

SCOIL MHUIRE BUNCRANA

NEWSLETTER #5



NOVEMBER 2025

Annie Shines in Scoil Mhuire

The Scoil Mhuire community was treated to an unforgettable run of Annie, delivered with incredible talent, energy and professionalism by our students and staff. From the outstanding performances on stage to the unbelievable work of the backstage, set, costume, and front-of-house teams, every element of the production showcased the very best of Scoil Mhuire. The atmosphere across all three nights reflected 8 weeks of commitment, creativity and collaboration.

A sincere thank you to every student, staff member, parent and volunteer who contributed to making Annie such a triumph. In particular we wish to thank the following people:

Our cast, our audiences, our Parents Council and parent body, our office staff, our caretaking and cleaning staff, our sponsors and the community of Buncrana, the sound and lighting crew, the orchestra, Ms. F. McLaughlin for the costumes, the backstage crew of Ms. R. Deeney, Mr. Jones, Mr. D. Doherty, Mr. Baldrick, Ms. Mooney and SNA Paula Doherty, the extended team of helpers, the producer Ms. B. Doherty and the musical director, Ms. Byrne.





2026
-
2027



Scoil Mhuire Buncrana

Open Evening

Thursday 27th November

6.30 pm - Open for Viewing

7.15 pm - Information Presentation



Extra
Curricular



Academic
Excellence



Inclusive
Culture

Academic Focus. Holistic Impact
FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.scoilmhuirebuncrana.ie

Paris Trip 2025

A group of our students, accompanied by Ms. MacGinty, Ms. Maguire and Mr. D. McLaughlin enjoyed a wonderful cultural trip to Paris during the mid-term break. Over the course of their visit they explored world-famous landmarks such as the *Louvre*, the Eiffel Tower and the historic streets of the city, as well as enjoying an unforgettable day in Disneyland Paris. The trip was a fantastic opportunity for students to broaden their horizons, experience French culture first hand and create lasting memories with their classmates. Sincere thanks to the staff who organised and supervised the trip, in particular Ms. MacGinty.



Congratulations Aoife McColgan

Following on from Aoife's impressive victory in the Rotary Club Final in Letterkenny on November 4th, Aoife represented the school at the district final, also held in Letterkenny.

After an interview with a panel of three judges, Aoife was announced as the overall winner. Her outstanding achievement has earned her an educational trip to Stormont in Belfast, Dáil Éireann in Dublin, and the European Parliament in Strasbourg.

Comhghairdeas ó chroí leat, a Aoife!



SEPI - Shared Education for Positive Innovation

On Monday, 10th November, a group of our Transition Year students travelled to Derry, to take part in the SEPI Programme's Impact Day. The event focused on themes of climate science and environmental peacebuilding.

In preparation, students completed online modules exploring the science of climate change and the role of the environment in fostering peace. On the day, students teamed up with several schools, creating a sustainability plan for two industries based in Derry.

It was an inspiring and educational experience that encouraged the girls to think critically about sustainability and global citizenship. They look forward to the next event in December, where they will get the opportunity to pitch their ideas. Our thanks to Ms. Gralton for accompanying our students.



Spórt i Scoil Mhuire

Golf

Day 3 of the Northern Donegal Schools Golf League saw the students go to Ballyliffin for a beautiful day, with the course in fantastic condition. The best four scores count in the team league and Scoil Mhuire tied with Carndonagh Community School. When the fifth scored was added Scoil Mhuire won the day. Congratulations to Dylan Narmontas who won category 2, with a great score of 36 points.



Senior LGFA

Hard luck to our senior girls Gaelic team who were beaten by a strong Lumen Christi team in the Ulster quarter final recently. We wish Lumen Christi the best of luck in the next round.



Donegal Youth Council

Scoil Mhuire was well represented at the Donegal Youth Council AGM in Letterkenny by Beth Narloch 2A, Sophie McLaughlin 3B, Adrians Aleksejevs 3D, Naomi Malon 6C and Aisha O'Hara Boyle 6B.

Our students listened to a series of engaging talks delivered by members of the Donegal Youth Council and had the opportunity to interact with students from other schools. Throughout the day they discussed important issues affecting young people including vaping, bullying, and exam stress. The event concluded with refreshments and a goodie bag for each participant.

