



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



FEBRUARY 2026

Dear Parents,

We hope you enjoyed the mid-term break. Many children recounted the things they got up to over the break including bringing in turf for Granny, making Mommy's bed, cleaning up after dinner and playing games with their siblings. Children told us about visiting family members, attending friends birthday parties, getting outdoors, going on trips home and abroad. We love hearing these stories from the children and their stories add to the atmosphere and relationships in classrooms.

It is fitting for us to remind children regularly how grateful we all are for these simple things in our lives, as many children may not have the opportunities or family structures, like we do, for various reasons.

In classroom conversations, our teachers regularly remind children of our school rules of being respectful, being kind, trying your best, listening to others, being mannerly and being safe. All staff in our school endeavour to model these rules and encourage others to do so. In particular, we reinforce that kindness is part of how we live every day and we encourage children to seek out opportunities to be kind to others, through words or actions or prayers for others. We show children that in being the person who demonstrates kindness, we model to others our expectations on how we expect to be treated. Our teachers reiterate this message and we hope that for our children in our school, kindness is a practice and a trait that they continue to bring with them as they grow.

We look forward to a special day in our school calendar this week; Grandparents Day, this coming Friday. Children, with their teachers, will be preparing all week and we thank the help of our Student Council and Parent Association Committee who will assist us ensuring the day is safe and enjoyable for all who attend. If you have not done so already, please complete the attendance link sent on Aladdin. Please assure children that they need not be upset if a Grandparent won't be with us on the day, that all grandparents will be acknowledged and remembered on the day.

We thank our parents and grandparents for their ongoing support of our school.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



FEBRUARY 2026

Notable Achievements

Sometimes school life is so busy that on occasion we do not hear about achievements that our children may have had outside of school. We would be delighted to wish any child good luck or well done with any successes or upcoming competitions. Be sure to send a message to the school office and we will highlight their notable achievements in our school newsletters.

Parent Visits/Workshops

We welcome parents who could help bring some aspect of their work or interests into our classrooms. Please don't be shy and feel free to make contact with your child's teacher/the school office and we will see if it would be possible. We thank all parents who have contributed to school life so far this year. Many thanks for your continued support.

Kind Regards
Lorraine Henry
Principal

STAFF CPD

Our staff recently completed CPD in anti-racism, including the Show Racism the Red Card initiative supporting our Bí Cineálta policy and commitment to an inclusive, respectful school environment.

SEACHTAIN NA GAELIGE

We are looking forward to our Seachtain na Gaeilge celebrations from March 9th, where the children will engage in a variety of activities as Gaeilge. We are reminded of our school motto "Ní neart go cur le chéile" and "Beatha teanga í a labhairt."

GRANDPARENTS & FRIENDS OF THE COMMUNITY

All classes are looking forward to Grandparents' Day on Friday, 27th February from 11:00am- 12:30pm. We welcome grandparents and special friends to the school for this special celebration.

TEDDY BEAR HOSPITAL

FEBRUARY 2026

INFANTS TRIP TO THE TEDDY BEAR HOSPITAL



On Thursday 22nd January, the children in Junior and Senior Infants enjoyed a fantastic day out at the Teddy Bear Hospital in the University of Galway.

The Teddy Bear Hospital is a fun experience where children bring their favourite teddy and take them through a pretend hospital visit, helping them feel more comfortable with medical settings.

The children had a wonderful time throughout the day. They stopped at the playground first, before bringing their teddies to the hospital for their check-ups! Everyone also enjoyed time on the bouncy castles, danced away in the Teddy Bear Disco, and finished the day with a lovely Teddy Bears' Picnic. It was a brilliant outing and a very special memory for all the children! Thanks to Ms. Henry, Ms. Dowling, Ms. Kennedy, Ms. Niland, Ms. Caulfield, Ms. O'Dowd, Deirdre & Leighann for accompanying the children on the day.

ST. BRIGID'S DAY

FEBRUARY 2026

ST. BRIGID'S DAY CELEBRATIONS



To mark St. Brigid's Day, we extend our sincere thanks to Mr. Conroy and Pat for generously supplying rushes for the children in 2nd to 6th classes, enabling them to make beautiful St. Brigid's crosses.

