



Scoil Náisiúnta Mainistir Mhaigh Éo,

Mayo Abbey National School, Claremorris, Co. Mayo F12T256

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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER - APRIL 2025

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEETING AGREED REPORT

There was a Board of Management meeting on Tuesday, April 8th. 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.

The financial balance sheet for the financial year ended 31/8/24 is also posted on this noticeboard.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Please note the school calendar for the final term.

Term 3

Closing for Easter at 3pm	Friday, April 11th
School reopens	Monday, April 28th
May Bank Holiday closure	Monday, May 5th
Staff Training closure	Tuesday, May 6th
Staff Meeting, closing at 12.30	Thursday, May 15th
June Bank Holiday closure	Monday, June 2nd
Vacation Day closure	Tuesday, June 3rd
Closing for summer holidays at 12.30,	Thursday, June 26th

Standardised testing will take place with different classes on each day between May 12th and May 23rd.

We kindly ask that all children attend school every day during this period if at all possible, as it can be difficult — and in some cases may not be possible — for the school to reschedule and administer missed tests. Thank you for your understanding and support.

SCHOOL TOURS

The Junior Classes (Infants to Second Class) will travel to Wildlands, Galway, on May 21st costing €42 per child.

The Senior Classes (Third to Sixth Class) will travel to Achill Outdoor Adventure on June 13th for their school tour costing €52 per child. More information will follow after Easter.

USED CLOTHES COLLECTION - MAY 21ST

A used clothing collection will take place on May 21st. Items accepted include clothing, bedding, shoes, towels and curtains. Please note: Duvets, pillows, soft toys and cushions cannot be accepted. Bags of clothing can be left at the school porch from Wednesday, May 14th. All money raised from the collection will go directly to the school, helping to fund much-needed resources for the classrooms. Thank you for your continued support!



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SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

A Communion Retreat for the Second Class children will be held in Ballintubber Abbey on April 29th. This will cost €20 per pupil. The children recently celebrated their First Confession on April 3rd, and they will receive their First Holy Communion in Mayo Abbey Church on May 17th at 2:00pm. We extend thanks to Father Fergus for his support and guidance during the First Confession. The Board of Management offers every blessing to the children as they continue to prepare for their First Communion.

ATHLETICS ACHIEVEMENTS

The Board of Management extends heartfelt congratulations to Henry and Philip Griffith, who proudly represented Claremorris Athletic Club in the National Juvenile Indoor Championships.

A special word of congratulations to Philip on his outstanding achievement—winning two All-Ireland Gold Medals, one in the 600m and the other as part of the U13 boys 4 x 200m relay. A dedicated athlete, Philip was also recently honoured as the Western People's Track and Field Sports Star of 2024, in recognition of his series of victories and the national records he has set in his age group. Well done, Philip — a fantastic achievement!

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

As we head into the final term, here are some updates and highlights from a very busy few weeks:

Easter Raffle; Goretti will run our traditional Easter raffle for the children. Tickets are €1.

Gymnastics; The Infant classes have just completed their gymnastics programme – it's been a big success!

Stay Safe Programme; This programme is now complete in all classrooms.

Cyber Safety; Cyber safety lessons for 1st–6th Class will take place in-class. Parent modules will also be available to complete at home. Further details will follow after the Easter break.

Spanish Lessons; Spanish continues for 3rd–6th Class as part of the “Say Yes to Languages” module. Four lessons remain with Maria, who is doing a fantastic job – the children are really enjoying it!

Ceol na nÓg / Ukulele; The Music Generation programme continues across the school. It's lovely to hear the sound of music filling the corridors!

Scór na bPáistí; Congratulations to Emma Nestor who represented the school in Claremorris and made it to the county final in Tooreen on March 8th. She gave a beautiful performance of *Isle of Hope* in a very competitive event.

Dancing; Our six-week dance block with Gráinne Kelly finished with a whole-school céilí for Seachtain na Gaeilge – great fun was had by all!

Soccer Competition; Well done to both boys' and girls' teams who took part in the FAI 5-a-side on Feb 27th and 28th. The girls reached a thrilling final, just narrowly losing out to Mount Pleasant.

Cumann na mBunscol; Scheduled for May 1st in Garrymore. More information to follow after Easter.

An Post Handwriting Competition; All children took part – a great fit with our SSE focus on written presentation.

Active Flag; We're currently working on our *Skip Around Europe* challenge – great enthusiasm from all classes!

Green Flag; We're focusing on management of our recycling and waste along with global citizenship in the senior classes. 3rd & 4th Class submitted a project to Irish Aid as part of this.

Junior Entrepreneur Programme (JEP); 5th & 6th Class have now completed and submitted their JEP projects – fantastic effort and creativity on show!



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VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION

Thank you to all the families who have contributed this year. The grant aid provided by the Department of Education does not fully cover basic expenses such as electricity, heating, insurance, and other day-to-day operational needs. Your voluntary contributions help bridge this gap and are deeply appreciated.

ENROLMENT INFORMATION NIGHT

We held an Information Night for new parents of incoming students on April 1st. A sincere thank you to the Parents' Committee for kindly organising teas and coffees on arrival — it created a warm and welcoming atmosphere for everyone attending.

NEW CLASSROOM

The interior plastering is currently underway and, once that's complete, work on the electrics and plumbing will follow. We're right on track and excited to welcome students into the new space this coming September.

REMINDERS

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.

Early Collection of Children: If you need to collect your child early, please try to do so during natural breaks in the school day – around 11:00 AM, 12:30 PM, or just after the infants are dismissed at 2:00 PM. This helps minimise disruption to teaching and learning. Please also note: the school office is staffed from 9:20 AM to 1:20 PM. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation

We're looking forward to a fun and busy final term, with plenty to look forward to – Cumann na mBunscol, school tours, Sports Day, Sixth Class Graduation, welcoming next year's infants on their school visit, First Communions, and all the usual fun and excitement that comes with the last term of the school year!

Wishing everyone a safe and relaxing Easter break!

A copy of this newsletter can be found on the school website: www.mayoabbeyns.com