Our thanks to Ms. Craig for accompanying our students.



TG4 Slé Anois go Curamach

Ghlac Ava O'Donnell, Niamh Devlin agus Eilí Ní Dhómhnaill Tedstone páirt i gcomórtas nua 'Slé Anois go Cúramach' ar TG4 agus Síomha Ní Ruairc a chuir an clár i láthair. Craolfar an eagrán ar TG4 go luath. Bígí ag féachaint le fáil amach an raibh siad i measc na mbuaiteoirí! Ár mbuíochas le Ms. Ní Dhochartaigh as seo a eagrú.



Social Enterprise Challenge

Huge congratulations to our TY team comprising Cian McEleney, Alex McDermott and John Quinn Murphy who took 1st place in the Social Enterprise Challenge and secured €1,000 in funding for local social enterprise Slieve Sneacht. Each team was challenged to research, analyse and creatively present a social issue and charity of their choice. Our winning team delivered a powerful presentation that truly captured the mission and impact of Slieve Sneacht on our local community.

A massive thank you to 5TEN for proudly sponsoring this event and supporting youth-led social change. Our thanks to Ms. M. McLaughlin for her work with the students on this project.



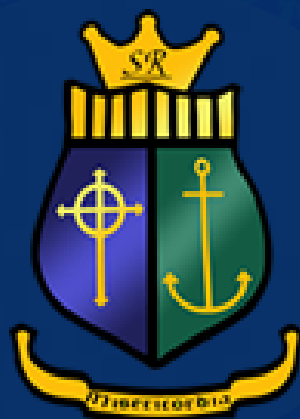
Concern Debating

A huge congratulations to our Senior Debating Team who recently beat Slemish College in the 2nd round of the Concern debating competition. Our team are looking forward to their 3rd debate in December against Crana College. Our thanks to Ms. Malone, Ms. Gorney and Ms. H. McDermott.



Enrolment 2026/2027

Please see information below on our enrolment process for the next academic year.



SCOIL MHUIRE BUNCRANA

YOUR FUTURE STARTS HERE

KEY ENROLMENT DATES FOR 2026–2027

ENROLMENT STAGES	DATES
 Open Day	Thursday 27th November 2025 (10am – 2pm)
 Open Night	Thursday 27th November 2025 (7pm – 8pm)
 Accepting applications	From Thursday 27th November 2025
 Closing date for applications	Thursday 18th December 2025 at 4pm
 Notification of decision on application	Thursday 8 January 2026
 Confirmation of offer of place	Saturday 17 January 2026 (10am – 1pm)

☎ 074 93 61065 info@scolimhuirebuncrana.ie



Gaelgeoirí na Míosa

Comhghairdeas ó chroí le scoláirí na chéad bhliana a ghnóthaigh an duais 'Gaelgeoir na Míosa' do mhí Dheireadh Fómhair. Bronnadh teastas agus dearbhán cheaintín orthu uilig. Mar a deir an seanfhocal, mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí.

Ba mhaith linn ár mbuíochas ó chroí a ghabhail leis na múinteoirí ó Roinn na Gaeilge as an tionscnamh iontach seo a eagrú.



Rang	Scoláire	Múinteoir
1A/1B	Henryk Wojtach	Mr. Toland
1B/1C	Niall Doherty	Ms. F. McLaughlin
1D	Jamie Sheridan	Ms. F. McLaughlin
1E	Brody McCarron	Mr. Toland
1F	Harry Simpson	Ms. Ní Dhochartaigh





CHRISTMAS Bake Off



Calling all bakers and food enthusiasts to take your whisk, mixer and piping bag and test your skills in the quest to become Scoil Mhuire's best

Christmas baker **First Round:** ✨ Bake Your Specialty! Show off your unique baking skills with your favorite recipe

Applications available from: Ms. L. Doherty, Ms. O'Sullivan and Ms. Carey

Closing Date for Submissions: Monday 24th November



TY Spanish

Transition Year Spanish students researched the Mexican tradition of Día de los Muertos (Sunday, 2 November) - a joyful celebration of life and remembrance. They delved into its vibrant traditions and rich symbolism before creatively designing colourful calacas to honour this unique cultural celebration.