A special word of thanks to Mrs. Coolahan, Mr. Glavey, Ms. Moran, Ms. Caulfield and Ms. Niland who provided a wonderful cross-making workshop in the hall. The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and it was a lovely way to celebrate this important tradition.

SPORTS NEWS

FEBRUARY 2026

CONNACHT MINOR SCHOOLS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS SUCCESS



On Sunday, 1st February, our swim team participated in the Connacht Minor Schools Championships in Leisureland. The children swam brilliantly and had a great day out. We extend our gratitude to Ms. Henry and Ms. Dowling for accompanying and supporting the team.

A huge congratulations to Ruairi, Billy, Holly, Rose, and Harry, who have qualified to represent the school in their individual events and to Holly, Rose, Eve and Lily who will compete in the relay event at the National Aquatics Centre in Dublin on 29th March. We wish them the very best of luck - we are incredibly proud of you all!

SPORTS NEWS

FEBRUARY 2026

HANDBALL 



On Thursday 22nd January, our 4th class students participated in a handball tournament in Knocknacarra. Both teams got through to the next round of the competition where they played very well on Friday 6th February. We extend our gratitude to Ms. Henry, Ms. Mogan and Mr. Conroy for accompanying the students and providing their support throughout the day.

SOCCER IN KILTULLAGH 

Our senior class students are preparing for the FAI Soccer Competition in Kiltullagh. A big thank you to the teachers for their dedication in coaching the children.

HURLING/CAMOGIE 

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to the Clarinbridge GAA Club volunteers who will be visiting the school each Tuesday over the next five weeks. They will be working with children from Junior Infants to 2nd Class, helping them to develop and enjoy a range of skills.

CHESS 

We are delighted to share that the children who attend the after-school chess classes on Tuesday afternoons with Brendan have qualified for the Galway Chess Final, which will take place in the coming weeks. Further details will be communicated by the chess teacher, Brendan, in due course.

CREATIVE SCHOOLS NEWS

FEBRUARY 2026

PUPPET WORKSHOP



On Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd January, we were delighted to welcome Carmel to our school for a wonderful puppet workshop with children from Junior Infants to Second Class. The children had great fun taking part in the workshop, where they met Maggie the puppet and learned all about how puppets can be brought to life through movement and expression. They also had the exciting opportunity to make their very own puppets, which they were very proud of! A big thank you to Ms. Moran for organising this fantastic experience for the children.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

FEBRUARY 2026

A CHAMPION RETURNS HOME



Our 6th Class students were thrilled to welcome home local rower Daragh MacLoughlin after his incredible solo victory in the World's Toughest Row. Daragh completed a gruelling 4,800km row across the Atlantic, inspiring students with his determination and resilience. We are extremely proud to celebrate his amazing achievement.



ALL-IRELAND CHAMPION!



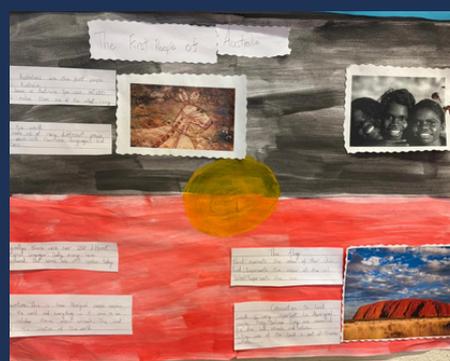
Huge congratulations to Cliona Coffey in 3rd Class who won 1st place in the All Ireland Speech and Drama competition!

MATHS IN 2ND CLASS



Second Class have been busy exploring length this month, learning to measure and compare objects using centimetres and metres. They had great fun estimating, measuring with rulers and metre sticks, using different units of measurement.

4TH CLASS PROJECTS IN MS BURKE'S CLASS



Well done to Ms. Burke's 4th Class for their excellent projects on Galway and the Normans. A special mention to Tara Fitzgerald for her fantastic Australia Day project on the Aboriginal people-great work all around!

