

Scoil Pádraig Naofa November 2025 Newsletter

HAPPY NOVEMBER

Remember that it's
never too early to start
being grateful for your
blessings.

Message from School Principal:

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Welcome to the November edition of our monthly Newsletter.

As you can imagine, we are in the throes of preparing for Christmas with numerous events and exciting happenings planned. One such event is our annual St Vincent de Paul draw. As you are aware we create at least 20 hampers from donated items, to be raffled at our Coffee morning. Therefore, can I please ask any of you who may be in a position to provide "contents" for the hamper(s) to please do so.... vouchers, cosmetics, chocolates etc.

Can I also remind you about our Christmas Craft Fair, scheduled to take place in the school hall from 11am to 4pm with Santa due to arrive around 1pm, (hopefully).....I really hope that our school parent community will support this event, please.

And finally, sincere thanks to you all for attending our recent Parent / Teacher meetings.

Kind Regards, Joe Kennelly. Principal

Key Dates for December

- ❖ Christmas Class Performances:
Tues Dec 9th to Thurs Dec 11th
- ❖ Christmas Craft Fair:
Sunday Dec 14th -11am to 4pm.
- ❖ Christmas Jumper Day:
Monday, December 15th
- ❖ Coffee Morning and SVP Raffle:
Thursday Dec 18th @ 11am
- ❖ Christmas School Holidays:
School closes Friday Dec 20th @12 noon



Christmas Class Performances 2025

| Time | Tues Dec 9 th | Wed Dec 10 th | Thurs Dec 11 th |
|--------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 11am | 1 st Class | 6 th Class | Jnr & Snr Infants |
| 12pm | 5 th Class | 3 rd Class | 2 nd Class |
| 1.30pm | | 4 th Class | |

Prayer for Our Faithfully Departed



Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



Scoil Pádraig Naofa 26th Christmas Fundraiser



In aid of St. Vincent De Paul

SVP DRY FOOD COLLECTION

All donations of non-perishable food welcome

Collection boxes available in each classroom.



Coffee Morning and Christmas Raffle

❖ Thursday December 18th @11am -12.30pm

Come join us for this wonderful morning and meet the local community in the run up to Christmas

- ❖ Teas/Coffees and home baked goodies
- ❖ Christmas carols and tunes sung by our pupils
- ❖ Raffle with wonderful prizes to be won



St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Raffle 2025



This year we will be running our annual St Vincent de Paul fundraiser raffle in our school. This will be our 26th consecutive year of supporting St Vincent de Paul and again this year, we are asking all of you to come on board and support this noteworthy charity. The raffle will take place in school on Thursday December 18th at our annual coffee morning.

Raffle cards will be distributed to each child on Monday December 1st.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal

We would like to thank everyone who donated a shoebox for this year's shoebox appeal. These shoeboxes have now been collected and are on their way to the Team Hope depot for distribution around the world to children affected by poverty. Thank you once again for kindly supporting this worthy appeal.



Student Friendly Child Safeguarding Statement

The protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance in our school. As part of the recently updated **Child Protection Procedures for Schools in 2025** every pupil has been made familiar with the Student Friendly Child Safeguarding Statement which is available to view at every entrance in our school and the staffroom.

- It informs them of how through teaching the **Stay Safe Programme** in our school it enables them to feel safe in school and in their lives outside of school too.
- It also mentions our **Child Safeguarding Statement**. It is described as a compiled list of all the ways that helps ensure that children are kept safe. A list that is checked annually.

They know that if someone says or does something to hurt them or makes them feel uncomfortable, a child can tell an adult they trust. For example, a teacher, SNA, secretary or the principal.

Mr. Kennelly is the person who is in charge of child safeguarding. He is our **Designated Liaison Person or DLP**.

Please explore the language used in this child friendly format.

All staff members will be attending in-service in relation to this area on November 27th.

CSS 4(a)

Student-friendly Child Safeguarding Statement (primary)



Child Safeguarding in our School

Child safeguarding is what we do in our school to keep children and young people safe from harm.

We teach the **Stay Safe Programme** to help you feel safe at school and in your life outside of school too.

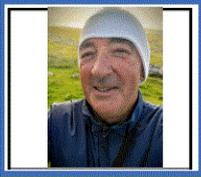
We also think about other ways to keep everyone safe and we write these down. This is called our **Child Safeguarding Statement**.

We check this every year. When we do this we will ask you what you think about safeguarding in our school.

