

SCOIL MHUIRE BUNCRANA

NEWSLETTER #9



APRIL 2026

Primary STEM Fair 2026



The inaugural Primary STEM Fair 2026 took place at Scoil Mhuire recently with over 60 pupils from local Inishowen national schools taking part. The event showcased 20 innovative projects across a range of STEM disciplines including Biological, Chemical and Physical Sciences, Technology, Health and Wellbeing, and Sustainability and Biodiversity.

The aim of the STEM Fair was to foster problem-solving, collaboration, and critical thinking skills, highlighting the creativity and curiosity of young learners as they explore real-world challenges through science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Our sincere thanks to all staff in Scoil Mhuire who worked so hard to organise the STEM Fair. In particular, we would like to thank Ms. Corbett whose passion and enthusiasm was the driving force behind this wonderful event.















Youth Leadership Awards

Congratulations to Aoife McColgan 5E who was among just 20 teenagers from all over the island of Ireland to be presented with a Rotary Youth Leadership Development Certificate at Europe House in Dublin recently.

The competition, which Rotary Ireland has been running for over 30 years, rewards young people with clear leadership potential based on their extra-curricular activities. Run in conjunction with the European Parliament Liaison Office in Dublin, the winners enjoyed an all-expenses paid week-long trip to Belfast, Dublin and Strasbourg.



Aoife flew out to Strasbourg where she enjoyed a private tour of the European Court of Human Rights. She also went to the European Parliament where she met with students from all over Europe and was welcomed by Roberta Metsola, President of the European Parliament. The highlight for the students was taking part in Euroscola, a simulation of the work of Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) in a debate and vote on the EU's actions to tackle disinformation.

Aoife is a member of the European Youth Parliament and volunteers at their conferences. Earlier this year she chaired the Connacht Ulster regional session and last month organised the Leinster regional session.

Aoife said she gained a lot of confidence from the competition as well as leadership skills and lots of new friends. Comhghairdeas ó chroí leat a Aoife.





SCOIL MHUIRE
PRESENTS...

POOP

GOES

PRIMARY!

SCHOOL TALENT SHOW!

THURSDAY 23RD APRIL
IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL

DOORS OPEN 6:30 PM

SHOW STARTS 7:00 PM

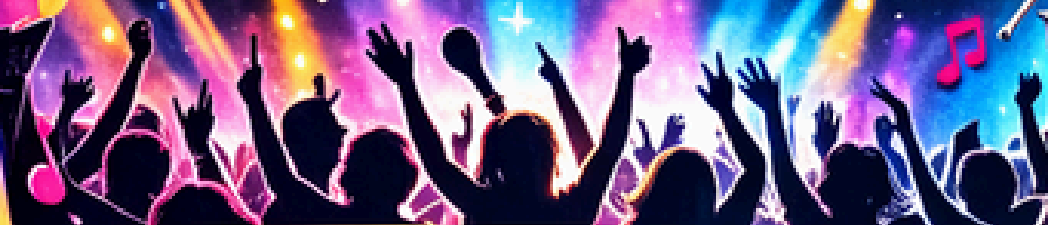
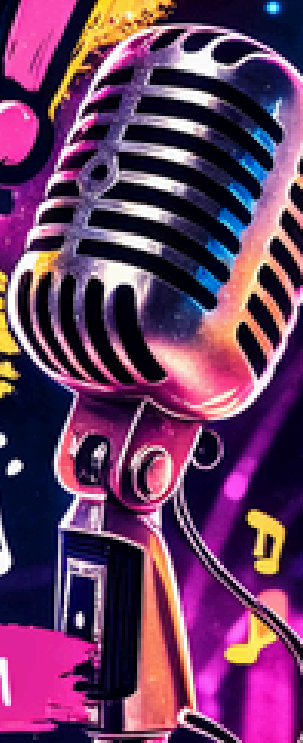
€5
STUDENT
TICKET

€7
ADULT
TICKET

€20
FAMILY TICKET
(2 ADULTS + 2 CHILDREN)

★ RAFFLE & TUCKSHOP!

