

# ST. MATTHEW'S N.S. NEWSLETTER

January 2026



## January News

School will be closed on Thursday 19th and Friday 20th of February for Midterm Break.

Gaelic Football continues for Junior Infants, Senior Infants, 1st, 2nd and 6th. There will be a hurling blitz starting in March for 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes.

Swimming lessons will begin on Monday 23rd February for 6 weeks for 1st class in Longford swimming pool.

3rd and 4th classes along with Ms. Skelly's Autism Class will continue their Athletics programme in TUS Athletics track in Athlone for another 2 weeks.

Scór auditions and rehearsals are taking place at the moment for all categories. The competition semi final will take place in the Sacred Heart Primary School, Granard on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. The Tráth na gCeist quiz semi final will take place on a separate night in March with a date and venue to be confirmed.

Tag rugby will start later in February for 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> classes.

Sport Hall Athletics Trials will begin next week with the competition to be held later in the month in St. Mel's Longford.

The Credit Union Quiz takes place on Friday 6th February in 'The Mall' Longford at 7pm. We have an U11 and U13 team preparing for this competition.

We also have the Community Games Quiz coming up on Tuesday 10th February at 7.30pm in the Longford Arms Hotel. Best of luck to all our competitors in these competitions.



# Recent Activities

## Choir Pizza Party

After a truly brilliant performance at our recent carol service, our choir enjoyed a well-earned pizza party to celebrate their hard work and commitment. The service was a wonderful success and the choir sang beautifully, filling the space with festive spirit and confidence. Huge thanks to all our choir members for representing the school so proudly and what a fantastic way to end a very special event!



## Cumann na mBunscol Table Quiz Champions

On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January, our quiz team which consisted of Ronan Gouldsbury, Maebh Ryan, Byron O'Connor and Senan Kelly took part in the Cumann na mBunscol Quiz in St. Mary's Community Centre, Edgeworthstown. The quiz consisted of 40 GAA questions and 40 sports questions. The team put in a tremendous performance coming 1<sup>st</sup> place for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row. They have now qualified for the All Ireland final in Tullamore on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.



# Indoor Hurling Competition

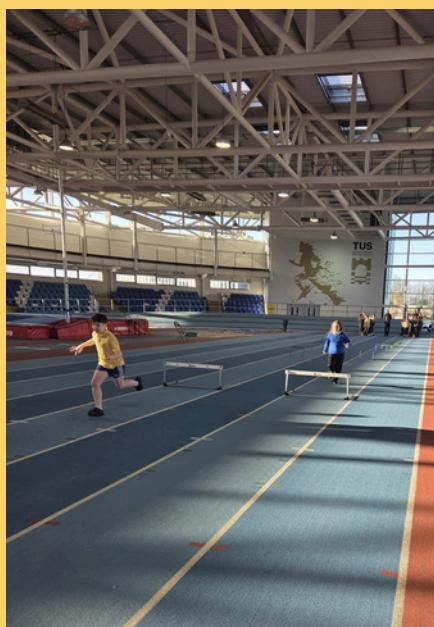
Well done to our hurling team who finished up their indoor hurling competition in Newtownforbes on the 15<sup>th</sup> January. The boys and girls represented the school with great enthusiasm, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the competition.

This experience provided the team with valuable match practice and helped them develop their skills and confidence on the pitch. Well done to all involved and to Mr. Ward for coordinating the team.



## Athletics in TUS Athlone

The children from 3rd class, 4th class and Ms. Skelly's class all participated in the athletics training programme at TUS Athlone! The children all took part in various training circuits, all under the watchful eyes of the highly trained TUS athletics team! It was fantastic to see all of the children take part in this exciting strand of the P.E. Curriculum and in such superb facilities!



# Grandparents Day

On Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January, Our school was delighted to welcome grandparents and special guests for a very enjoyable Grandparents' Day celebration. The day began with grandparents bringing the children to Mass, a lovely opportunity for generations to come together as a school community. After Mass, the children proudly brought their grandparents back to their classrooms, where they shared their learning and spent some special time together. The morning concluded with refreshments, giving everyone a chance to chat, relax and enjoy each other's company. Thank you to all the grandparents who joined us and helped make the day so special.

