



# February

# NEWSLETTER



Dear St. Cronan's Families,

As we step into the brighter days of early spring, it is lovely to see all the wonderful signs of the season around us. The daffodils and snowdrops are beginning to bloom, birds are singing in the mornings, and there's a welcome stretch in the evenings that lifts everyone's spirits. We even managed to enjoy a few days without rain! Although February is a short month, it seems to have flown by in a flurry of activity and positivity.

We had a truly special Kindness Week, during which our children worked incredibly hard to carry out extra kind deeds. It was heartwarming to see such thoughtfulness in action, and I hope that the kindness they have shown will continue to shine throughout the rest of the school year.

We also marked **Internet Safety Day**, reminding ourselves just how important it is to keep our children safe in the online world. By working together—at school and at home—we can help them develop the knowledge and confidence to navigate the digital world safely and responsibly.

There is great excitement building as we prepare for *Seachtain na Gaeilge*. The school is looking wonderful with its vibrant decorations, and the hall is all set for Irish dancing lessons on Monday and Tuesday.

We are also very much looking forward to the upcoming parade and our cosy fireside read—two highlights that promise to bring our school community together in celebration and storytelling.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Here's to a bright and cheerful March ahead!  
Warmest Wishes  
Edel Blake

# Board of Management

In Ireland, every state-funded primary school has a **Board of Management (BoM)**. The Board manages the school on behalf of the **patron** (the Church) and operates under the rules of the Department of Education.

## 1. What is the Board of Management?

The Board is the group responsible for the **overall governance and running of the school**.

It ensures the school operates properly, safely, and according to national education laws and policies.

## 2. Who is on the Board? (The names of BoM members are on the website)

A primary school Board of Management usually has **8 members**:

**2 Patron nominees** (represent the patron) - 1 of these is Chairperson

**2 Parent nominees** (one mother, one father)

**1 Teacher nominee** (elected by school staff)

**1 Principal** (ex officio member)

**2 Community nominees** (chosen by the other six members)

Members typically serve a **4-year term (2023 - November 2027)**

## 3. Main Responsibilities

- The Board is responsible for:
- Managing the **school's finances and budget**
- Hiring and supporting staff (teachers and SNAs)
- Ensuring **child protection policies** are followed
- Maintaining the school building and facilities
- Developing and approving school policies
- Supporting the Principal in running the school
- Ensuring compliance with Department of Education rules

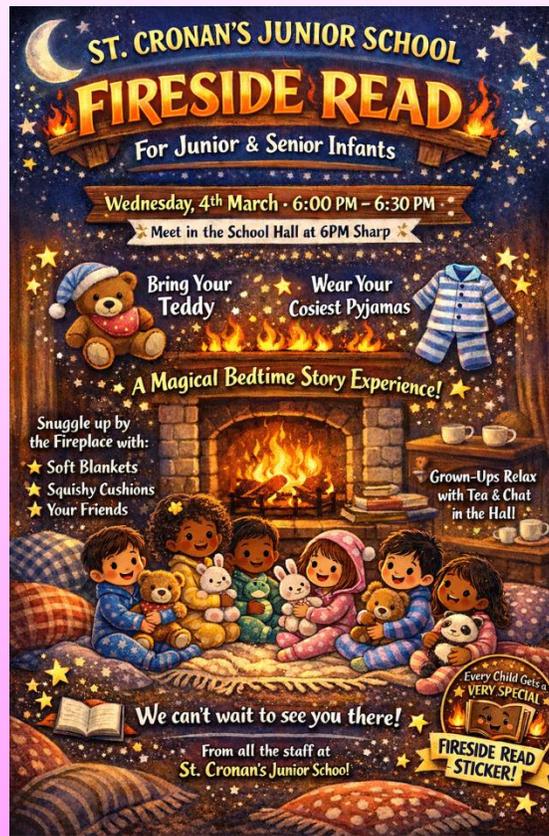
The **Principal** manages the day-to-day running of the school, while the Board focuses on overall governance.

One of our fantastic BoM members Patricia Hughes is our Parent's nominee and Treasurer. She will be leaving the BoM in the summer as her child will be graduating from the senior school. In September we will be looking for a new Parent Nominee(Mother) to join our Board until November 2027.

The BoM meet 5-7 times per year. If you have any questions please let me know.

# Fireside Read

We are so excited for our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Fireside Read for Junior and Senior Infants which will be on at 6PM on the eve of World Book Day - Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March. Details were sent by email and can be found below.



## Congratulations

A big congratulations to Mrs. Ennis, Ms. Conaty, Ms. O'Mahoney and Ms. Wall who have all been appointed as Assistant Principals this month. We are so lucky to have you on our leadership team.



# Spring Fair

We are very busy getting ready for our Spring Fair which will be on 18<sup>th</sup> March from 1:30 - 4:30. Raffle tickets and admission will go on sale next week.. Last year was such a wonderful community event and this year promises to be even bigger and better. We will have:

Tuck Shop

Krisy Kreme Donut Stand

Target Practice Games

Human Fruit Machine

Face Paints

Temporary Tattoos

Bubbles

Ballons

Meet & Greet with Cronan Bear

Craft Stand

Building Stand

Colouring in Station

Bingo

Cake Stands

And of course, all our wonderful hats will be on display.

