

ST. MATTHEW'S N.S. NEWSLETTER

February 2026



February News

Confirmation for 6th class will take place on Wednesday 11th March at 3pm. School will close at 2pm for all children on this day. The children involved in the choir will remain in school from 2-3pm and food will be provided for them. Parents can collect their children at the church after the ceremony.

School will be closed on Tuesday 17th March for St. Patrick's Day and on Wednesday 18th March for staff training on the new Primary Curriculum.

We will be celebrating Seachtain na Gaeilge from the 1st - 17th March this year. There will be various activities and events taking place throughout the school during this time.

Best of luck to our Sports Quiz team who will now represent Longford at the All Ireland Cumann na mBunscol Quiz final in Tullamore on Sunday 22nd March.

World Book Day will take place next Thursday, 5th March. Children may dress up as their favourite book character. Dressing up is optional and children may instead wear comfortable clothes suitable for enjoying a day of reading, activities and storytelling.

First Confession for children in 2nd Class will take place on Tuesday 3rd March at 2.00pm in St. Matthew's Church.

Football training continues every Wednesday with our new GPO David Reilly. He will be working with Junior & Senior Infants, 2nd and 6th.

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

Best of luck to all our Scór competitors who will take part in the semi finals on Tuesday 3rd March in Granard and to our Tráth na gCeist team who will contest their semi final on Monday 23rd March in Killoe at 7:30pm.



WORLD
BOOK
DAY
5 MARCH 2026



Recent Activities

St. Brigid's Day



On the 1st February, our school community came together to celebrate St. Brigid's Day, a special day in the Irish calendar that marks the beginning of spring and honours one of Ireland's patron saints.



As part of our celebrations, the children enjoyed learning about the tradition of making St. Brigid's crosses. Traditionally woven from rushes, the cross is believed to bring protection and blessing to homes.



The pupils had great fun creating their own crosses, carefully folding and weaving the rushes to form the distinctive four-armed design.



Community Games Quiz

Well to our 4 quiz teams who took part in the Community Games U14 Quiz in the Longford Arms in Longford on Tuesday 10th February. Well done to Maebh, Ronan, Senan and Byron who were joint 3rd on the night.



Credit Union Quiz



Well done to our U11 and U13 quiz teams who took part in the Credit Union Quiz in 'The Mall' in Longford on Friday 6th February. A historically tough quiz, the children were all very proud of their success.



Pancake Tuesday

We would like to extend a huge thank you to Mac's Shack for visiting us in Bridgeways and treating the children to a fantastic pancake-making experience!

The children had an absolute ball learning how to make pancakes from scratch and the highlight of the day was, of course, getting to flip them! There were lots of smiles as everyone took a turn. It was a wonderful hands-on activity that brought great excitement and laughter to the classroom.



Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday 10th February, we had the pleasure of hosting two members of An Garda Síochána, who emphasised the importance of staying safe online. The children engaged in the presentation and found out that even though being online can be fun, there are many ways in which the Internet can also be potentially dangerous. The main message was, 'if in doubt, tell a trusted adult'. Thanks again to both Ms Carroll's and Mr Ward's classes for participating in this extremely beneficial discussion. Thanks of course to our fantastic members of An Garda Síochána.



Longford Lights

Well done to everybody in 4th Class today who took part in a fantastic art lesson, designing their beautiful streamers for the Longford Lights Event! All of the streamers from Ms. O Carroll's and Mr. Ward's 4th class were on display at the Longford Lights festival at Connolly Barracks Longford Town, from the 19th of February to the 22nd! Well done everyone.



Tag Rugby Fun

Glen from Longford Ruby Club came to our school and taught the children from 4th and 5th class, the skills of tag rugby! All of the children had great fun and enjoyed this fantastic sport!! Glen will be working with all the children from 4th - 6th over the coming 6 weeks. Well done everyone.



Bí Cineálta Winners

This month, we were delighted to recognise our Bí Cineálta winners — pupils who consistently demonstrate kindness, respect and care towards others in our school community. The Bí Cineálta initiative encourages children to make positive choices, show empathy and build a culture of inclusion and belonging. Throughout the month, staff kept a close eye out for acts of kindness both big and small — from helping a classmate who was stuck, to including others at yard time, to using kind and encouraging words in the classroom.