COME & SUPPORT OUR AMAZING TALENT!



Scoil Mhuire Golf Academy

Well done to the Scoil Mhuire golf team who rounded off a fantastic year by winning the Donegal Schools Northern League and coming a close third in a very tight finish in the Donegal Schools Trophy.

Our thanks to Mr. N. Doherty for accompanying our students.



We also congratulate Danny Friel 2B, Karl Mallon 5D and Mícheál Coyle 1F who won the 9 hole scramble competition held at Buncrana Golf Club.

Well done as well to Oisín Callaghan 2D, Thomas Newman 5A and Fintan Lavin 2A.

Thank you so much to Buncrana Golf Club for hosting us, the students appreciate it very much.







Scoil Mhuire

Special Classes Fundraiser

5km Walk and Run

in collaboration with Inishowen
Athletics

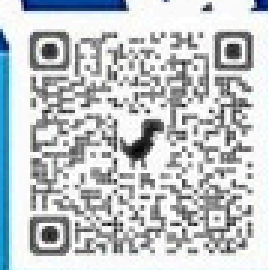
Thursday April 16th

Registration 5:30pm

Event starts 7:00pm

Cost: Adult €10 Under 18 €5 Family €20

Presentations and treats afterwards in the school



Scan for early bird online registration

Global Money Week 2026

As part of Global Money Week, the business department launched our school's Our Money, Our Future initiative in partnership with the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission to promote financial literacy across the entire school community.

Students across all year groups took part in a wide range of activities designed to develop practical money management skills. These included a Money Diary Challenge, budgeting simulations, stock market games, and lessons on saving, credit and consumer rights. Students also explored important topics such as financial risk, fraud prevention and the role of financial institutions in the economy.

We were delighted to welcome several guest speakers and organisations who shared their expertise with our students, including workshops delivered by Bank of Ireland through their Money Smarts programme, sessions from the Revenue Commissioners and talks at our local Credit Union.

Students also participated in a number of enterprise and financial learning initiatives such as NFTE and the Student Enterprise Programme. Our LCVP students are setting up and going to run the school bank in partnership with Bank of Ireland, gaining real world financial experience.

Additional highlights included a Create Your Own Currency competition for our junior students, participation in the European Money Quiz, attending enterprise workshops in ATU, visits to the Inishowen Innovation Centre where students heard from local entrepreneurs. Financial awareness activities where students compared branded and own-brand products and discussed value for money.

Many thanks to Ms. O'Donovan, Ms. Corr and Ms. McGovern for running this initiative this year and helping our students develop essential life skills in budgeting, financial decision making and consumer awareness, helping them to prepare for their future financial responsibilities.





COINS



1 VITA



5 VITA



10 VITA



25 VITA

SECURITY FEATURES

- LIVING PATTERN**
Micro-leaves grow along the note edges
- RAINBOW FOIL**
Shifts color when tilted
- TAPESTRY PRINTING**
Intricate raised textures feel different to touch

NOTES



20 VITA



50 VITA



100 VITA



200 VITA

DIGITAL VITA




EVERYDAY USE





JCPA Presentation

The Junior Cycle Profiles of Achievement were awarded to the Junior Cycle classes of 2025 recently. The JCPA records achievements in state exams, classroom-based assessments and highlights other areas of learning and skills developed by these students outside of the classroom. We are very proud of all our students for their great achievements. A special mention to Niamh Devlin 4D who achieved 10 distinctions in her Junior Cycle exams. Well done everyone.



Pi Quiz 2026

Congratulations to our 3rd Year Mathematics students who proudly represented Scoil Mhuire at the annual IMTA Pi Quiz, achieving an impressive 2nd and 3rd place. This highly regarded competition brings together talented maths students from across Inishowen, and our teams rose to the challenge with confidence and enthusiasm.

