SCOIL MHUIRE
BUNCRANA

NEWSLETTER #01 **SEPTEMBER 2026**

Fáilte



It is a pleasure to welcome you to our first newsletter of the new school year. The term has begun on a very positive note and it has been wonderful to see our students return to school ready to learn, reconnect and become involved in school life once again.

We extend a particularly warm welcome to our new 1st Year students as they begin their journey with us in Scoil Mhuire. We wish them every happiness and success as they settle into their new school and we look forward to seeing them grow and flourish in the years ahead.

As we begin another busy year, we look forward to working with our parents and guardians to ensure that every student has the opportunity to thrive and reach their full potential.

Throughout the year, our regular newsletter will provide a glimpse into the many activities, achievements and events that make up life in Scoil Mhuire and will help keep our whole school community connected and informed.

Leaving Certificate Results 2026

We are extremely proud of our students who achieved excellent Leaving Certificate and Leaving Certificate Applied results this year.

Their commitment, determination and hard work have been rewarded and their achievements reflect not only their own efforts but also the encouragement and support of their teachers, families and wider school community. We congratulate each and every one of them on their success..

Leaving Certificate Results 2026




















WELCOME
SCOIL
MHUIRE
CONVENT OF MERCY






POKER
SMARTER

1st Years 2026-2027

We warmly welcome our 1st year students to Scoil Mhuire. Pictured below are classes 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E amd 1F. Guímis gach rath agus beannacht orthu uilig.













1st Year Parents/Guardians Review Night

On Monday 7 September we welcomed the parents and guardians of our 1st Year students to Scoil Mhuire. Presentations were given on the night by our Principal, Deputy Principals and our 1st Year Year Head, Ms. McDermott.
A sincere thank you to all of our parents and guardians who attended on the night.
A link to the presentation from the night can be found **here**



Student Leadership



Donegal Youth Council

On Tuesday, we welcomed Michael McDevitt from the Donegal Youth Council, who spoke with our 5th Year students about the upcoming Donegal Youth Council elections.

Michael provided students with an insight into the work carried out by the Donegal Youth Council to date, explained the election process, and outlined what students can expect if elected to the council.

A great opportunity for our students to learn more about youth representation and how they can play an active role in shaping the future of young people in Donegal. Best of luck to all students considering putting themselves forward!





Senior Leadership Training

Our Senior Student Leadership team had a fantastic day participating in an interactive, hands-on workshop facilitated by Karen Murphy. Students dove into fun activities to build their communication skills, collaborate as a team, and get clear on their exciting roles and responsibilities for the year ahead. It was a huge success, and everyone left feeling inspired, confident, and ready to lead. A brilliant day enjoyed by all. Our thanks to Ms. O'Sullivan.



Open Night 2026

Scoil Mhuire's Open Night for parents and students interested in joining our school will take place on Thursday, 19 November 2026. We look forward to meeting prospective parents and students and showing them everything that Scoil Mhuire has to offer.

CAT 4 Testing

Our First Year students recently completed the CAT4 (Cognitive Abilities Test).
This year, we chose to complete the CAT4 assessments digitally. Following the initial instructions, students were able to work independently and progress through the assessment at their own pace in a structured exam-style environment.
The sitting was very successful, and we were delighted with how well the students engaged with the assessment. Our thanks to Mr. Baldrick and everyone who helped out on the day.





