

# CALLYSTOWN NS

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2026

## HOT SCHOOL MEALS UPDATE

We are delighted to announce that contracts have now been signed with Foodoo, a local company based in Tullyallen. Foodoo is strongly focused on providing nutrition-based meals using high-quality, locally sourced produce. Meals will be cooked fresh each morning and delivered direct to the school, which is just 20 minutes away. Foodoo is only taking on four local schools, and we are very pleased to be one of them. The school meals service will begin after the midterm break, beginning 23rd February.

We hope to be able to share details of the ordering app when we return to school next week, allowing parents time to download it and get set up.

The menu will be small but nutritious, and Foodoo is eager to work closely with parents of children who have allergies or specific dietary needs. After four to six weeks of the scheme being up and running, Foodoo would like to visit the school to meet with parents to discuss feedback, popular choices, and possible new options. The menu will be reviewed and updated regularly.

## MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

### Safe Routes to School Update

In January 2021, the Safer Routes to School initiative, funded by Louth County Council, began an assessment of the area around the school. As part of this process, meetings were held and residents of the village were consulted regarding possible options to improve safety.

Following this consultation phase, we did not receive further updates until last week, when Safe Routes to School visited the school to inform us that work is expected to begin within the next four to six weeks.

The school views this as a very positive development and one that will greatly improve the area, especially the back of the school around the tennis courts. Once completed, it will make dropping children to Callystown National School much safer.

**Parents will be encouraged to use the back of the school for drop-off**, where children will be able to enter the school grounds independently and safely.

A key aim of the scheme is to reduce traffic congestion at the front of the school and encourage traffic flow to the rear of the school, based on the safety assessment carried out.

### Internet Safety Talk

The Parents Association, in partnership with the Parents Associations from Walshestown, Sandpit and Termonfeckin, will host an Internet Safety Talk for Parents

on **Monday 9th February at 7pm in Walshestown National School**. In light of recent worldwide discussions and concerns around children's safety online, **parents and guardians are strongly encouraged to attend**

## Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week took place from 26th–31st January and gave us an opportunity to reflect on the theme "Normal lives called to holiness."

Sincere thanks to Mr Fortune for organising the activities and leading the prayer service assembly and to Ms. Deery and the school choir for their beautiful music and to Father Martin for joining us to bless our prayer service on Friday.

## Parent-Teacher Meetings

Parent-Teacher Meetings will take place during the week of 9th-14th February, with a particular emphasis on Thursday 12th February. Teachers will open individual appointment slots, which parents can book online via Aladdin at a time that suits them. Appointment slots will be released on Tuesday 3rd February.

## Dates for Your Diary

Monday 2nd February – School closed for St. Brigid's Day Bank Holiday

Tuesday 3rd February – Féile Fichille Chess Tournament 6<sup>th</sup> Class in Aston Village

Wednesday 11th February – Primary Curriculum Framework teacher training-school closed

Rugby Blitz – Rescheduled to later in February due to waterlogged pitches

Thursday 19th & Friday 20th February – Midterm break

Monday 16th March – Lá Glas – children are invited to wear green

Tuesday 17th March – School closed for St. Patrick's Day

Easter Holidays – School will be closed from Monday 30th March and will reopen on Monday 13th April

May Bank Holiday Weekend – School will be closed on Friday 1st May, Bank holiday

Mon 4th May, Tues 5th May and will reopen on Wednesday 6th May

Wednesday 13th May – School closed to pupils for Primary Curriculum Framework

Wednesday 24th June – School closes for Summer Holidays

Dates for school tours and Sports Day will be announced later in the year.

## In Loving Memory

We were deeply saddened by the passing of our past pupil Caitlin McNeill, on January 12th. Caitlin was a beautiful person, and we remember her in Callystown as a wonderful student, a kind friend, and a sunny, happy child with a big smile who brought joy to our school. She will be remembered with love and affection by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Caitlin's lovely family; her parents

Pam and John and her brother Karl, her fiancé PJ, and so many friends at this very sad time.

We extend our deepest sympathies and heartfelt condolences to them all.

Go raibh solas na bhFlaitheas ag lonrú ar a hanam.



"Together We Thrive"