Both teams performed exceptionally well throughout the event, demonstrating strong problem-solving skills, teamwork, and composure under pressure. They narrowly missed out on 1st place by just a single point, highlighting the high standard of their performance on the day.

Our thanks to Mr. Deery for accompanying our students.



European Money Quiz

As part of Global Money Week our students took part in the European Money Quiz organised by the Banking & Payments Federation Ireland. Competing against over 700 teams from across the country, our students showed exceptional financial savvy and quick thinking.

A massive congratulations to our podium finishers:

- 2nd Place Nationally: Kyle Kelly & Cian Stewart
- 3rd Place Nationally: Tiernan McGonagle & Oisín O'Brien

Our thanks to Ms. O'Donovan, Ms. McGovern, Ms. J. McLaughlin and Mr. McColgan



Accelerated Reader Programme

Reading had really paid off for 1A. After collectively achieving the highest word count in the Accelerated Reader programme among all First Year classes, the group was rewarded with a special pizza party. This achievement highlights the power of teamwork, with every student playing their part in reaching the class goal. A fantastic example of dedication and school spirit.



TY Enterprise

Scoil Mhuire was delighted to welcome Paul McCusker from ATU Donegal, who recently visited the school to conduct interviews with our TY Enterprise students. During the session, students had the opportunity to pitch their business ideas to Paul, presenting the products and services they have been developing as part of their TY Enterprise class with Ms. Corr and Ms. O'Donovan.

The TY Enterprise module provides students with valuable experience in entrepreneurship and innovation. The interview process gave students a chance to showcase their creativity and business knowledge while receiving valuable feedback from an industry professional.



The following teams will now progress to the regional final of the NFTE competition. Business Category: Hair by Sienna (Sienna Doherty) and PJF Jewellery (Patrick Doherty, James McLaughlin, Tadhg McDaid and Fintan Robinson); Innovation Category: Hide and Sleek (Sienna Duffy and Ruby McLaughlin) and AeroCharge (Dathal Gallagher and Ciaran McDaid); and Social Enterprise Category: Bowtique (Holly McGee, Lily Gallagher, Alex Nicholas and Sophie Cassidy).



TY Film-Making Course

Transition Year students recently took part in an exciting film-making course in collaboration with the Nerve Centre. Our students explored the fundamentals of film production, learning how to operate cameras, use microphones effectively, and edit footage using professional software. As a hands-on project, they worked in groups to recreate a scene from a well-known film, developing their skills in storytelling, teamwork, and technical production. The experience gave students a valuable insight into the world of film-making and sparked great creativity and enthusiasm across the group. They will have a cinema screening of their film in Buncrana Cinema very soon. Our thanks to Ms. MacGinty



TY Work Experience

Some of our TY students attended a Garda Open Day recently at Westmanstown, Dublin. They witnessed demonstrations from the Garda Mounted Unit, the Garda Water Unit and the Garda Dog Unit. The Garda helicopter also called in and the students had the opportunity to meet with Garda Commissioner Justin Kelly.



Creative Minorities 2026

A group of 20 students attended the Photographic Exhibition Showcase which celebrated diversity, inclusion and interculturalism in Donegal. The students received Certificates of Attendance to mark their participation in the Creative Minorities PEACEPLUS programme, hosted in Scoil Mhuire.



Business in Scoil Mhuire

During a recent site visit, as part of the World of Work Programme, our 2nd year students had a wonderful opportunity to experience first hand the many roles available to employees in this global business and to gain an insight into Circet's innovative design plans for the future.

Thank you to Joseph & team from Circet for such an insightful session and to Miriam from BITC Ireland for facilitating the programme. Our thanks to Ms. McGovern for accompanying the students.



Business in Scoil Mhuire

1st and 6th Year Business students recently visited the ii Inishowen Innovation centre. Students found it very informative to learn about the diverse range of individuals and businesses based within the building.