ST. CRONAN'S JUNIOR NATIONAL SCHOOL

# EASTER

## SPRING FAIR 2026

Wednesday 18th March  
1:30pm – 4:30pm  
School Hall

- Hat Display
- Human Fruit Machine
- Bingo
- Face Painting

- Tuck Shop
- Bakery
- Balloons
- Bubbles
- And much more!

### MEGA RAFFLE

Tickets:

- €2 for a strip
- 3 for €5
- 8 for €10

★ ENTRY €2 PER PERSON • FAMILY TICKET €5 ★

Hop along for an egg-citing afternoon of fun, prizes and community spirit!  
We look forward to seeing you there!



# BoM Agreed Report November & February

1. The Bom would like to thank the daa and the Irish American Partnership for their donations towards our new hall floor. We will continue to fundraise until we reach our target!
2. The BoM wish to congratulate Mr. Farrell and Ms. Hargadon on their Appointment as Assistant Principal's 1.
3. The Health & Safety and Strategy for Attendance Policies were ratified by the BOM.
4. Thankyou to all the wonderful Grandparent's who came to visit for Grandparent's Day as part of Catholic Schools Week.
5. The BoM would like to wish all 2<sup>nd</sup> Class children who are making their First Confession a wonderful evening on 4<sup>th</sup> March.
6. The annual accounts have been prepared and sent to the FSSU, particular thanks for their hard work on this. to our secretaries Dawn Sherlock, Yvonne Kane and Aisling Lynch and our Treasure Patricia Hughes.

## Exciting News

Thanks to the amazing funds raised for Hip-Hop-a-thon 2025 5 brand new 75 inch Interactive Whiteboards will be installed in our school on 13<sup>th</sup> March. This will help ensure that our children have access to the best resources. We hope to fund more Interactive White Boards from funds raised during Hip-Hop-a-thon 2026. Thank you for being so supportive - we have a fantastic school community.



# Dates to remember:

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Fireside Read (World Book Day) Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March | Junior & Senior Infants & their teddies will be invited to the school at 6PM for a Fireside Read with School Staff.  | 6-6:30. Tea/Coffee & biscuits will be available for parents in the hall while they wait.                         |
| Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March                                | First Confession: Church   | 7PM: Room 19 & 20<br>7:45PM: Room 2A & 3A  |
| Seachatain Na Gaeilge 2 <sup>nd</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> March  | Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Irish Dancing<br>Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Irish Dancing<br>Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> – Concert (audience other classes only)          | Children can wear green/St. Patrick's Day clothes on 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> March |
| Seachatin Na Gaeilge Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March           | Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March – Parade:<br>Parents/Guardians/Siblings/local pre-schools and family members are invited to line the route and cheer us along. | Details about time and route will be sent to everyone.   |
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> – Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March       | Children may bring Spring Hats to School for Spring Fair Competition   | Please note there is a new theme for Spring Hats for 2026. The theme will be sent out soon.                      |
| Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March                                  | School Closed – Curriculum Training  |  |
| Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March       | School Closed for St. Patrick's Day  |  |

Upcoming Dates (Page 2). Please screenshot and save to your phone and with each other. Please note all dates are subject to change - notice will be given.

| Date                                      | Event   | Time   |
|---|---|--|
| Wednesday March 18 <sup>th</sup>          | Spring Fair – School Hall –<br>1:30 – 4:30  | Entry will be 2 euro per person, 5 euro per family. Entry wristbands will be for sale via Aladdin in advance. We have a mega raffle – raffle tickets will be sold in advance in the yard and on the day. Lots of fun, Spring hat showcase and games. |
| Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March             | Easter Holidays – ½ Day<br>Children can wear their own clothes.   | 11:45 – Junior & Senior Infants<br>11:50 – 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class   |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> April | Active Week. Children can wear P.E. uniforms all week. Thursday will be Hip Hop a thon so children can wear own clothes for this with suitable footwear for dancing – trainers. |  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> May     | School Closed   |  |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> May                      | Early Closing for Staff Meeting. Please note Senior School is not closed early so siblings will be unavailable to collect.  | 1:30: Junior & Senior Infants<br>1:40: 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class   |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> May                      | Communion Day   |  |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> May                      | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class Photos with Richard Gavin   | Times will be given closer to the date   |

Upcoming Dates (Page 3). Please screenshot and save to your phone and with each other. Please note all dates are subject to change - notice will be given. Please note School Tours & Sports Days will also be in June.

| Date                                   | Event  | Time   |
|--|--|--|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> June | School Closed  |  |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> June                   | School Closed – Curriculum Training                                      |  |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> June                  | Report Day   |  |
| Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> June           | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class Graduations  | 9:30: 2A & 3A<br>10:45: 19 & 20  |
| Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June          | Last Day of School – Children May wear their own Clothes. ½ Day for all. | Junior & Senior Infants: 11:45<br>1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class: 11:55 |