



## December 2025 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

### Road Markings

In the interest of safety, Aghamore N.S. and the Glór na nÓg Childcare have shared the costs of having new road markings painted on the road between the school and the Childcare building.

We hope this will make it safer for children, parents, staff and traffic entering and exiting the area. We ask you all to please abide by the markings and drive slowly and safely.

### The Shoebox Appeal

Every year our school takes part in the Team Hope Shoebox Appeal. You can give a shoebox containing presents for Christmas to girls and boys from age 2 to 14 years old. You can donate online or give a shoebox. Inside the shoebox it should contain something to wash, something to write, something to wear, something to wow and five euros for shipping. This year Team Hope wanted them ready by the 10th of November. The families worked very hard over Halloween break to fill the shoe boxes. Mrs Bracken brought 40 shoe boxes to the Ballinrobe collecting point. We hope all the children enjoy their shoe boxes!!

By Adriana Keane & Shannon Duffy

### Care Packages for People in Nursing Homes

A group of children, helped by Ms Flannery, wrote cards, made decorations and sent care packages to people in Nursing Homes in Mayo and Galway. The children really enjoyed the experience and we hope the people who receive the cards and gifts are delighted with them.

### Christmas Carol Service

Thank you all for attending our Christmas Carol Service. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we enjoyed performing it for you. Well done to all the children and staff who put so much work into preparing and staging the performance. Bualadh Bos go Léir.

This is what Erikas, Nathan & Jason had to say about the Carol Service:

The Christmas Carol service was fun and exciting.

The service took place in St. Joseph's church, Aghamore.

The church was full of parents, relatives and teachers to guide us.

It was a bit nerve racking as we were worried that we might mess up halfway through.

We sang with our hearts and enjoyed singing Christmas songs.

We sang holy songs and jolly songs and for the jolly songs we wore Santa hats.

We told the audience the story of the first Christmas.

In between the songs there were 12 readers from Fifth and Sixth Class.

After the Christmas Carol service we went back to the school and most of the kids went home. We really enjoyed the performance. On the following Monday we got treats in school to reward us for all our hard work.

By Erikas Dedinas, Nathan Conboy & Jason Groarke.

### **Christmas Show - Junior Infants - 2nd Class**

We were at school and we were waiting for the bus to arrive. It was the 26th of November and we were very excited to get on the bus. We were singing the whole time there. The bus was very nice. We were going to Kiltimagh to see a Christmas show.

So, we were at the show. Everyone was getting their sweets ready and then the lights went out and the show began. The show was called, "I wanna Hippopotamus for Christmas". The show was excellent. We loved it. We were so lucky we got to go. The story was about a girl called Poppy Green Jeans who wanted a hippopotamus for Christmas. Naughty elves came and tried to ruin Poppy's letter. Wee Willie Winkie came to the houses singing the songs and he checked her letter. He thought it wasn't right and he changed it back to normal. Poppy got a Hippopotamus and they all sang Heads, Shoulders, knees and Toes. Our favourite character was Beako. It was a great show.

By Mia Byrne and Cole Burke Masterson

### **Branar Theatre Company Visit**

Wednesday, 13th November, was a normal school day and 5th & 6th class were doing work quietly in the classroom. Then two janitors came into the classroom. At the time we thought a miscommunication had happened within the staff but no, this was not the case. The male janitor said to someone "Do you like history?". The person replied "Sort of" and then he pulled out a picture of a guy called George McNamara. He went on to tell the story of George McNamara, who was a bandit. He stole from the rich and gave to the poor. He lived near Cong in South Mayo. The performance was very entertaining and the actor used loads of props from his cleaning cart. In short, we had a lot of fun and enjoyed every aspect of the show. The performance was put on by Branar Theatre Company, who visit schools bringing drama to life in classrooms.

By Eoghan Kenny and Jayden Curran

### Science Week

Science week was a great week in November. We did all kinds of exciting activities during science week including making a lava lamp. We put olive oil, water and food colouring into an empty water bottle. This showed the density of each liquid. Then we put an Alkaseltzer into it and it bubbled up a lot. Making a rocket was a really fun activity also. You get a little capsule, put a little bit of water inside it, then add an Alkeseltzer and shake it really quick. Then you turn it upside down and it shoots up and hits the roof. Science week was a fun week full of exciting activities and experiments. Thanks to Ms Maloney for co-ordinating it.