A sincere thank you to Aidan and Lovro from Subterranean Software for sharing valuable insights into their work in drone technology. A particular highlight was Lovro's personal journey, from attending Scoil Mhuire to studying Gaming Technology and Computer Science at ATU Donegal, then returning to Buncrana after graduation to take up a high-tech role locally. His story is a wonderful example of the opportunities available within the local community.

Many thanks to Anmarie at ii for facilitating our students. Our thanks to Ms. McGovern and Ms. O'Donovan for accompanying the students.



Exploring Our Water Quality

We had a visit from the Project Officer of Inishowen Rivers Trust, Micheala, who delivered an engaging water quality workshop with 2nd year students, supported by Ms. Gorney. Bringing the science to life, Micheala collected water samples from four different local rivers, giving students a real insight into the water systems right on their doorstep.



Sustainability in Action

Our LCA1 class were busy transforming a section of the school grounds recently. They also got a very important element of their coursework completed in doing so. Sustainability was at the forefront of this project with the students sourcing old tyres and pallets locally to keep the costs down and to reinvent new purposes for these items. Now we have a nice space for students and wildlife to share. Well done everyone a great days work by all. Our thanks to Ms. Dowds.



Young Social Innovators

Some of our TY students were delighted to greet Peadar Collins of Crann when he delivered 500 trees for their YSI project.

The TYs will be busy over the next few weeks planting the native trees throughout Buncrana.



All-Ireland Pool

A massive well done to Cillian Doherty in First Year who recently competed in the All Ireland Pool Competition! A fantastic achievement – we're all very proud!



An Ghaeilge i Scoil Mhuire

Comhghairdeas ó chroí le scoláirí na chéad bhliana a ghnóthaigh an duais ‘Gaeilgeoir na Míosa’ do mhí Feabhra. Bronnadh teastas agus dearbhan 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.



Mí Feabhra

Rang	Scoláire	Múinteoir
1A/1B	Ava Birney	Mr. Toland
1B/1C	Dáithí McDaid	Ms. F McLaughlin
1D	Shane McLaughlin	Ms. F. McLaughlin
1E	Sophie McClay	Mr. Toland
1F	Kyle Boyle	Ms. Ní Dhochartaigh



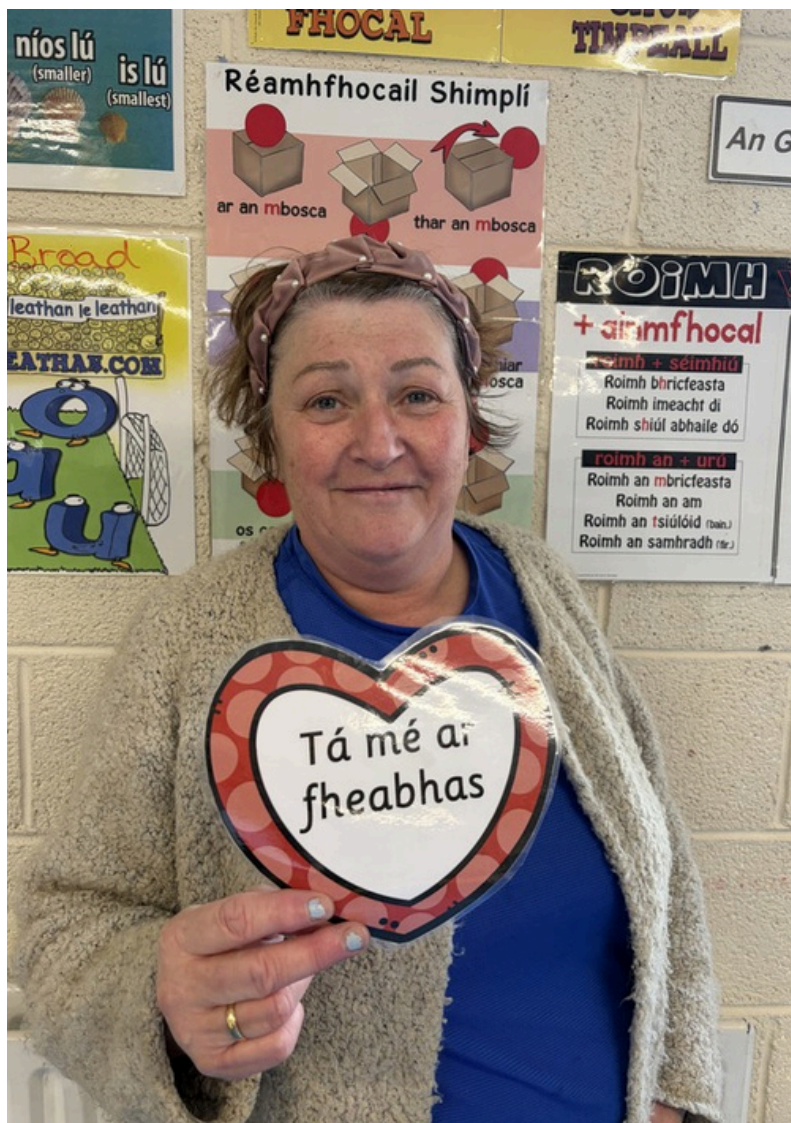
Slé Anois go Cúramach!