If someone says or does something to hurt you or makes you feel uncomfortable, you can tell an adult that you trust.

| Who to go to: | What we will do: |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any trusted adult For example, a teacher, SNA, secretary/caretaker or the principal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Listen and understand <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guide or look for help |

Every school has a person in charge of child safeguarding. This person is called the **Designated Liaison Person or DLP**. The DLP for our school is



Dancing Queen!

Congratulations to our Irish dancing star, Thérèse, who regularly competes in Irish dancing competitions. Here she is with some of her latest awards. We are very proud of you Thérèse, and special mention to her teacher, Susan O'Shaughnessy.



Nov Silver Circle Winners:

1st Prize €100 – Daithí Kenny – 1st Class

2nd Prize €50 – Zoe Clarke – 2nd Class

3rd Prize €25 – Éabha Burke – 3rd Class





Christmas
★ Craft Fair ★
Cregmore
National School

Cregmore, Galway
H91YD28

14th December
11am - 4pm

- Handmade Local Crafts
- Refreshments
- Raffle
- Visit from Santa

If you would like to take part
as a vendor please contact
Sharon on 0862486896





Cregmore NS Readathon 2025



Last month we ran our annual Readathon in school. As always, we were blown away by the outstanding support from you, the families within our school. Thank you for making this wonderful initiative so successful. It's lovely to see that books are bringing so much enjoyment to children throughout the school from infants to 6th class.

We are extremely grateful for the many ways you supported your children - by encouraging them to read regularly, ensuring that they had books to read and enjoy and offering them sponsorship. Because of all this, we are delighted to say that we were able to support a number of charities with very generous donations and also purchase graded readers for our school.

To acknowledge their hard work, every child received a small prize for taking part and in addition to this each class were given extra prizes for most books read, most money raised and most improved reader.

Thank you again for your ongoing support and generosity. It truly makes a difference.



Junior Infants: Ms Crehan: This month, we welcomed Mr. Collins to the Junior Infant Classroom. The boys & girls had a wonderful time learning all about various topics, including 'Houses & Homes'. As part of this theme, the children explored stories such as 'The Three Little Pigs' and 'Hansel & Gretel'. They had great fun with role-playing family life in the 'Home Corner'. They also enjoyed completing map-work on their local area & figuring out what they see on their journeys from their homes to school each day. The children finished off this fabulous learning by creating their very own 'dream' homes with the use of various materials.

We would like to thank Mr. Collins for his kindness throughout the last few weeks & we wish him all the very best for the future ☺



Senior Infants: Ms Coyne: November was a month filled with crisp air, fallen leaves and exciting celebrations in Senior Infants. We commenced the month by remembering our dearly departed relations and friends. This was done through prayer, building a remembrance tree and devising our garden of remembrance. We also recalled and remembered the names of some native Irish birds as we went on a birdwatching expedition with renowned birdwatcher Tom Cuffe. We look forward to seeing and identifying the sound of the Spideóg, throughout the month of December!



1st Class: Ms Herwood: What an exciting and fun-filled month it has been for First Class! The children have been buzzing with energy and enthusiasm as they took part in a wonderful mix of creative and curious learning experiences. One of the highlights of the month was our fantastic dance workshops with Shane. The boys and girls absolutely loved learning new moves, keeping active, and expressing themselves through music and rhythm. Each session was full of laughter, teamwork, and plenty of impressive footwork! It has been amazing to see the children grow in confidence and really enjoy getting moving.

We also had a brilliant time during Science Week, when we were invited to a special science workshop hosted by 5th and 6th Class. The senior students explored a range of investigations and experiments, and First Class were fascinated by everything they saw. It was wonderful to watch the older pupils lead the activities and inspire the younger children with their knowledge and creativity. Overall, it has been a joyful month of learning, movement, creativity, and discovery in First Class. We are very proud of the children and look forward to even more adventures next month!



2nd Class: Ms Greene: This month has been a very exciting one in our classroom! We have been learning all about Tom Crean, the brave Irish explorer who travelled to the freezing continent of Antarctica three times. The children loved hearing stories about his adventures and discovering what life was like on an expedition so far from home. We also explored the unique landscape and wildlife of Antarctica. Penguins were a big favourite, and the class created wonderful penguin drawings, where we focused on perspective when depicting the backgrounds.

It has been a month full of curiosity, creativity, and fun. We're looking forward to even more learning and excitement as we head into December! The creation of our Advent Calendar has begun and we are excited to plan some festive activities!