Our School Ethos

Remembering Our Loved Ones

During the month of November, we take time to remember and pray for those who have died. Throughout this month, we invite students and staff to write the names of loved ones who have died in our Book of Remembrance and on our Remembrance Display. These names will be kept in our thoughts and prayers during assemblies and in a special Mass.

This simple act of remembrance helps us celebrate their lives, express gratitude for their love and example, and find comfort in our school community as we remember that they continue to live on in our hearts.



In November
We Remember



Winter Exams

The Winter Exams for all 1st, 2nd, and 5th year students will commence shortly. Please see below links to the timetables and revision sheets.

We wish all of our students the best of luck in their upcoming exams. All we ask is that you do your best. Ádh mór oraibh uilig.

[Exam Timetables](#)

[Revision Sheets](#)

Winter
EXAMS

Supervised Study

After-school supervised study runs every day in the Study Room from 16:00-18:00. The cost is €2 per session and this is paid to the supervising teacher. Supervised study offers students a fantastic opportunity to complete homework and study without distractions. Students who regularly attend supervised study report that they are less stressed at school, and say that they are able to stay on top of their work and have more free time at home. There is no need to register, simply turn up at the Study Room.

Open Night 2025



Scoil Mhuire's Open Night for parents and students interested in joining our school will take place on Thursday, 27 November 2025. We look forward to meeting prospective parents and students and showing them everything that Scoil Mhuire has to offer.



SNUS - Pouch Tobacco

We wish to pass on information that we have received from the HSE in relation to Snus. Often marketed as a “smokeless” alternative to cigarettes, carries significant health risks that young people should be aware of. Because it delivers high levels of nicotine, snus is highly addictive and can lead to dependence very quickly. Its use is linked to gum disease, tooth damage, oral lesions and an increased risk of certain cancers, while the strong nicotine hit can also cause nausea, dizziness, headaches and impacts on concentration. Far from being harmless, snus poses real and long-term dangers, particularly for adolescents whose brains are still developing.



Social Media

With social media playing an increasingly central role in teenagers' lives, it's important for parents and guardians to stay alert to the risks young people can face online, including oversharing, cyberbullying, exposure to inappropriate content and pressure to maintain a constant online presence. Open conversations at home, clear expectations around device use and regular check-ins can make a real difference in keeping young people safe and supported. For reliable, up-to-date guidance, we encourage you to visit [Webwise.ie](https://www.webwise.ie), which provides practical advice, step-by-step safety guides, and resources to help families navigate social media confidently and responsibly.



SCOIL MHUIRE BUNCRANA



BOOK CLUB



Meets every Thursday at lunchtime in the school Library

Our Book of November is:



EVERYONE WELCOME!



Newsletter #5 November 2025

Credit Union Art Competition

Annual Credit Union Art Competition

Scoil Mhuire enjoyed great success in the Annual Credit Union Art Competition.

14-17 category

1st place Ríán Doherty 2E

2nd place Tymek Czerniakiewicz 2E

Millie Donnelly 1A and Finley McElhinney 1B were awarded a merit in their category.

Ríán Doherty's Art will carry on to the National level of the competition.

Halloween and the Community

Ms r. Deeney, Ms Quigley and our fabulous students took part in the Púca Parade and Haunted House during the mid-term break. Congratulations to all involved.