Three of our TY students recently took part in the TG4 quiz show *Slé anois go cúramach*. Niamh Devlin 4D, Ava O'Donnell 4A, and Eilí Ní Dhómhnaill 4C gave an amazing performance on the night and were worthy winners.

The show is broadcasting on TG4 on Tuesdays 7.30-8.00pm from March 24th for 10 weeks. Ár mbuíochas ó chroí le Ms. Ní Dhochartaigh.







SciFest 2026

Scoil Mhuire proudly celebrated the achievements of its 2nd year students who participated in the SciFest@School event on Friday, March 27th. A total of 40 teams showcased an impressive range of projects across biology, chemistry, physics, technology, and the life sciences.

The students demonstrated outstanding creativity, teamwork, and scientific inquiry, reflecting their dedication and enthusiasm for STEM learning. Their hard work was supported by committed staff who guided them throughout the project process.

The school also extends sincere thanks to the judging team for their time, expertise, and encouragement on the day. SciFest@School proved to be a valuable and inspiring experience for all involved. Our sincere thanks to Ms. Corbett, Ms. Gralton, Ms. McGuinness, Ms. Burns, Ms. Wheston, Ms. Boyle and Ms. O' Sullivan







Our School Ethos

Our 1st Year students recently took part in creative and engaging homework tasks in the lead-up to Easter, centred on the theme of Holy Week. Students showcased their talents through various categories including a poster competition illustrating the key events of Holy Week, a comic strip competition depicting the accounts of the Resurrection of Jesus as told in the Bible and a visual timeline on the stages of the development of the Gospels .

6th Year Religious Education students have been exploring the themes of Just War and Pacifism, engaging thoughtfully with ideas around peace and decision-making. Ms. L. Doherty's 6th year RE class took part in a cross curricular Home Economics activity where students had the opportunity to bring these concepts of peace to life in a creative way.

Working collaboratively, they designed and decorated white doves - the universal symbol of peace - reflecting their understanding of the importance of harmony, reconciliation, and non-violence in today's world.



Home Economics

Our Junior Cycle Home Economics students successfully completed their practical examinations this week. Worth 50% of their overall grade, this assessment challenged students to demonstrate a wide range of skills, from planning and preparation to cooking, presentation, and evaluation.

Throughout the exams, students showed excellent organisation, confidence, and attention to detail in the kitchen. The variety and quality of dishes produced were a true reflection of their hard work and commitment over the past number of years. Our thanks to Ms. L. Doherty and Ms. Carey.