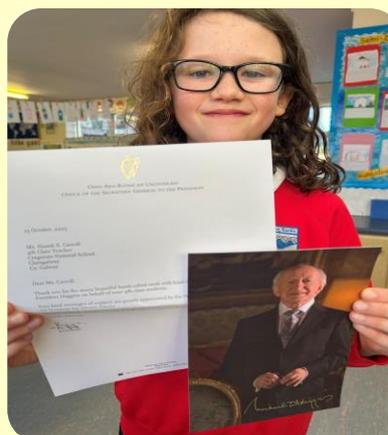
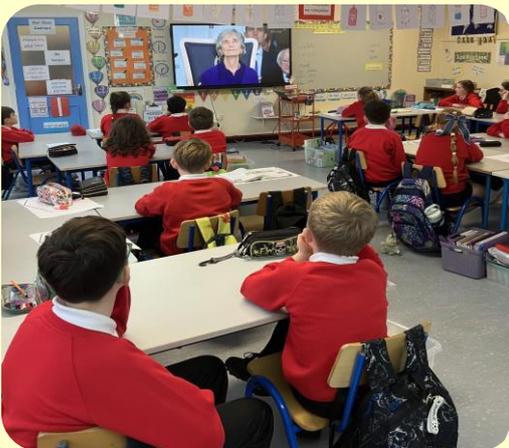
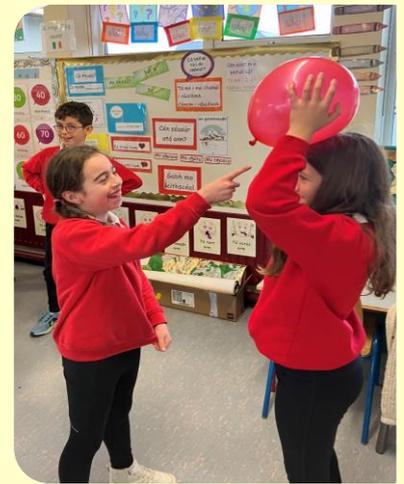


3rd Class: Mrs O'Dea & Mr Farrell: November was filled with lots of art as we decorated our classrooms, hallways and windows for Christmas. We remembered our deceased relatives and friends with our candles display and explored the poem of Jack Frost, which we used as inspiration for our beautiful creations. Work has commenced for our festive performance..... no clues yet but we know you will love it! Slán tamaill ó Rang a Trí ! We hope you enjoy the build up to Christmas, we certainly plan to!



4th Class: Ms O'Carroll: Rang a Ceathair were back with a bang after midterm break and engaged in a wide variety of fun activities. We worked in groups to design machines that complete tasks that people might not like doing.

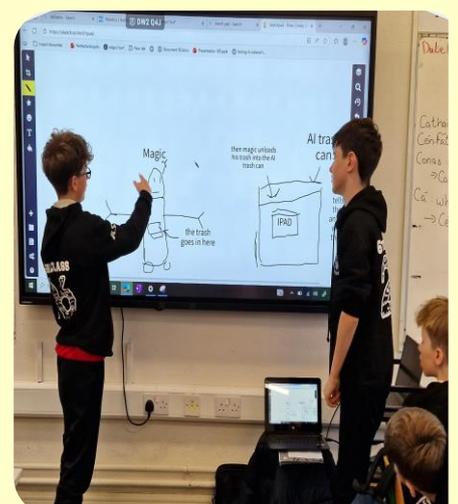
For example, have you ever become frustrated when trying to find pairs of socks after the wash? If so, 4th Class has the machine for you! Introducing the 'Sock Picker and Pairer 2025'! We had a wonderful Science Week, we even created static electricity; using our jumpers and hair to create a charge and then completed the rice krispie challenge. Also, we engaged in designing and making rockets, which had to be as aerodynamic as possible, in order to travel a specific distance. This month we received a lovely letter and signed photo from none other than Michael D Higgins, in response to our thank you cards we sent him. We also watched some of the inauguration of President Catherine Connolly from Dublin Castle. Thank you to all who organised and participated in the photography competition, the entries are outstanding and each photograph is unique. This month we also welcomed Luke to our class and school community, who is a great addition to our class.



5th Class: Ms Mc Cormack & Miss Nally: November has been a very busy and creative month in Rang a Cúig. We have been working on winter art, including stained-glass windows, winter silhouettes, and festive penguins, which have added a lovely pop of colour to our classrooms. As November is the month of remembrance, we also took time to design candles to remember our loved ones. In Music, we enjoyed learning the songs "Close to You", "Lay Your Hands" and "In the Bleak Midwinter". In English, we wrote winter acrostic poems, using seasonal words and ideas to inspire our writing. We also learned about Amsterdam, including the story of Anne Frank and her life during World War II, as well as the famous artist Vincent van Gogh and his incredible artwork. We also loved using the laptops to play Kahoot quizzes, which helped us revise our learning in an exciting way. We created Christmas scenes based on 'Christmas in Old Galway' for the Advertiser competition and put lots of effort into our designs. It has been a busy and enjoyable month in Rang a Cúig,



