



## April 2026 Newsletter

### Parents' Association

A very successful meeting was held to discuss the formation of a Parents' Association. Parents who attended decided to set up a WhatsApp group to keep people updated and ask for volunteers to help at school events. A more formal Parents' Association will be set up in the new school year. Parents are helping out at the Information Meeting for the incoming Junior Infants and have also planned a *Get Together* in the GP Room for the First Communion Class and their families after the First Holy Communion Mass. We are very grateful to have parents who are willing to give their time and expertise to help the school.

### Junior Infants 2026/2027

An information meeting for the parents of the children who have enrolled in Junior Infants for the coming year will be held in the GP Room on Wednesday next, 29th April, at 2:20pm.

### Grandparents' Day

It was lovely to meet the Grannies and Grandads at the recent celebration of Grandparent's Day in the school. It was a very happy occasion and we were delighted to celebrate Grandparents and the huge contribution they make to the lives of their grandchildren. Thanks to Fr Jerald for joining us and celebrating mass.

## Sports Update

### **Mini 7s Hurling**

Following wins over Gaelscoil Uileog De Búrca, Tooreen NS and Began NS in the Mini 7s Hurling Blitz on 25th March, our Boys' Hurling team qualified for the Mini 7s Hurling County Final against Brackloon N.S. on 15th April. In challenging conditions with a strong breeze, Brackloon made good use of the wind advantage and led by just two points at half-time. Aghamore came out strong in the second half and soon moved into the lead after a determined start. However, it was not to be our day, as Brackloon struck a late goal in the dying seconds to claim victory. Thanks to supporters from 3rd-6th Class and parents who came in support also.

Huge thanks to Paul Hunt and Conn Delaney for training the lads and to Adrian Hession for co-ordinating the Mini 7s hurling competition and organising the set-up for the final. Both teams delivered a superb display of hurling on the day. The team were delighted to wear their fabulous new jerseys for the first time, kindly donated to our school by the James McNeive Foundation.

### **Mini 7s Camogie**

Our Girls' Camogie Team competed in the Mini 7s Camogie Blitz in Claremorris on 19th March. They played four matches and showed great skill and determination. Well done girls! Thanks to Adrian Hession for co-ordinating the day.

### **Cumann na mBunscol Football**

Both boys and girls football teams took to the field for the Cumann na mBunscol Football Blitz today, Friday, 24th April in Mayo Abbey. There was some great football played in fabulous sunshine but we aren't progressing in the competition this year. Thank you to Colin Glavey and Ms Flannery for training the teams.

### **Vinny Judge Memorial Day**

The annual day of hurling in memory of Vinny Judge will take place on Friday, 15th May. Our hurlers and camogie players will form a team to compete on the day.

### **Kenny Folliard Football Competition**

The annual Kenny Folliard Football Competition in memory of John Kenny and Ciara Folliard will take place in Aghamore GAA Pitch on Friday, 29th May at 10:30am. Mixed teams from Knock NS, Tooreen NS and Aghamore NS will take part on the day. Thank you to Kevin Kelly for co-ordinating the day.

### **Religious Sacraments**

#### **First Confession**

Children from Second Class will make their First Confession on Wednesday, 13th May in Aghamore Church after 10am Mass.

#### **First Holy Communion**

Children from Second Class will receive their First Holy Communion in Aghamore Church on Saturday, 16th May at 12pm. The children are working hard preparing for these special sacraments and we look forward to a lovely day. Thank you to Ms Jordan and Fr Jerald for their work in preparing the children.

### **Buddy Bench and Jerseys from James McNeive Foundation**

The staff and pupils of Aghamore NS were absolutely delighted to receive the very generous donation of a buddy bench and a set of school jerseys. This wonderful gift was presented to Mrs. Bracken and the 5th & 6th Class pupils by James's mother, Bernadette, and members of the James McNeive Foundation. Thanks to them for such a wonderful contribution to our school. A buddy bench is a special seat in the school yard that encourages kindness and looking out for one another. It offers a simple way for children to let others know that if they are sitting there, they would like someone to talk to or to play with. This is a very meaningful addition to our school yard, that helps encourage friendship and inclusion among all the children.

### **Easter Eggcitement!**

Junior and Senior Infants & First and Second Class had a fantastic time on their Easter egg hunt in the school garden, with plenty of laughter and excitement throughout. Many thanks to Madeleine for organising such a fun activity, with wonderful help from Hannah.

There was a great buzz of excitement around the school as our Annual Easter Raffle took place! Congratulations to Max, Denis, Gemma, and Luke, who were thrilled to win one of the fantastic Easter hampers. Well done also to all the boys and girls who were lucky enough to win Easter eggs. It was a wonderful way to start the Easter holidays! All proceeds will go towards the development and upkeep of the school garden.

### **Drumadore Drumming Workshop**

All children in the school are enjoying the drumming workshop with Ben from Drumadore. Each classroom has worked on a piece which they will perform for the other children in the school on Thursday. We will video the performance and put it on the website so you can see what the children have learned and what great fun they had in the process.

### **Bookfair**

Our annual Bookfair took place this week. Children enjoyed browsing the books and purchasing their favourites. Hopefully they will enjoy reading their new books.

### School Tours

It's almost School Tour time again! Junior Infants to Second Class will go to Kids in Motion and Funster on Thursday, 11th May and 3rd-6th Class are heading to Petersburg Outdoor Education Centre on Wednesday, 3rd June.

We will send more details nearer the time.

### Sports Day

Due to the unpredictable nature of the weather, we will decide to hold our Sports Day when we see some fine weather on the horizon. This will mean Sports Day may be held at relatively short notice. However, we believe this is better for everyone than holding it on a miserable day.

### School Improvements

A new school sign was put up on the front of the building in recent weeks. It helps give the school more of an identity in the community and makes us easier to find!

We are currently in the process of having a soft rubber surface installed in the playground area of the school garden. We hope to have this finished in the coming weeks. Sincere thank you to Alan Waldron and Damien Niland who worked hard over the Easter holidays getting the ground works done so the surface can be installed.

### Aghamore Vintage Day

There was great excitement just before home time today when a steam engine arrived in the front yard of the school! John Corley, Luke's Dad, organised a visit and we had a lovely photo taken in front of the steam engine. The steam engine was on its way to the Vintage Show which takes place this Sunday, 26th April. We wish everyone every success with the day and hope lots of our parents and pupils come out in support.

### Primary Curriculum Training Day.

Staff will attend training in the Primary Curriculum Framework on Tuesday, 26th May. There will be no school for pupils on that day.