



Ardrahan National School



Issue 22: December 2025 Email: secretary@ardrahanns.ie Ph: 091 635466

Happy Christmas

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Christmas edition of our newsletter for the 2025/2026 school year. Our school has been filled with kindness, hard work and the festive spirit over the past few weeks. On behalf of all staff, I would like to wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming you all back on January 5th, 2026.

Beannachtaí na Nollag agus Athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh go léir.

Ms Hughes

Christmas Plays

On Monday the children took to the stage to perform their Christmas plays. We have some budding stars in the making! Our advanced music group also performed and added to the festive occasion. A heartfelt thank you to all who came along to support the children. It was a lovely day filled with Christmas cheer!



Lunchtime Clubs

Our Lunchtime Clubs are proving to be a big hit. Children enjoy learning new skills in a relaxed and fun setting. For the last few weeks, they have taken part in knitting and chess, developing creativity, concentration and problem solving in a relaxed and friendly environment.



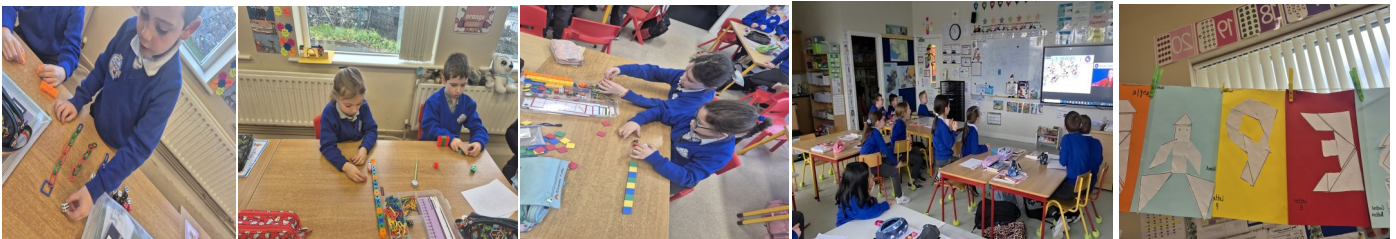
The Wild Swans of Coole

The children from Fourth and Fifth Class have explored W.B. Yeats' poem 'The wild Swans at Coole'. They discussed imagery, themes and emotions within the poem. They created lovely artwork inspired by the poem which is now on display in the hall.



New Primary Maths Curriculum

As part of our School Self Evaluation process, we have chosen Maths as our area of focus. We have engaged the support of a facilitator from Oide to support teachers as they implement the new curriculum throughout the school. We are exploring the use of Maths journals, collaborative learning, maths modelling and more. We have had lots of fun hands-on activities in all classes as teachers adopt a playful, problem solving approach in all classes. Last week children took part in a virtual maths quiz and they all really enjoyed the challenge. Senior Infants explored symmetry, patterns,



Clever Clothes Peg Creations

Fifth and Sixth Class took on a design and make challenge: constructing miniature rocking chairs using clothes pegs. They explored how to balance and connect the pieces so their chairs could rock. The finished creations were proudly displayed showcasing wonderful creativity and problem solving skills.



Arts and Crafts

The children in Rafter's class were in full Christmas mode last week making gifts for their loved ones using clay. Third Class had great fun using paint, masking tape and glitter to create some winter birch trees.



Seamount Musical Sister Act

Third and Fourth Class enjoyed a trip to see Sister Act the Musical performed by the students from Seamount College. The lively songs, colourful costumes and energetic cast kept everyone captivated from start to finish. It was a lovely day out and nice to see some of our past pupils on stage.



Nursing Home Visit

Our school choir and some of our musicians visited The Little Flower Nursing Home to sing carols and share festive music with the residents. Their performance brought smiles and warm Christmas cheer to all present. It was a lovely moment of connection across the generations.



Bird feeders

Second Class enjoyed designing and making bird feeders and went outside to hang the feeders. From their classroom window they can now observe the different birds that visit in search of food during the cold winter months.



History Presentations

Fifth and Sixth Classes have been learning all about World War 1, World War 11 and the Renaissance. They presented power points and made lovely displays showing what they have learned.



Parachute fun in First Class

First Class had great fun in PE this term using the parachute. They worked together to make waves, swap places and keep the ball bouncing all while practising teamwork, co-ordination and co-operation. Lots of smiles and plenty of energy!



School Book Club

Children from our senior classes have been enjoying Book Club sessions on Friday afternoons, organised by Ms McNamara.

It's a great chance for pupils to relax, chat about their chosen book for the week and discover new books and genres that they might not have tried before. The sessions have been very popular, with lots of lively discussions and enthusiasm for reading. Well done to those who have taken part and to Ms McNamara for leading the initiative.



Confirmation Preparation

The children in Sixth Class are busy preparing for their upcoming confirmation and they created some lovely Dove art with Ms. Burke.



Science Week 2025

Science Week brought great excitement to the school again this year. Our budding young scientists did lots of hands-on experiments and there were curious questions in every classroom. Infants mixed colours in a fun "hands on" way and explored the push and pull of magnets. First Class were learning about static electricity and experimented with mixing different materials or substances to make reactions. Children from Third Class held a science exhibition where pupils loved sharing what they had discovered with the rest of the school. It was a fun week full of exploration, creativity and plenty of "wow" moments.



Camogie Celebrations

Congratulations to the children from our school who were part of the winning Under-12 team with Ardahan Camogie Club and proudly brought the cup into school. We were also delighted to welcome back our past pupil Cara Giblin who received a warm welcome when she visited with the All-Ireland U16 cup. We are so proud of you all.



Our National Gymnastics Champion

Congratulations to Anna our Fourth Class student who was awarded the All-Ireland title at the National Junior Gymnastics awards. What an amazing achievement and well deserved for your hard work and dedication. We are so proud of you, Anna!



Christmas Jumper Day and Donations

Thank you to everyone who generously contributed to our Christmas Food Appeal for local families in need. We were delighted to support such a worthy cause. Thanks also to everyone who supported our Shoe Box Appeal and our Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Galway Hospice. A total of €923.60 was raised for this most worthy cause.

