

SCOIL MHUIRE BUNCRANA

NEWSLETTER #10



MAY 2026

Slán agus Beannacht Class of 2026



The Class of 2026 gathered on Wednesday for their Graduation Mass at St. Mary's Oratory as we marked the end of one chapter and the beginning of another under the theme "The world is waiting – let the adventure begin." It was a special opportunity to reflect on six years of growth, friendship, achievement and memories created within our school community. We extend our sincere thanks to our parents and guardians for their unwavering support throughout these six years, and in particular for the encouragement and support shown over the past week in helping make these celebrations so meaningful. To our graduating students, we wish you every success and happiness in the future. As you now turn your attention to the June examinations, we wish you the very best of luck. Approach them with confidence, believe in yourselves, and know that we are all cheering you on as your next adventure begins.



Nuachtlitir #10 Bealtaine 2026



Autism Awareness Month

April was autism awareness month at Scoil Mhuire. Ms. K. McGonagle's Class 6F took time to recognise, celebrate and raise awareness about autism.

The students created beautiful handmade displays to help promote understanding and acceptance of autism. Their thoughtful work reflects the importance of inclusion at Scoil Mhuire and the celebration of differences within our school community.

Thank you to our SNAs Paula Doherty, Sharon McGonagle and Jennifer Bradley for coordinating and assisting with this important project. More information about autism can be found at

www.asiam.ie



Junior Prizegiving 2026

Our annual Prizegiving day took place on Wednesday 22 April. A huge thank you to Ms. C. McDermott and her team for all of the work they put in for this special occasion. We also wish to thank our guest speaker Mary Doherty, Managing Director and founder of Red Dog who shared her inspirational story of success with our students.















Senior Prizegiving 2026













5K AEN Run

The streets of Buncrana were buzzing on Thursday 16 April as the Scoil Mhuire community gathered for our Inaugural 5k Run. Held in aid of our special classes, this debut event exceeded all expectations with the outpouring of support from students, parents, guardians and the local community.

Despite some nervous glances at the clouds earlier in the day, the weather held out beautifully for our first-ever outing, providing perfect running conditions right until the final participant crossed the line.

The Scoil Mhuire organising committee was greatly supported by the Inishowen Athletics Club. Their expertise was vital, guiding us through the planning stages in the weeks leading up to the race and providing essential coordination on the night.

A new event relies heavily on the backing of the community, and we were blown away by the generosity of our local businesses. We would like to extend a massive thank you to our main sponsors for helping us get this event off the ground:

- The Harbour Inn
- Hotel Kilkenny
- Coyle Pitch Dimensions
- Blank Canvas
- Healthwise Pharmacy
- J&S Renewables Ltd
- Claire's Beauty Room Carndonagh
- Rosaleen Grant
-

We were also very fortunate to receive kind donations from:

Northwest Plant Hire, McKenna's Londis, Donegal GAA, The Lunchbox, Tank and Skinny's, Dolled Up, The Fisherman's Wharf, and Lidl Buncrana.

To everyone who registered, cheered from the sidelines or helped out behind the scenes for this milestone event we extend our sincere thanks. Your support has set a wonderful precedent for the years to come and ensures our special classes continue to have the resources they need to thrive.

In particular we wish to thank Mr. Donaghy who was the inspiration behind this event.









Scoil Mhuire Golf Academy

Well done to the 48 students who took to the fairways for our third Golf Academy event of the year. We had 12 teams of four competing in a scramble format.

1st Place

Oran Doherty, Charlie Bradley, Lucas McLaughlin, & Leon Davis

2nd Place

Ryan Kearney, Damhan Dowds, Cahir Bradley, & Paddy Farnan

3rd Place

Aaron Kelly, Stephen Carey, Shay McElhinney, & Oisin McNally

A massive thank you to North West Golf Club for hosting our students and allowing them to enjoy their exceptional facilities.

Our thanks to Mr. N. Doherty for accompanying our students on the day.



Comghairdeas leat, a Dhalláin

Congratulations to Dallán Woods 2A who was recently in the spotlight on the big screen as TRAD, the new Irish feature film opened in cinemas. This is an amazing achievement for Dallán and we look forward to following his success in the years to come. Watch this space, a bright future lies ahead!