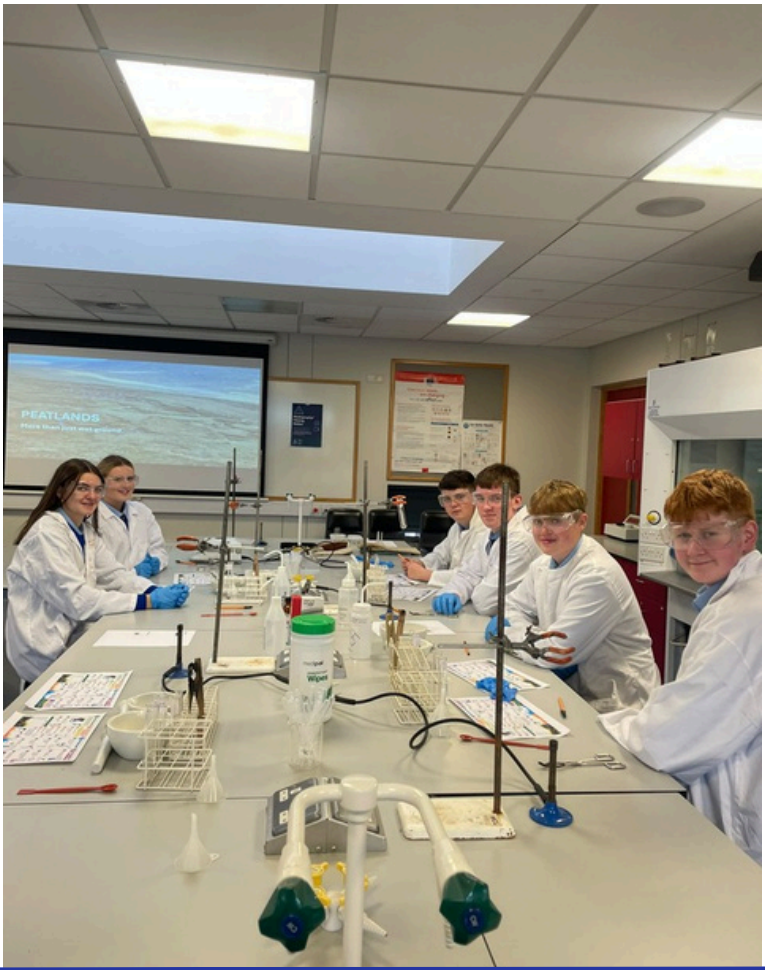


TY Science Taster ATU

Our TYs recently travelled to ATU for a taster of their science subjects. Our thanks to Ms. M. McLaughlin and Mr. Campbell







Lake Kilrea 2026











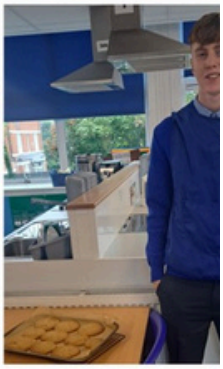



Iced Lattes | Coffee
ICED



TY Cookery

















Football Trials







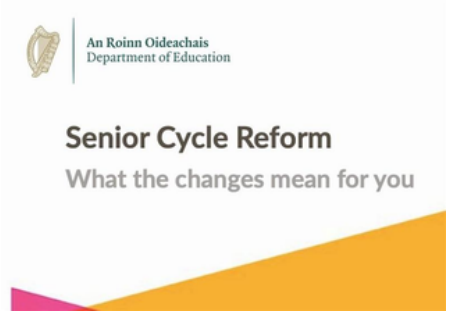
Mercy Day Mass 2026

Our Mercy Day mass on **September 23rd** reminds us that Scoil Mhuire is primarily a Mercy School. It is a time when we can recommit to delivering the vision of our founder, Catherine McAuley. As part of our Mercy ethos, we aim to provide a Christian environment in which students can maximise their academic and creative potential. We endeavour to promote in each pupil a sense of belonging to and appreciation of their community at local, national and international level. We also aim to nurture and develop in each pupil a positive self-image while equipping them with the skills and advice they will need later in life.



Senior Cycle Reform

As part of the process of Senior Cycle reform, our teachers are currently undergoing training on the new subject specifications and assessment procedures. This will mean that some of our teachers will occasionally be absent in order to attend training. Work however will always be left by the absent teacher and will always be posted on Google Classroom.



Free Breakfast

There is free breakfast for any student who brings their own reusable cup. We have reusable cups for sale for €2 (one-off). Students can get free tea and toast every morning in our school canteen. A warm welcome and a great way to start the day!

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

RSA



NEART Programme

At Scoil Mhuire, the wellbeing of our students is at the heart of everything we do and we know that the teenage years can bring real challenges for young people and for the families supporting them. We want you to know that you don't have to navigate this alone, there is help and support out there for you too.

We're delighted to introduce Neart (the Irish word for strength), a national programme of free mental health and wellbeing resources for parents and guardians of post-primary students. Neart is delivered by Jigsaw – The National Centre for Youth Mental Health, in partnership with NEPS (the National Educational Psychological Service) and the Department of Education and Youth.
Neart offers practical, parent-friendly supports, including:

- Free evening webinars on topics parents have told them matter most
- A dedicated podcast series for parents and guardians
- Practical guidance and resources you can use at home

Upcoming Parent Webinars (7:30–8:30pm):

- Talking to your Teen – Sept 15th
- Understanding and Supporting Young People Experiencing Low Mood – Nov 10th
- Self-Compassion for Parents and Guardians – Jan 7th
- Enhancing Wellbeing and Protective Factors for Young People – Mar 15th

You can register for any of these sessions, and sign up for the monthly Neart newsletter (which also gives you access to recordings of past webinars), by clicking here: Neart webinars & newsletter
Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. Together, we can make sure our young people and their parents feel supported, informed, and never alone.