6th Class: Mr Bergin: November has whizzed by in the 6th Class room such is the exciting new learning taking place. In Maths we took a look at Fractions, 2-D Shapes, Decimals and Length. While in English we tried our hand at Narrative writing. The children really enjoyed the whole process and were totally immersed in their writing. In Geography and History, we cast our eyes upon the country of Cuba and investigated Che Guevara's ancestral links to Galway. We also spoke about the topic of human migration. The children also concluded their 'Oceans of the World' class project this month where the children researched; how people fish in different parts of the world, sea safety topics such as rogue waves, rip currents and Tsunami. Other investigations included; various ocean creatures, ocean pollution, ways to combat pollution and finally ways in which the ocean benefits us through seaweed, meditation, swimming, fishing, surfing and more. The month of November was also the starting point of this year's Teckno Programme through the Junior Achievement. The children learned various interesting facts such as, the first computer was built about 300 years ago and that the term A.I. was first used in the US in 1955 by a man of Irish descent. Finally, the children began their Junior Entrepreneur programme this month also. A busy month indeed.



November Sports Update

Table Tennis: Well done to our 5th and 6th Class Table Tennis Competition Winners for 2025. All players had great fun and determination when playing and it made for a really enjoyable competition. A huge thank you to Ms. McCormack as always for all the hard work and organisation.



Indoor Soccer: Congratulations also to our indoor soccer players who are battling hard to the very end. Some very tight games so far have provided great entertainment for all spectators. We are all excited to see how the tournament finishes and who the eventual winners will be.



Everyone here at Cregmore would like to congratulate past pupil, Kym McNulty, as she represented Ireland Girls Under 15 soccer team this month in Alicante. She is the first ever girls U15 International player from our school and we are all incredibly proud of her achievement.

Congratulations to the Woods brothers who won their respective martial arts competitions the past weekend. Jamie won an u12 National Championship in MMA and his brother Joshua won the u10 Connacht Wrestling competition "Grapple City"





Cregmore N.S. Mascots

"A huge thank you to Sam O'Neill and all at Galway United for inviting pupils for Cregmore NS as team mascots for an unforgettable night in Eamon Deacy Park. Our 11 mascots wore their Cregmore NS football with pride. They had great fun and h fun and enjoyed every minute of this wonderful experience.

Galway United secured their top flight status on the night with the Cregmore children as good luck charms!!"



Cregmore N.S. Science Week 2025

We were delighted to celebrate Science Week 2025!

This year's theme is "Then. Today. Tomorrow." It reminds us that the choices we make today can shape our future. Everyone joined in with great curiosity and lots of fun as we explored the wonders of science together!

Fifth and Sixth Class held an amazing Science Fair, in the school hall, for the school community to enjoy! There were lots of fun experiments, ranging from materials and energy, to living things and the environment. We would also like to thank our expert science speakers for visiting different classes and for sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm with our children. This really showed us how exciting science can be! Everyone had a brilliant time experimenting, exploring, and discovering that science is fun for everyone! 🌈



Cregmore N.S. Science Week 2025



Science Week Visitors to our school

A heartfelt thank you to Louise and Michelle for taking time out of their day to visit our classes during Science Week. Their visits gave us wonderful insights into their professions and the important role Science plays in their work. There's no doubt that our school now has future engineers and doctors in the making. Thank you both!





Food Dudes Programme

We are delighted to be taking part in the Food Dudes Programme, a fun and engaging healthy eating initiative. The programme encourages children to eat more fruit and vegetables through daily tasting, positive reinforcement and exciting rewards. Throughout the month, the children were introduced to a wide variety of fruits and vegetables to help children become more familiar with these foods, discover new favourites and develop healthy eating habits that will benefit them long into the future. We were so impressed with the children's enthusiasm! Many were eager to try foods they had never tasted before and several found new fruits and vegetables they enjoy. There were great discussions in the classroom about flavours, textures and personal preferences. A huge well done to all of the children! We have now successfully completed Phase 1 of the programme. Phase 2 has now begun. In this phase, children are invited to bring fruit and vegetables from home each day, using their special Food Dudes lunchbox containers. This encourages independence and helps them continue making healthy choices outside the structured tasting sessions. The children will also receive certificates and rewards to celebrate their ongoing effort and commitment. We are incredibly proud of our young Food Dudes. Their open-mindedness, teamwork and willingness to try new foods have made November a very successful and enjoyable month. Keep up the brilliant work, everyone!