Women in Politics

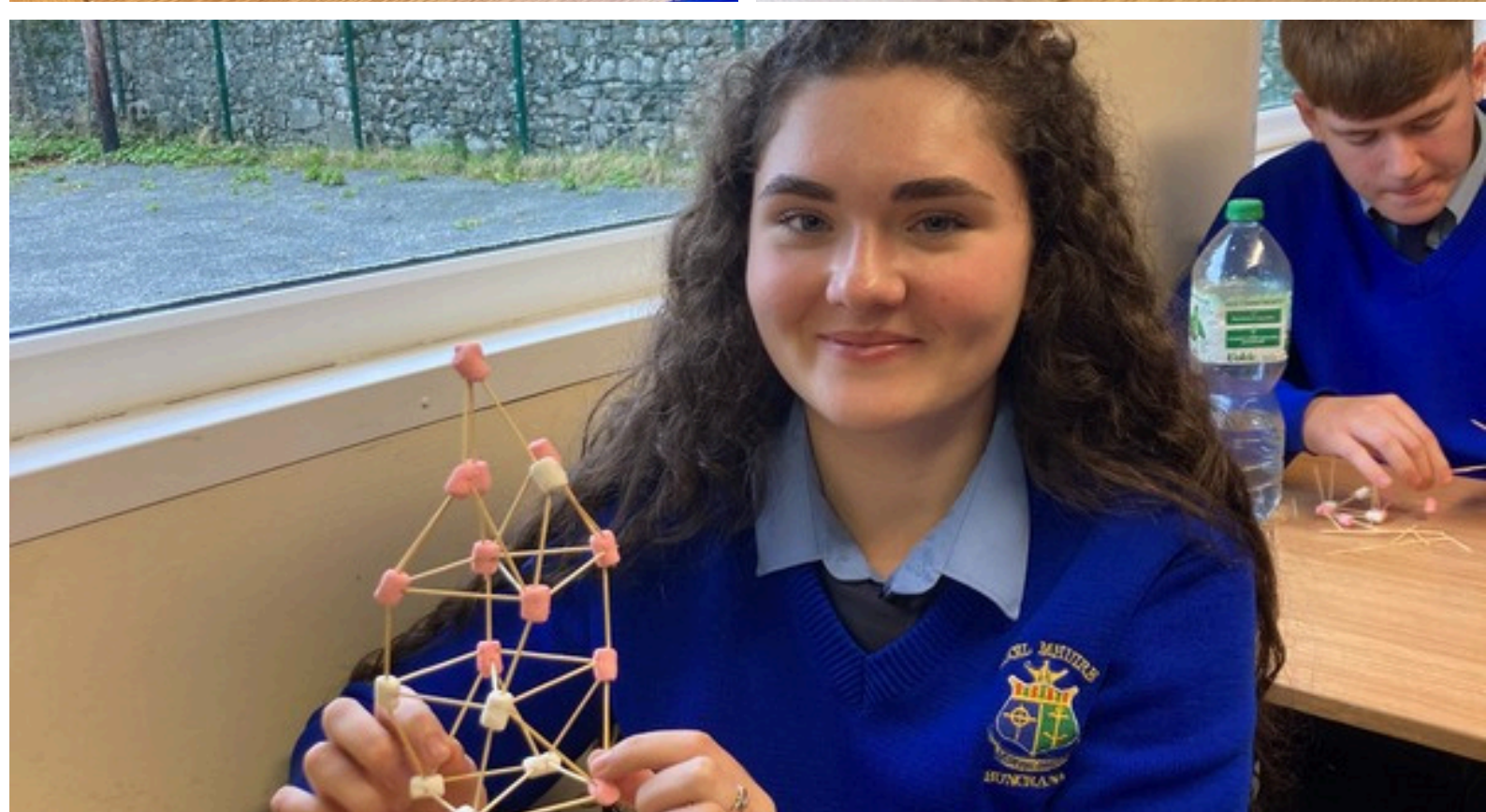
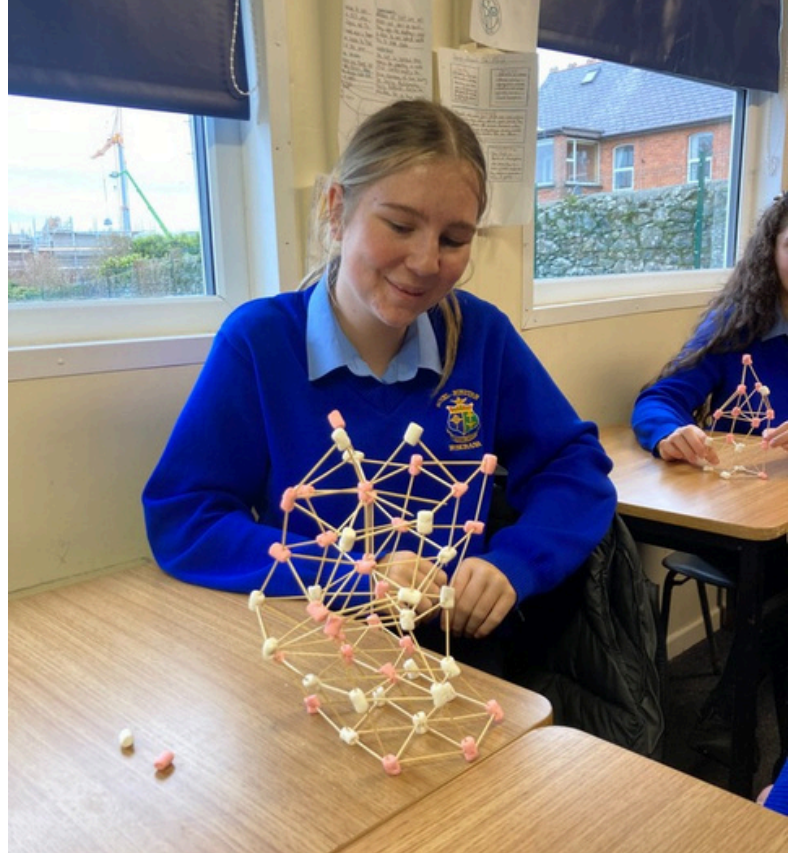
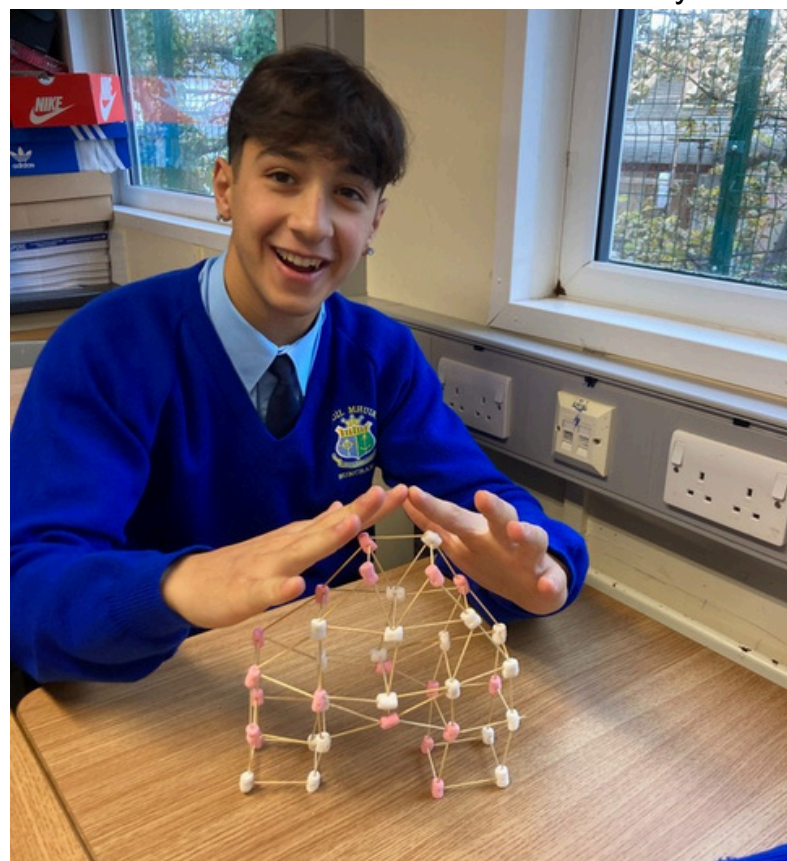
Scoil Mhuire was well represented at a groundbreaking student event which saw Donegal County Council seek student input on how to increase the number of women elected in the county. Donegal County Council, in collaboration with See Her Elected (SHE) hosted the 'Students Shaping the Future of Democracy in Donegal', at the Mount Errigal Hotel in Letterkenny. Some of the recommendations which came from the students included making politics an official subject in all Donegal schools at Leaving Cert level (already a subject in Scoil Mhuire!), the creation of a county-wide public speaking competition, a mentorship programme involving retired/ former county councillors who could share their experience with people new to politics, were among the recommendations made.

