

## October 2025 Newsletter



### Parents' Wellbeing Survey

Thank you to all parents who responded to the recent online survey on Wellbeing in the school. The results of the survey were mainly very positive and will be used to inform planning in the area of Wellbeing.

A small number of responses indicated that parents didn't know who the Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is in the school. The DLP for Aghamore N.S. is Deirdre Bracken and the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDLP) is Lorraine Maloney.

A small number of responses indicated that parents weren't sure who to contact if they had a concern about their child. The first point of contact is your child's Class Teacher. You are always welcome to contact the Principal also if the need arises.

**Student Council:** Aghamore N.S.'s first Student Council was formed this week. It is made up of students from First to Sixth Class. Members of the Student Council are: Aoife Scahill, Donnacha Lyons, Hannah Scahill, Iarlaith Morris, Orlaith Burke, Senan Kelly, Saoirse Kenny, Kai Glavey, Gemma Cunnane, Cole Burke Masterson and Mia Byrne.

The Student Council will meet regularly and discuss what matters to the student community and come up with ideas to make our school an even better place. The Student Council will seek the views of their classmates and bring these to the meetings. They will also give feedback to their class after meetings. Staff will look for input into decisions and policy making from the Student Council also. We look forward to hearing the views and ideas of the students and affording them their 'Student Voice'.

**Bí Cineálta:** Bí Cineálta is the new framework to prevent and address bullying behaviour. It is to be adopted by all schools. Children in all classes have been involved in the formation of the Child Friendly version of our Bí Cineálta Policy. They have been busy writing about kindness and about what bullying behaviour is and how we address it. Some children drew lovely pictures to illustrate kindness, friendship and the importance of knowing how to deal with bullying behaviour. All our art work and writing is displayed in the school corridor along with the Child Friendly version of the policy. We hope you'll all have a look at the displays when you're in the school next week for the Parent/Teacher Meetings.

The Bí Cineálta Policy was ratified at the recent Board of Management meeting and is attached for your information. The child friendly version is also attached.

## Recent Sporting Events.

**Cross Country:** We took part in the East Mayo Cross Country Competition in Swinford on 25<sup>th</sup> September. We had 4 teams from the senior side of the school. We had two boys' teams and two girls' teams competing. We raced at half eleven. We all did really well and Senan came 10<sup>th</sup> and Liam came 11<sup>th</sup> out of 105 competitors. Senan & Liam went on to Ballina to compete in the Mayo County Cross Country race. It was a very hard race with a huge hill. Senan came 30<sup>th</sup> and Liam came 34<sup>th</sup>. We thank the teachers for training us and the parents for bringing us to the event. Thank you.

By Senan Kelly and Liam Murphy.

**Mini 7's:** On the 30th of September we took part in the Mini 7s football competition in the Centre of Excellence in Bekan. We were in a group with the Gaelscoil and Gortskehy. The girls also had to play these teams. First, we played the Gaelscoil and we had a convincing win. After the boys finished their game, the girls had a tough battle against the Gaelscoil. After the girls' game, we faced Gortskehy. It was a tough game and we lost narrowly. Then the girls were out again as they faced Gortaskehy. Overall the girls had a tough campaign but they kept their heads up. The boys were unlucky to lose their second game, missing out narrowly on a semi-final place. Thanks to Ms Flannery and Colin Glavey for training us and to Mrs Bracken and the parents who provided transport. We really enjoyed the day and look forward to playing more football for the school later in the year.

by Kealan Glavey, Ben Hunt, Donnacha Lyons & Tom Murphy.

## Workshops

**Water Safety:** Pupils from 1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> class recently enjoyed a very good and informative workshop from Rosie, at Water Safety Ireland.

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> class learned all about the dangers of the water and how to be safe in and around water, be it ponds, lakes, rivers or the sea. They learned how to make a star shape to stay afloat. They also learned about lifejackets and life buoy - how to throw a life buoy into

the water, the different coloured flags at the beach and what they mean.

3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> class learned all of the above along with safety on the farm and the dangers of slurry pits.

Each child will receive a Certificate of Participation.

## STEM

### Meet the Scientist:

As part of the STEM Curriculum and in conjunction with NUIG through a series of webinars, pupils from 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6th class will get to interact with scientists and explore interesting scientific questions. This series of webinars aims to inspire the next generation of scientists and foster a love of scientific enquiry and learning.

The webinars will run on a weekly basis and cover a wide variety of topics. Topics we will explore in November are:

**What happens to your body when you're bitten by a venomous snake?**

Meet Dr Michel Dugon, Zoologist at the University of Galway and explore the science behind venomous snake bites.

**Can you take a picture of the brain?**

Meet Blessing Folayan, Digital Health Consultant and Radiographer, as she explores the fascinating ways science helps us look inside the body.

**What are your superpowers for helping doctors to prevent disease?**

Meet Dr Fernandos Ongolly, Social Scientist at the University of Galway and learn how small choices make a big difference.

### Hallowe'en Dress-up/ Lost Property.

**Hallowe'en:** Children can dress up for Halloween on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October if they wish. There is no obligation to do so. No dangerous items allowed such as wands, swords, etc.

**Lost property:** We have a number of lost/mislaid school jumpers here in the school. We are going to lay them on a table in the G.P. room over the days of Parent Teacher Meeting. If your child is missing a jumper please have a look and if you recognise yours, please feel free to take it.

### Reminders.

Parent Teacher Meetings will be held next week, Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> & Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. If you have not already signed up via the link please do so.

School Photographer: Memory Lane Photography have rescheduled their visit to Aghamore N.S from Wednesday next 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct. to Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November. All pupils will be photographed on the day plus a whole school photo. Full school uniform on the day please.

If you do not wish your child to be photographed, please advise us via email.

Flu Vaccine: Mark Curley MPSI, from Curley's Pharmacy Ballyhaunis, will administer the flu vaccine here in the school on: **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October.**

Mark has asked us to inform you that you can withdraw consent by ringing the pharmacy on 094 9630110.

School Closure: Due to the school being used as a polling station for the Presidential Election on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October, school will be closed.

Hallowe'en Break - School closed from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal is the first Charitable Organisation we are supporting this year. Leaflets will be sent home with pupils this week. We are asking children to fill a shoebox, as per instructions on the leaflet, and return it to school after the Halloween break. Thank you.

Vision & Hearing Screening for Junior Infants and any new pupils to our school this year, will take place on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November.

MMR Booster for Junior Infants will take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November.

Please return consent forms to school if you have not already done so.

Child Protection Training will take place for all staff on Friday 28th November, at Mayo Education Centre. There will be no school for pupils on that day.