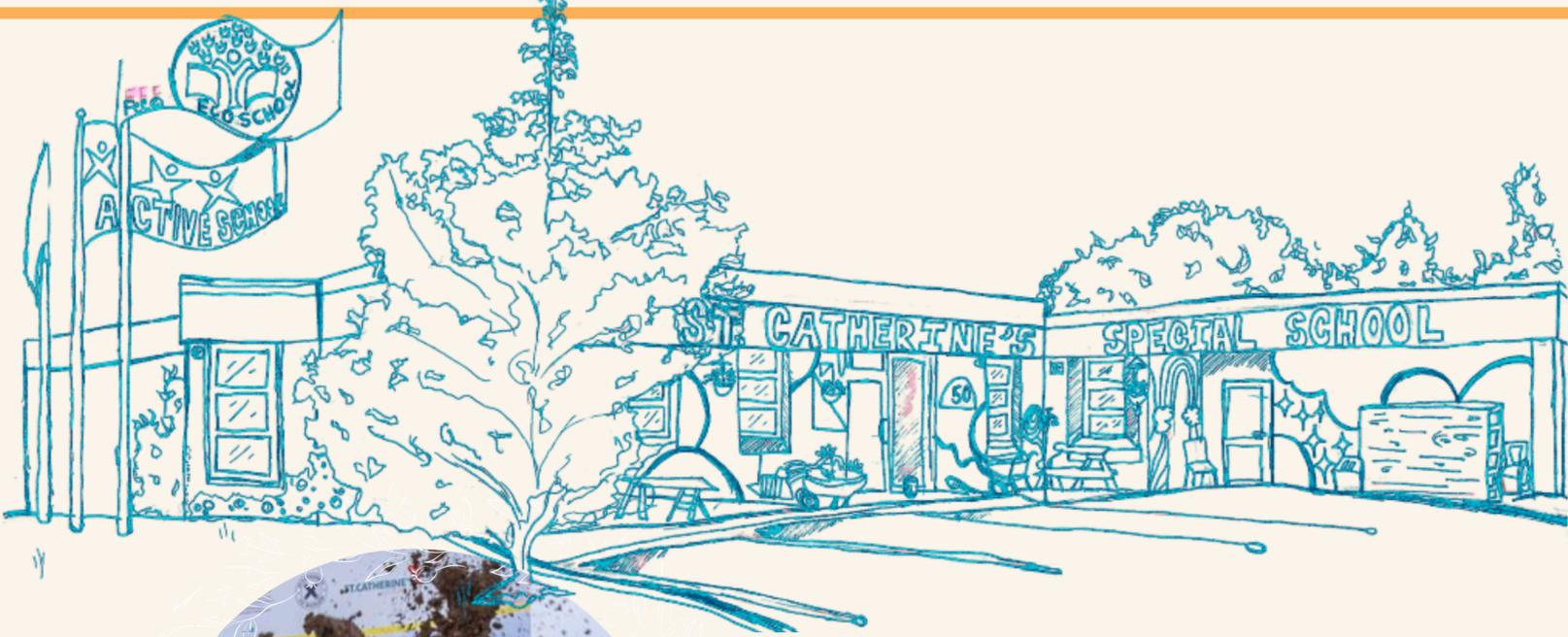


# 27/01/2026



There was a wonderful turnout and the clouds parted for the 'Sod Turning' ceremony to mark the breaking of ground at the new school site in Kilcoole on the 1st December. Special guest Tanaiste Simon Harris, local councillors, parents, pupils, staff past and present and members of the local community were in attendance. There was an overwhelmingly positive reaction to the event from those present, including from the WWETB, the architects and designers who noted the sense of goodwill and excitement for the long-awaited new school.



- Eileen Greene has been appointed to the Position of Deputy Principal in the school. Eileen has been with St Catherine's for almost 20 years and her passion for the school shone through. We wish her every success in the role.



- There is a fourth Assistant Principal II post available to contribute to the In School Leadership Team with two positions to be filled internally.

- Admissions for the next school year close on 2nd February.

- Pupils and staff attended the launch of the new Senior Cycle in the National Gallery on 22nd October. Teachers will implement the curriculum this year. Level 1 Senior Cycle will replace Asdan and pupils will receive a Leaving Certificate upon Graduation.

- There was a whole school closure for Mandatory Child Protection Training for all staff on 15th December provided by the NCSE. Training will be offered to BOM in due course.

- NCSE Advisor, Laura Duffy has been running 'Relate' training for staff during Croke Park Hours and the school now has a Relate Team made up of DP, teachers and SNAs to identify goals to work on during the year.

- The School has a new Educational Psychologist from NEPS, Helen Finnegan who has visited the school a number of times and been extremely helpful. She is offering ongoing training to all staff on Critical Incidents and Self Care over the coming months.





There were many exciting happenings in the school in the first term including

- SNA Appreciation day Sept 25th. Thank you to our wonderful team, who go above and beyond every day.
- ‘Reach for the Sky’ Art Exhibition Wicklow Library 9th – 24 th October
- Halloween - witches walk and disco
- The school facilitated the HSE Leaver’s meetings with parents and teachers in September(11pupils leaving)
- Ongoing Music Therapy with Chiara Clear, Safe & Sound Music continues, funded by the Community Fund
- There was a great turnout at the Christmas Concert in Kilmullen Lane and the Fair at the EDC
- Thanks to Dublin Bus for a wonderful Santa Visit Christmas Fair
- The St David’s Special Christmas Day for our pupils was a huge success



The school is extremely grateful to our fundraisers including The Sugarloaf Lions Club, Bank of Ireland, Verve Marketing and the Gemma Appeal. Our next fundraising event is a Race Night on Saturday 31st January in Lees Kilcoole organised by the Gemma Appeal.

# BOM

## AGREED REPORT

Kilmullen Lane,  
 Newcastle,  
 Co. Wicklow A63 X985  
 Telephone: (01) 2819525  
 Website:www.stcatherinesspecialschool.ie  
 e-mail: info@stcatherinesspecialschool.ie  
 Roll No. 19522L

Chairperson Padraig Rushe

Secretary Clare Carr