An Ghaeilge i Scoil Mhuire

Comhghairdeas ó chroí le scoláirí na chéad bhliana a ghnóthaigh an duais ‘Gaeilgeoir na Míosa’ do mhí Aibreáin. 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 Aibreáin

Rang	Scoláire	Múinteoir
1A/1B	SarahJane McLaughlin	Mr. Toland
1B/1C	Kyle McGrory	Ms. F McLaughlin
1D	Dáithí McConnell	Ms. F. McLaughlin
1E	Ella McGlynn	Mr. Toland
1F	Ella McGee	Ms. Ní Dhochartaigh



Europe Day 2026

To celebrate Europe Day our students visited Dublin for an immersive experience at Europa House. Our students stepped into the shoes of MEPs, debated tough issues and worked together to pass amendments. Our thanks to Ms. Gorney and Ms. Craig for accompanying our students.



ISTA Quiz 2026

Our 3rd year students represented Scoil Mhuire at the Junior Cycle Science Quiz held by the Irish Science Teachers' Association in the Clanree Hotel. Competing against schools from all across Donegal, the students enjoyed an evening of challenging and engaging science questions based on the Junior Cycle Curriculum.

Our students showed great teamwork, enthusiasm and scientific knowledge and were excellent ambassadors for our school. Well done to all involved for taking part and representing our school so well. Our thanks to Ms Gralton for accompanying our students.



Knock Trip 2026

Many of our TY students participating in the Pope John Paul II Awards travelled to Knock with Ms. O'Connor. They took part in the Donal Walsh Live Life Youth Retreat. A meaningful and uplifting day filled with messages of living life to its fullest and the importance of looking out for each other. Our thanks to Ms. O'Connor for accompanying our students to Knock.



Dáil Trip 2026

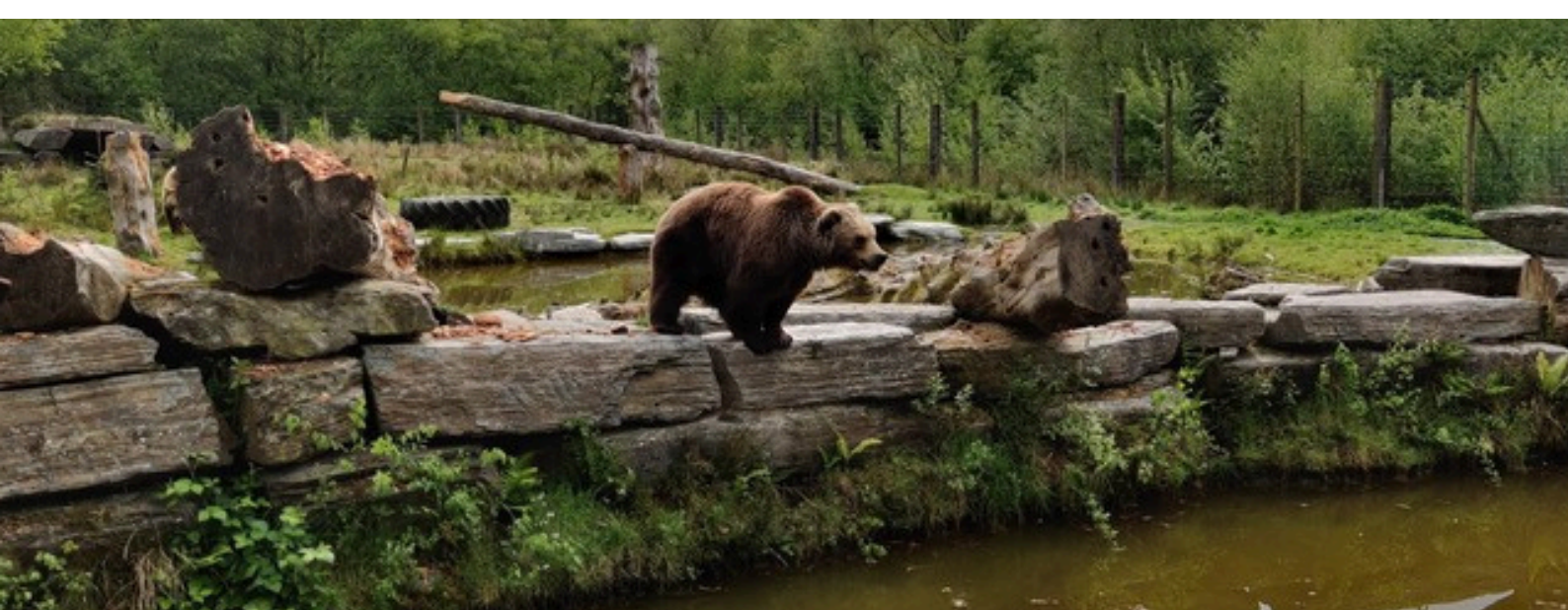
On 12 May, our Transition Year students travelled to Leinster House for an engaging and memorable visit to the Dáil. The day began with an interactive workshop which gave students the opportunity to explore how democracy operates in Ireland and gain a deeper understanding of the role of elected representatives in shaping our society. This was followed by the privilege of attending Leaders' Questions in the public gallery, allowing students to see parliamentary debate and decision-making in action. Judging by the interest, enthusiasm and thoughtful engagement shown throughout the day, we may well have had a few future politicians among this group. Our thanks to Mr. Clancy.