Scoil Mhuire Clubs/Activities

Activity	Age/Year	Coordinator/s	Day/Time	Location
Board Game Club	1st and 2nd years	L Meehan & Edel O'Connor	Wednesday Lunch	Library
Maths Club	All	K Malcolmson	Monday Lunch	CON 204
Dungeons & Dragons/Warhammer	All	H Quigley	Afterschool Tuesday 4-5	SJ 201
Art Club	All	H Quigley	Wednesday lunch	SJ 201
Book Club	All	S Malone S Craig HQ	Tuesday lunch	Library
Chess Club	All	S Malone S Craig HQ	Thursday lunch	Library
Movie Club	All	Z Mc Fadden	Thursday lunch	Con 204
Werewolf (Social Games)	All	A Brogan	Wednesday Lunchtime	SC 206
Hair and makeup club	All	E Mcbrearty	Thursday lunchtime	SM 106
Climate/Foireann Gls	All	D.Dowds	Every Second Tuesday	SM 213
Bake Club	All	L Doherty	One Friday a month - after school	Kitchen SM 204
Pope John Paul Awards & Papal Cross Awards	Ty	Ms O Connor	Ongoing throughout the year	Con 201
Darts	Junior & senior	Mr K Campbell	Tuesday lunchtime	Stage
Student Council	All	Ms O Sullivan	Ongoing throughout the year	Sm 204

Scoil Mhuire Sports

Activity	Teacher/s
Gaelic Boys	U 13.5 - Mr C Thompson U 14.5 - Mr S Jones U 16.5 - Mr T Grant Senior Gaelic - Mr K Campbell
Gaelic Girls	U 13.5 - Ms C McCauley & Ms A McHugh U 14.5 -Ms C McCauley & Ms A McHugh U 16.5 - Ms C McCauley & Ms A McHugh Senior Gaelic - Ms C McCauley & Ms A McHugh
Soccer Boys	1st Yr - Mr D McLaughlin & Mr E McCauley (Thursday:4-5 Training - School Pitch) Minor U 15 - Mr M Gallagher (Wednesday:4-5 -Training) Junior U 17- Mr A Curran (Monday:4-5 -Training) Senior - Mr P Carr (Monday:4-5 -Training)
Soccer Girls	1st Yr - Mr P Carr & Ms C McCauley (Tuesday:4-5 -Training School pitch) Minor U 15 - Ms S Craig (Tuesday:4-5 -Training) Junior U 17 - Ms C McCauley (Tuesday 4-5 -Training) Senior - Paddy Carr (Tuesday:4-5 -Training)
Golf	Mr N. Doherty
Athletics/Cross Country	Mr K Campbell & Mr D Donaghy
Basketball Boys	1st Year Boys - Mr C Thompson & Mr D Donaghy 2nd Year Boys - Mr C Thompson & Mr D Donaghy 16 Years - Mr C Thompson & Mr D Donaghy Senior Girls - Mr C Thompson & Mr D Donaghy
Basketball Girls	1st Year Boys - Mr D Donaghy & Ms E Gallagher 2nd Year Boys - Mr D Donaghy & Ms E Gallagher 16 Years - Mr D Donaghy & Ms E Gallagher Senior Girls - Mr K Cambell
Hurling	U 13.5 - Mr A McAleer & Mr Campbell U 14.5 - Mr A McAleer & Mr Campbell U 16.5 - Mr A McAleer & Mr Campbell Senior - Mr A McAleer & Mr Campbell
Camogie	U 13.5 - Mr A McAleer U 14.5 - Mr A McAleer U 16.5 -Mr A McAleer Senior - Mr A McAleer
Equestrian	Ms. McCauley
Skiing	Ms Campbell