Scoil Mhuire Bake Club

Our Bake Club was full of Easter cheer this month as students embraced an Easter theme in the kitchen. There was great excitement as they prepared delicious Easter tray bakes, with mini eggs proving to be the ingredient of choice

Students demonstrated fantastic creativity and enthusiasm, decorating their bakes with colour and flair while developing their baking skills along the way. Well done to everyone involved for their effort and imagination—another successful Bake Club!

If anyone is interested in joining the bake club please contact Ms. L Doherty



Traffic Management at Scoil Mhuire

In the interest of health and safety and out of a duty of care to our students, the following traffic management measures are in place. We appreciate your cooperation with these measures.

1. Students cannot be dropped off by parents/guardians at the gate on St. Oran's Road. This creates dangerous traffic congestion and puts students at risk from oncoming traffic.
2. Parents/Guardians are not permitted to enter the Shorefront Gate in the morning to drop-off students. We want our campus to be safe and therefore we seek to minimise unnecessary traffic.
3. Students are not allowed to drive or park on campus.
4. Think 30. At 30 km/h the risk of fatality in a collision with a pedestrian is drastically reduced compared to 50 km/h.

VISION
ZERO



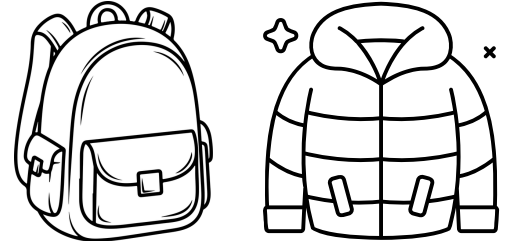
Nuachtlitir #9 Aibreán 2026



Nuachtlitir #9 Aibreán 2026

Personal Belongings

Scoil Mhuire is a big and busy school and it is not unusual for personal belongings to get mislaid. We ask that all items of uniform and school bags are clearly labelled and identifiable. We do not encourage students to bring non-school coats to school and they do so at their own risk. Scoil Mhuire does not take responsibility for missing bags as all students have been given the opportunity to avail of a locker in which they can keep their personal belongings safe and secure.



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.

Deadlines for Projects and Coursework

Please see below links to information on the deadlines for Junior and Leaving Certificate students in relation to projects, coursework and practicals. Should you require any additional information, please contact the subject teacher.

[Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme \(LCVP\) LCVP Deadlines](#)

[Junior Cycle Completion Dates Junior Cycle Deadlines](#)

[Leaving Certificate Completion Dates Leaving Certificate Deadlines](#)

DEADLINE



The background features a stylized illustration of a bookshelf. On the left, a pink pot holds a green plant. The shelves are filled with books of various colors and designs, including one with a swan, one with a cat, and one with a rabbit. On the right, another pink pot holds a green plant. The central text is surrounded by these decorative elements.

1ST YEAR HOMEWORK CLUB

EVERY TUESDAY 3.50 - 4.50

SM106

Contact Ms Folan
with any questions



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. Galton

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



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

Art Club Ms. Quigley



Warhammer Club Ms. Quigley

Gaming Ms. C. McDermott

Bake Club Ms. L. Doherty



Student Council Ms. O' Sullivan and Ms. Craig

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. Galton



Upcoming Events

20-21 April	TY QQI Exams
20 April	LCA2 Mock Cooking Practical
21 April	Careers Fair ATU - 5 th Year Students
21 April	Pop goes Primary rehearsals
22 April	Annual Prize-Giving Ceremonies
23 April	Art Leaving Certificate Practical Exam
23 April	Pop goes Primary
28 April	Agricultural Science LC Practical Exam
29 April	LCVP Exams
30 April	TY Trip to Emerald Park
4 May	School Closed for Bank Holiday
5 May	LCA 2 English Oral Exam
7 May	John Paul Awards Knock Trip
7 May	TY trip to Europa Centre



[Facebook](#)

[X \(Twitter\)](#)

[Instagram](#)

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