CSPE Trip to Wild Ireland

Our 2nd year CSPE students enjoyed a fantastic trip to Wild Ireland as part of their Citizenship Action Project focusing on biodiversity, conservation, and sustainability. Students took part in a guided tour of the sanctuary, where they learned about a variety of native and endangered animals, as well as the important work being carried out in conservation and rewilding. A special conservation talk gave students the opportunity to engage directly with staff and ask questions about biodiversity loss, human impact on ecosystems, and ways communities can help protect wildlife.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable day, and the experience will greatly support students in completing their CSPE Citizenship Action Projects. Our thanks to Ms. Gralton for accompanying our students.



1st Year Cell Model Project

As part of their Science homework our were asked to build and label a model of either a plant cell or an animal cell. This project was worth 10% of their summer exam mark. The creativity and effort shown in the finished models were outstanding. Our students used a wide range of materials including polystyrene, insulation, painted cardboard, sweets, shoeboxes, Play-Doh, wood, and even welded metal to create their pieces.

The projects demonstrated both excellent scientific understanding and impressive creativity. Well done to all students on their fantastic work. Our thanks to their teacher Ms. Gralton.



TY Enterprise

Our TY Enterprise class recently visited Spraoi agus Spórt in Carndonagh. This visit was part of The Wheel Social Enterprise Collaboration.

The day began in the Creative Lab, where Helen and John delivered an informative talk on the history of Spraoi agus Spórt. Our students then moved from theory to practice participating in a mug-making workshop with Áine where they saw firsthand how digital fabrication and design work in a real-world setting. Our thanks to Ms. O' Donovan for accompanying our students.



TY Graduation 2026

On Thursday we celebrated the graduation of our Transition Year students, marking the conclusion of a truly important and memorable stage in their educational journey. Transition Year provides students with a unique opportunity to grow beyond the classroom, developing new skills, broadening their knowledge, building confidence and embracing experiences that prepare them for the years ahead. The graduation ceremony was an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the many achievements, experiences and personal milestones reached throughout the year. A sincere word of thanks must go to our TY Coordinator, Ms. K. McGonagle, for her dedication, enthusiasm and hard work in guiding and supporting students.











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



Gaeltacht Bursaries

New €400 Gaeltacht bursaries for Inishowen students attending Rann na Feirste Shared commitment between Spraoi agus Spórt and Feis Domhnaigh “to support the Irish language and create opportunities for young people to experience the Gaeltacht”

Spraoi agus Spórt has announced they will sponsor two €400 bursaries for students attending the Gaeltacht in Rann na Feirste this summer, in partnership with Feis Domhnaigh.

The bursaries will be awarded through a Comhrá Ginearálta competition organised as part of Feis Domhnaigh.

