



Ardrahan National School



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Happy Easter!

Dear Parents,

As we reach the end of a busy spring term, we would like to thank you for your continued support and to share some highlights from a very busy last term.

The children in the junior classes enjoyed our weekly visits from the hurling coach, children in senior classes started their Say Yes to Languages programme and completed their six week programme of swimming classes. We had Engineers Week, Seachtain na Gaeilge, chess and quiz competitions, gardening, book fair and so much more. We have also started a book club for avid readers which we are very excited about. Congratulations to our Sixth Class children who were confirmed on Thursday last. Thank you to all the children who sang so beautifully in the choir.

We are already looking forward to more exciting learning, sports days, school trips and end of year events in the last term. We also look forward to celebrating First Holy Communion with Second Class on our return after Easter.

We hope you have a lovely Easter and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on April 28th.

Is mise le meas,

Ms Hughes



Confirmation

Huge congratulations to our Sixth Class pupils who were recently confirmed by Bishop Michael Duignan. All the pupils were excellent and their teacher Mr. O'Leary was very proud of them all.



Welcome Back Ardrahan Girls

We were thrilled to welcome our former pupils back to our school. They returned with an impressive collection of silverware, and we were delighted to celebrate their recent successes in the Championship, Féile and Community Games. Their achievements and dedication are a true inspiration to our young camogie and hurling players. Well done, girls!



Spanish

Our 10-week Say Yes to Languages programme is in full swing, with children from third to sixth class enjoying their Spanish lessons with our visiting teacher, Ausias. Not only are the children learning the language, but they are also discovering Spanish culture in the 20 countries where it is the official language.



Quiz Winners!

Huge congratulations to our Community Games U11 and U13 Quiz winners who came first and second in Galway and are off to the All-Ireland in Kilkenny July 5th!



Buddy Reading

The children in every class paired up to share books, and they really enjoyed being able to read for children from other classes. We read leabhair Gaeilge during Seachtain na Gaeilge. It was a lovely way to celebrate reading and promote the Irish language in a fun, engaging way.



Heather Galler Art

First and Second Class studied the work of Heather Galler and had fun experimenting with creating various lines and using water colour paints to create Heather Galler inspired Hot Cocoa Mugs.



Growing Strawberries

Senior Infants followed instructions, as Gaeilge, to make delicious pancakes for Pancake Tuesday. They enjoyed them with strawberries and saved one strawberry to extract seeds for their own strawberry garden. It took time and patience, but they showed great determination and are now eagerly waiting for their plants to sprout!



Making Slime

Ms. Fox spent the month of March with Senior Infants and taught them how to make slime in Science. They worked together as a team taking turns following instructions and measuring out the ingredients carefully to form our green slime.



Hurling and Camogie

Infants to Second Class started the term with our visiting coach, Meabh Stankard, coming in to teach the basic skills in hurling. They have been practising how to hold the hurl correctly, how to run with the hurl and how to pass the ball on the ground. They have been so lucky to be able to use the pitch for sessions so plenty of room for mistakes and high balls! Our senior pupils are busy during lunchtime preparing for upcoming championships in football, camogie and hurling!



Space Exploration

Junior Infants had an exciting time learning all about space, exploring planets, stars, and astronauts through fun activities and stories.



Daily Mile Challenge

Our whole school has kicked off the Daily Mile Challenge, and the excitement is building! From Junior Infants all the way up to Sixth Class, everyone is getting involved by running their daily miles throughout the week. We're already noticing the benefits—our fitness is improving, and it's getting easier each day.



Engineers Week 2025

Engineers Week was a whirlwind of creativity and fun across the school! Junior Infants kicked things off by using their imaginations to design all sorts of inventions. Senior Infants got musical, crafting their very own instruments from everyday materials. First and Second Class put their heads together to design and build their dream playgrounds. Second and Third Class took on two impressive challenges—building marble rollercoasters and designing waterproof umbrellas. Fourth Class wowed the whole school with an exhibition showcasing their beautiful Japanese structures. Fifth and Sixth Class rounded out the week by constructing spaghetti bridges and creating musical instruments! It was an inspiring week full of teamwork and engineering brilliance!

Senior Infants—Musical Instruments



Junior Infants - Wonderful Creations



First and Second Class - Our Dream Playgrounds!



Second Class



- Marble Rollercoasters and Waterproof Umbrellas



5th & 6th Class Musical Instruments and Spaghetti Bridges



Fourth Class - Japanese Structures Exhibition



The West's Awake

Fifth and Sixth Class had a great visit from Rory O'Shaughnessy & Shona MacGillivray who taught the children about some local history and story telling as part of The West's Awake festival. Pupils created their own family coat of arms.



Sixth Class Trip to Dublin

Sixth Class went on a memorable trip to Dublin with the local schools organised by Fr Roche. They visited Epic Museum, Kilmainham Gaol and Island Bridge, not forgetting Supermacs on the way home. The children learned much about our nation's history on this trip.



Chess News

Our 4th class students competed in the Galway Chess Finals, playing against schools from across the county. They showed great skill and enjoyed meeting new friends along the way. Well done also to those who took part in the U11 and U13 Community Games chess competition—we're proud of you all!



Scholastic Book Fair

This year, for the very first time, we were delighted to welcome a Scholastic Book Fair to the school. Although the book fair was only in the school for a week, it generated over €4,000 in sales. This amazing achievement entitles the school to spend over €2,000 on fantastic new books for our classroom libraries. A huge thank you to every family for enthusiastically supporting our book fair. We are currently in the process of sourcing engaging new books for each classroom. The success of the fair has been truly encouraging, and we're excited to see our students enjoying these new reading materials. Thank you again for helping to inspire a love of reading in our school!



Grandparents' Day

In February, we welcomed grandparents into our school for a wonderful Grandparents' Day. It was a joyful occasion filled with music, laughter, and special moments. The day began with class performances in the local hall. From songs to poems, to musical instruments and Irish dancing, the children put on a fantastic show and their grandparents clearly loved it! Afterwards, grandparents visited classrooms, where the children excitedly showed them their seats and schoolwork. It was lovely to see the pride on both sides. A power cut unfortunately cut our tea break short, but it didn't spoil the day. A big thank you to parents for the delicious baked goods! Overall, it was a fantastic event, and we look forward to welcoming grandparents back again soon!



Special Achievements

Congratulations to Cian Whelan for winning the Age 10+ category in the Saint Patrick's Day colouring competition at Gort Credit Union! We are incredibly proud of you, Cian!



Congratulations to Kevin McInerney on winning the Galway Chess Congress Cup at the Loughrea Hotel last weekend! Competing in the Irish Chess Union's Under 1600 rating section, Kevin faced off against both adults and children of all ages to claim the title—an outstanding achievement!



Seachtain na Gaeilge agus Lá Glas 2025

Bhí a lán imeachtaí éagsula ar siúl sa scoil i rith Seachtain na Gaeilge mar shampla tráth na gCeist, ealaín, Bíongó, filíocht is amhráin as Gaeilge. Ghlac na ranganna ar fad páirt in imeachtaí a bhaineann le Gaeilge i rith na seachtaine. Bhí céilí mór sa chlós againn ar an 13ú lá de Mhárta freisin, áit a raibh gach páiste páirteach.

Lá Glas—Céilí sa Chlós

Bíongó agus Tráth na gCeist