By Kealan Glavey, Luke Waldron & Donnacha Lyons

### Maths Week

During Maths Week we focused on maths and we had a load of fun! Each day, Ms Duffy set up an 'Estimation Station' in the classrooms. On Monday we had to estimate how many pieces of pasta were in the jar. On Tuesday we estimated the weight of the pumpkin. Then on Wednesday we did how long the chain was. For Thursday's activity we estimated how much water was in the container. The person who estimated closest to the actual measurement won. Lots of people won and if you won in your classroom you got Haribo and a homework pass. Thanks to Ms Duffy for organising the Maths Week activities.

By Orlaith Burke, Eli Duffy & Conor Tighe.

### Hurling Training

We have had hurling training every Wednesday since Halloween. Our coach was Cian O'Toole. We trained in the Community Centre because the weather was bad. We learnt to pick up the sliotar and hit it on the ground. We played a game where Cian called out numbers and that number of people played in groups and tried to score. We played a pickup game to see who could do the most pickups in 30 seconds. We enjoyed learning new skills and had lots of fun.

Thanks to Cian for training us.

By Ben Hunt, Iarlaith Morris & Tom Murphy.

### Christmas Treats.

As a Christmas treat, 5th/6th Class made fairy cakes with Madeleine. We went down to the GP Room to make them, in groups of 6. The recipe we used is:

110g softened butter

110g caster sugar

110g of self-raising flour

2 eggs

Teaspoon vanilla extract

300g Icing sugar

Water

We mixed the butter and sugar together in a bowl. Then, we added two eggs and 1 teaspoon of vanilla. Then we sieved the flour in a separate bowl and we used the electric mixer to mix everything and slowly added the flour. Then we spooned the mixture into the cupcake tin. While the cupcakes were baking, we made the icing. We used icing sugar and added water in three different bowls. The colours we made were red, green and white. We added the food colouring into the bowls and mixed. Then, Madeline took out the cupcakes from the oven. and we

decorated them with the icing when they were cool. We added sprinkles and we got two cupcakes each. Thanks to Madeleine for baking with us.

### **Hot Chocolate**

Madeleine, Cathy and Jodie made Hot Chocolate for all the children in the school. It was a really tasty treat! Thank you!

### **Cookies**

Angela Hession from Hillcrest Bakery kindly sent in cookies for all the children as a Christmas treat. Thank you very much Angela. The cookies were delicious!

By Aoife Scahill.

### **Christmas Raffle**

Here's what Hubert, John & Daniel had to say about our Christmas Raffle:

Thanks to everyone for participating in this year's Raffle. Tickets were 1 strip for €2 or 3 strips for €5. The tickets were bought every morning for roughly a week then on Thursday the 18th December, we went to the GP room at 12:00. Ms Maloney drew the first ticket. The winners drew the next and so on. Everyone was very excited and the winners were delighted with their prizes. The winners are listed below.

By Hubert Kielczewski, John Melia & Daniel Buckley.

### **Winners of the Christmas Raffle 2025.**

- 2 X €50 - Sweeney Oil Voucher - Kai Glavey & Conor Tighe. €50 Voucher each.
- €50 One4all Voucher Stanta Construction Company, Charlestown. - Harry Buckley
- €50 Voucher for Little Sam's, Claremorris. - Denis Waldron
- Hamper - SuperValu, Ballyhaunis. - Oran Corley

- BRB Hamper - Byrne Rapid Build, Aghamore. - Cole Burke Masterson
- Wine & Chocolates Hamper - Gilmartins, Kiltimagh. - David Glavey
- 2 x passes to Aghamore Vintage Show - John Corley, Lily Anna Hunt & Sean Garvey.
- Stationery Hamper - First Class Office, Ballaghaderreen. - Charlotte Flately.
- Bottle of Whiskey - Diginet, Galway. - Liam Murphy
- Wine & Chocolates - Londis, Kilkelly. - Katie Walsh
- Bottle of Wine - BRB - Byrne Rapid Build, Aghamore. Ella Jane Conboy.
- 4 x Bottles of Wine- Paul Hunt. -
  - Cathal Kelly,
  - Jakub Ptacek,
  - Jason Henry,
  - Conor Tighe.
- Box of Chocolates - Michael Moran Buses- Ballyhaunis. - Oran Corley
- Box of Chocolates - Diginet - Kyle Dermody

### **Christmas Jumper Day**

The Student Council wishes to thank everyone who wore their Christmas Jumper and contributed to the Student Council Fund.

### **Christmas Holidays**

School will close tomorrow at 12noon for Christmas Holidays and re-open on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

We wish you all the Peace & Joy of the Christmas Season and thank you all for your continued support.

Nollaig Shona Daoibh go Léir.

Staff & Pupils of Aghamore N.S.