1. The competition is open to both primary and secondary school students. Entries close on May 23rd, 2026, and the competition will take place on the evening of June 12th, 2026. Further information and application forms can be accessed [here](#).



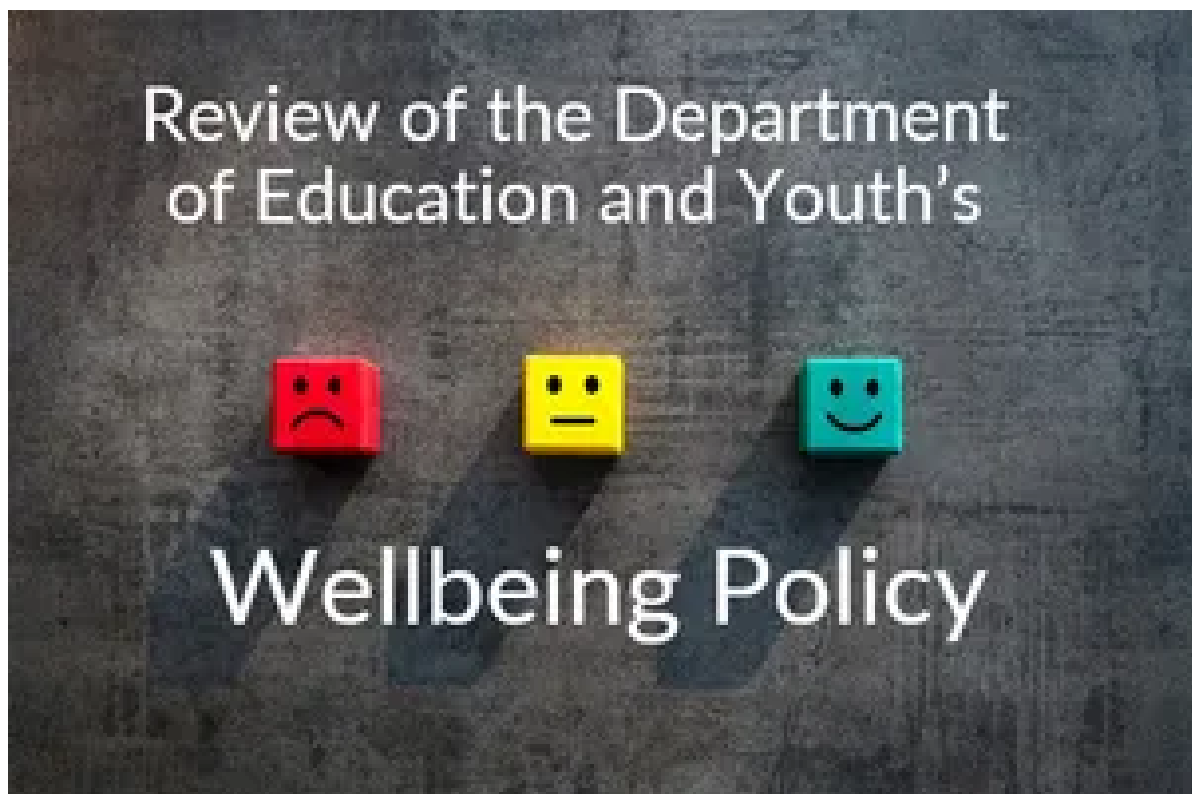
National Review of Wellbeing

With the Wellbeing Policy Statement and Framework for Practice Implementation Plan having concluded in 2025, we have begun a review of the progress made and are now planning for its successor.

The main purpose of the review is to develop an updated Wellbeing Policy for the Department of Education and Youth and develop and agree a new Implementation Plan for the period 2026 – 2030. In addition, the purpose is to strengthen targets and indicators and develop a consistent approach to measuring impact.

We would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to complete the survey below.

- Students: **[Click here](#)** to complete the student survey
- Parents / Guardians: **[Click here](#)** to complete the parent/guardian survey



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



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. Gralton



Upcoming Events

26 May	3 rd Year students finish school
28 May	2 nd Year students finish school
28 May	1 st Year students finish school
28 May	Special Class students finish school
29 May	Last day before Summer Holidays



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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.

