



*Scoil Náisiúnta Mainistir Mhaigh Éo,*

*Mayo Abbey National School, Claremorris, Co. Mayo*

*Tel. 094 9365644*

*email: [office@mayoabbeyns.com](mailto:office@mayoabbeyns.com)*

*website: [www.mayoabbeyns.com](http://www.mayoabbeyns.com)*

---

## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2024

### BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEETING AGREED REPORT

There was a Board of Management meeting on Monday, February 10th. This newsletter contains all the information in the agreed report from that meeting and will be posted on the school website and the parents noticeboard in the school porch.

### ENROLMENT INFORMATION

Mayo Abbey National School are currently accepting enrolments for the next school year 2025/2026. If you or anyone you know wishes to enrol a child, please find all the details on our website [www.mayoabbeyns.com](http://www.mayoabbeyns.com) or contact the school by phone (094)9365644 / email [office@mayoabbeyns.com](mailto:office@mayoabbeyns.com) for further information.

### SCHOOL CALENDAR

**Please note an additional school closure in bold.**

February 20th & 21st	Mid-term break
March 17th	School closure, Public holiday, St Patrick's Day
April 11th	School closes for Easter holidays
<b>Term 3</b>	
April 28th	School reopens
May 5th	School closure, Public holiday, May Day
<b>May 6th</b>	<b>School closure, Staff Training</b>
May 15th	School closes at 12.30 - Staff Meeting
June 2nd	School closure, Public holiday, June Bank Holiday
June 3rd	School closure, Vacation Day
June 26th	School closes for summer holidays at 12.30pm

### PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

Every parent should now have had the opportunity to meet their child's teacher. If for any reason you have yet to organise a meeting, please phone or email the secretary to organise an appointment.

### NEW CLASSROOM

Work on the new classroom is progressing well. The exterior is now plastered, and the builders are moving on to the groundworks and electrical installations. It withstood the recent storms without any issues. We plan to be using the new classroom next September and are looking forward to it.

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION

The voluntary contribution of €50 per family is now due. This contribution helps cover the shortfall in funding, as the grant aid provided by the Department of Education is not enough to cover basic school expenses such as electricity, heating, insurance, and more. A big thank you to those families who have already contributed this year.

## **SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

**Nativity:** The School Nativity was held on December 18th at Mayo Abbey Church, where the children delivered a wonderful performance. A big thank you to Fr. Kilcoyne and Fr. Fergus for welcoming the school once again, and to Nora Collieran for accompanying the children on the organ on the night.

**Quizzes:** At the Cuman na mBunscol Sports Quiz, held on January 23rd at Ballindine NS, our team finished in 3rd place—a fantastic achievement for such a small school in a highly competitive field. Well done to Henry, Niall, Philip, and Jack! The Credit Union Quiz took place on Saturday, with two teams from the school taking part. Congratulations to Lily, Jack, Liam, Emily, Grace, Ava, Crea, and Harriet for their great efforts!

**Dance/Music:** All the children are currently participating in group dancing lessons, facilitated by Gráinne Kelly. After six weeks of learning traditional dances like "Roll the Leather" and "Shoe the Donkey," we plan to host a small céilí at school to showcase their efforts! Through Music Generation Mayo, we are excited to welcome back Gráinne Hambly to the school this term. The junior classes will participate in Ceol na nÓg, while the senior classes will continue their ukulele lessons. This year, the Music Generation programme and the dance lessons are being funded through the fundraising efforts of the Parents' Committee from last year.

**'Say Yes to Languages' Programme:** This year, the children in 3rd to 6th class will once again participate in the 'Say Yes to Languages' Primary Sampler Module. The goal of this module is to raise awareness among pupils about the variety of languages spoken in society and to encourage the study of languages at the post-primary level. This year, the children will enjoy a 10-week Spanish module.

**Cyber Safety:** Thanks to Garda Olive Lafferty, Community Guard for calling to the school in December and discussing some road safety and cyber safety issues with 5th and 6th class. The children will be taking part in cyber safety classes at school. A module will also be available for parents, with more information to follow soon.

**Other activities:** There are plenty of other activities happening at school this year. Work on the Green Flag and Active Flag continues, and the senior children will be taking part in the 5-a-side soccer competition at the end of the month. The infant classes will also attend gymnastics in Castlebar starting in March. These are just a few of the exciting extra activities planned for the year ahead!

## **SCHOOL SELF EVALUATION / SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

The children are currently focusing on developing their presentation skills across the school. We continue to prioritise literacy skills schoolwide, with handwriting and presentation being key components of this effort currently.

## **EARLY COLLECTION OF CHILDREN**

Parents are kindly asked to be mindful when collecting children early from school. If possible, please collect them during natural breaks in the day, such as 11:00 AM, 12:30 PM, or immediately after the infants are dismissed at 2:00 PM. Once the infants have safely been handed over to their parents or afterschool care, other children may be collected at that time. Please note that the school office is manned from 9:20 AM to 1:20 PM each day. We appreciate your understanding, as frequent interruptions during class time can be distracting for both students and teachers. Thank you for your cooperation.

## **REMINDERS**

**Opening and Closing Times:** School starts in the morning at 9.20am and finishes at 2pm for infants and 3pm for 1st-6th classes. The school is open at 9.10am to receive children in the morning. The Board of Management accepts no responsibility for children before 9.10am.

**Appointments with Teachers:** If for any reason parents need to speak to a teacher during the school day please contact the secretary between 9.20am and 1.20pm to arrange an appointment.

*A copy of this newsletter can be found on the school website: [www.mayoabbeyns.com](http://www.mayoabbeyns.com)*