Upcoming Events

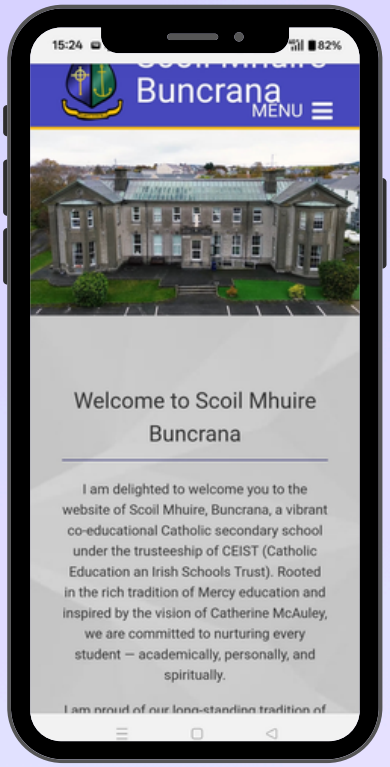
23 September	Mercy Day Mass
28 September	School Closed
08 October	School Closed for Staff Training
12 October	6th Year Exams Commence
14 October	6th Year Progression Night
14 October	3rd Year Exams Commence
22 October	Formal
26-30 October	Mid-Term Break

Sponsorship Opportunity

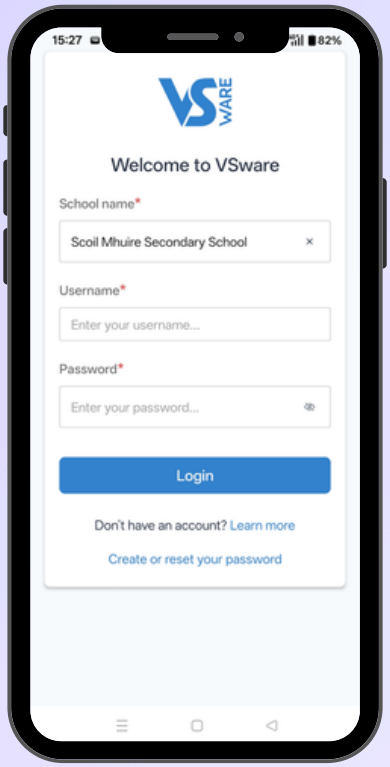
We are currently seeking sponsors for our basketball and U15 football teams as we look to provide these teams with new jerseys. If you would like to support our school please contact info@scoilmhuirebuncrana.ie Thank you.

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.

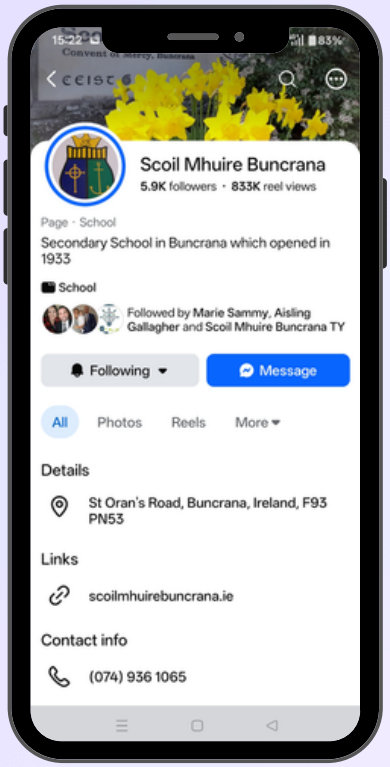
Keeping You Informed



Website



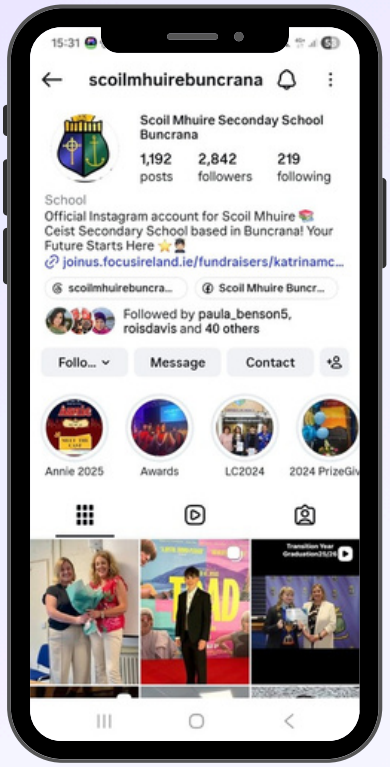
Vsware Mail



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