Other suggestions included bursaries for women to help them cover the cost of running for election were just some of the innovative recommendations made by students to Donegal County Council in order to see more women elected in the next local elections. Donegal is in last place in the country when it comes to the % of female councillors and this needs to change!



Religious Education

Our 5th Year Non-Exam RE students recently examined a variety of architectural evidence indicating the human search for meaning and purpose. Students enjoyed the Marshmallow and Toothpick Challenge where they were tasked to create the tallest, largest or most creative structure. Good fun was had by all.



Gaeltacht Scholarships 2025/2026

Galway & Roscommon ETB administer a DEIS Bursary fund on behalf of the Department of the Gaeltacht. These can typically cover the vast majority of the course fees for a Gaeltacht course.

The application requires families to have booked the course in advance, with proof of payment provided.

1. Each school may submit up to 4 applications for consideration in this DEIS Scholarship Scheme
2. If your school is participating in the scholarship scheme, you are required to designate a member of your staff to co-ordinate and submit the application(s) from your school using the online application process
3. Only valid applications will be considered, i.e., those with documentary evidence of the student having secured a place in a recognised Gaeltacht summer college.
4. The awarding of scholarships is based on a strictly first come, first served basis of valid applications received.
5. Links to Summer colleges are in the [FAQs](#).

The closing date for application is Wednesday 26 November. If you have proof of payment for a secured place, please contact micheal.clancy@scoilmhuirebuncra.ie and the school will submit the application. This will be done, out of fairness to everyone, on a first come, first served basis.



Extra-Curricular Activities

Sport 2025/26

Boys Gaelic Football

U13.5 - Mr. Thompson & Mr. Campbell

U14.5 - Mr. McGee

U15.5 - Mr. Campbell

U16.5 - Mr. Campbell

Senior - Mr. Campbell

Girls Gaelic Football

U14 - Ms. McCauley

U16 - Ms. McDermott

Senior - Ms. McKinney

Boys Soccer

1st Year - Mr. McLaughlin & Mr. Lonergan

U15 - Mr. McCauley

U17- Mr. D. Doherty & Mr. Donaghey

Senior - Mr. Carr

Girls Soccer

U15 - Ms. McKinney

U17 - Ms. McCauley

Senior - Mr. Carr

Golf

Mr. N. Doherty

Basketball

Junior Girls - Mr. Thompson

Senior Boys - Mr. Donaghey

Senior Girls - Mr. Campbell

Hurling

U13.5 - Mr. Thompson

U14.5 - Mr. McAleer

U16.5 - Mr. McGee

Senior - Mr. McAleer

Camogie

U14 camogie Ms. H. McDermott

U16 camogie Ms. H. McDermott

U19 camogie Ms. Malone

Equestrian

Ms. McCauley



Extra-Curricular Activities

Clubs/Activities 2025/26

Book Club Ms. Malone, Ms. Quigley, Ms. Craig



Trad Group Ms. Byrne, Ms. Furey, Ms. McKinney, Ms. Mooney

Cli-Mates - Foireann Ghlas Ms. Dowds, Ms. Doherty, Ms. Gralton

Musical Ms. Byrne, Ms. Mooney, Ms. Doherty



Concern Debates Ms. Gorney, Ms. H. McDermott, Ms. Malone

Art Club Ms. Quigley



Gaming Ms. C. McDermott

Bake Club Ms. L. Doherty

Student Council Ms. O' Sullivan

Ukulele Club Ms. Mooney



Library is open at Breaktime and Lunchtime every day

Pope John Paul Awards & Papal Cross Awards Ms. O' Connor

Choir Ms. Byrne



Junk Kouture Ms. Quigley

Revolve Fashion Ms. Quigley



Young Scientist Ms. Gralton



Upcoming Events

24 November	1 st Year Exams Begin
25 November	LCVP Interviews
27 November	Open Day and Open Night
1 December	2 nd and 5 th Year Exams Begin
1 December	TY Christmas Trip to Belfast
5 December	Annual Trade Fair
8 December	1 st Year Vaccinations
9 December	TY Trip to Dáil Éireann
11 December	1 st Year PTM
11 December	Annual Back in the Day Party
18 December	6 th Year Formal
19 December	Last Day before Christmas Holidays

Stay in Touch

Keep up-to-date with the latest news from Scoil Mhuire on our social media accounts.



[Facebook](#)



[X \(Twitter\)](#)



[Instagram](#)

If you have something that you would like featured in our school newsletter, please email micheal.clancy@scoilmhuirebuncrana.ie and we'll do our best to have it included in our next issue.