STUDENT COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 2026

STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATES



Since our last newsletter, the Student Council have had a several meetings making the most of the wet lunchtimes when we would be inside anyway. Brainstorming and discussing ideas for fundraising for the school were high on the agenda. We have shared the responsibility of writing the notes of our meetings. Our new lanyards are finally ready for wearing, and we will wear them on our official student council business.

We also had a meeting with Ms. Henry where we discussed some of our ideas with her and how some of them might work and what needs further investigation. More on this at a later stage.

We look forward to welcoming you all on our upcoming Grandparents Day and some of us will introduce the classes as we meet them on the day.

This month Mrs. Coolahan stars in the “Getting to know our staff” feature in our school newsletter. The interviewers were Adam Hatton and Emily Donohue (3rd class) with the help of Elijah do hOra (6th class).

Thanks to Ms. Caulfield and Ms. Burke for their help with the Student Council.

INTERVIEW WITH MRS. COOLAHAN



STUDENT COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 2026

GETTING YO KNOW OUR STAFF



Ms. Coolahan, how long are you teaching?	Since 1999 in this school and three years before that in a secondary school.
When did you know you wanted to be a teacher?	Since I was in 3rd class. I was inspired by my own teachers in school.
What's your favourite thing to teach?	Maths and Music
What's your favourite class to teach?	2nd class. I like practicing for Communion.
What's the hardest thing about being a teacher?	All the paperwork
If you hadn't been a teacher, what job would you have done?	An accountant
Ms. Coolahan, I know you're not supposed to have a favourite, but who is your favourite child? ('Cause you have a lot of children)	I love all my children- I have five but I have only one girl.
What do you like to do outside School?	Gardening, play music and going on walks.
February is the month of St. Brigid and St. Valentine. Who is your favourite saint? Why?	St. Padre Pio- I visited his tomb.
Mrs. Coolahan, what's the most romantic thing you've ever done?	I planted roses in the garden.
Ms. Coolahan, what's the most difficult instrument you have learned to play?	The harp
What instrument would you have liked to have learned?	The Oboe
What's your favourite instrument?	The fiddle
Favourite song to listen to:	Bad to me- It's an old one.
Mrs. Coolahan, we got a night off homework from Mr. Glavey's interview last month, can you do any better? You'll be our favourite teacher!!!	Mmmm, one night off homework and something small from London.

GRANDPARENTS DAY

FEBRUARY 2026



PLEASE JOIN US FOR
**GRANDPARENTS'
DAY**

IN SCOIL MUIRE CLARINBRIDGE

FRIDAY
27th February 2026

11:00AM-12:30PM

Grandparents & friends of the community welcome

Performances from All Classes

Light Refreshments

We hope to see you there!

NOTES TO PARENTS

FEBRUARY 2026

SWIMMING COMMUNITY GAMES



CLARINBRIDGE COMMUNITY GAMES SWIMMING

COMPETITION 2026



SUNDAY

15th March 12:00 – 1:00PM

KILCORNAN POOL

REGISTRATION BY MARCH 10 | ENTRY FEE €10 PER CHILD

U10

25m Freestyle · 25m Backstroke

U14

50m Freestyle · 50m Backstroke · 50m Breaststroke · 50m Butterfly

U12

50m Freestyle · 50m Backstroke · 50m Breaststroke

U16

50m Freestyle · 50m Backstroke · 50m Breaststroke · 50m Butterfly

Stay Up To Date With All Clarínbridge Community Games News & Communications

<https://l.clubzap.com/2fCiLe>

AGE CALCULATOR:

[Communitygames.info/index.php?page=age_calculator](https://communitygames.info/index.php?page=age_calculator)

EMAIL FOR INFO:

Cbcommunitygamesswimming@gmail.com

PARENTS ASSOCIATION- AGM



The Parents' Association AGM will take place tomorrow: Wednesday, 25th February, 8pm in the school hall. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend.

We will review the past year, share plans for the year ahead, and elect the new committee members (Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer).

New PA members are always very welcome our involvement makes a real difference to the school community.

We hope to see you there!

Parents' Association Committee