

Return to school 2025-26:

We return to school next year on Thursday, August 28th at 9.20 a.m.

Comhghairdeachas:

Congratulations to Ms. Fíona McCormack on the recent birth of her baby boy Adam. We also wish to congratulate Ms. Sarah Stone on the birth of her baby son, Dáithí.

Le gach dea ghuí,

Ms. Stephen Cunningham

Principal

Coosan National School