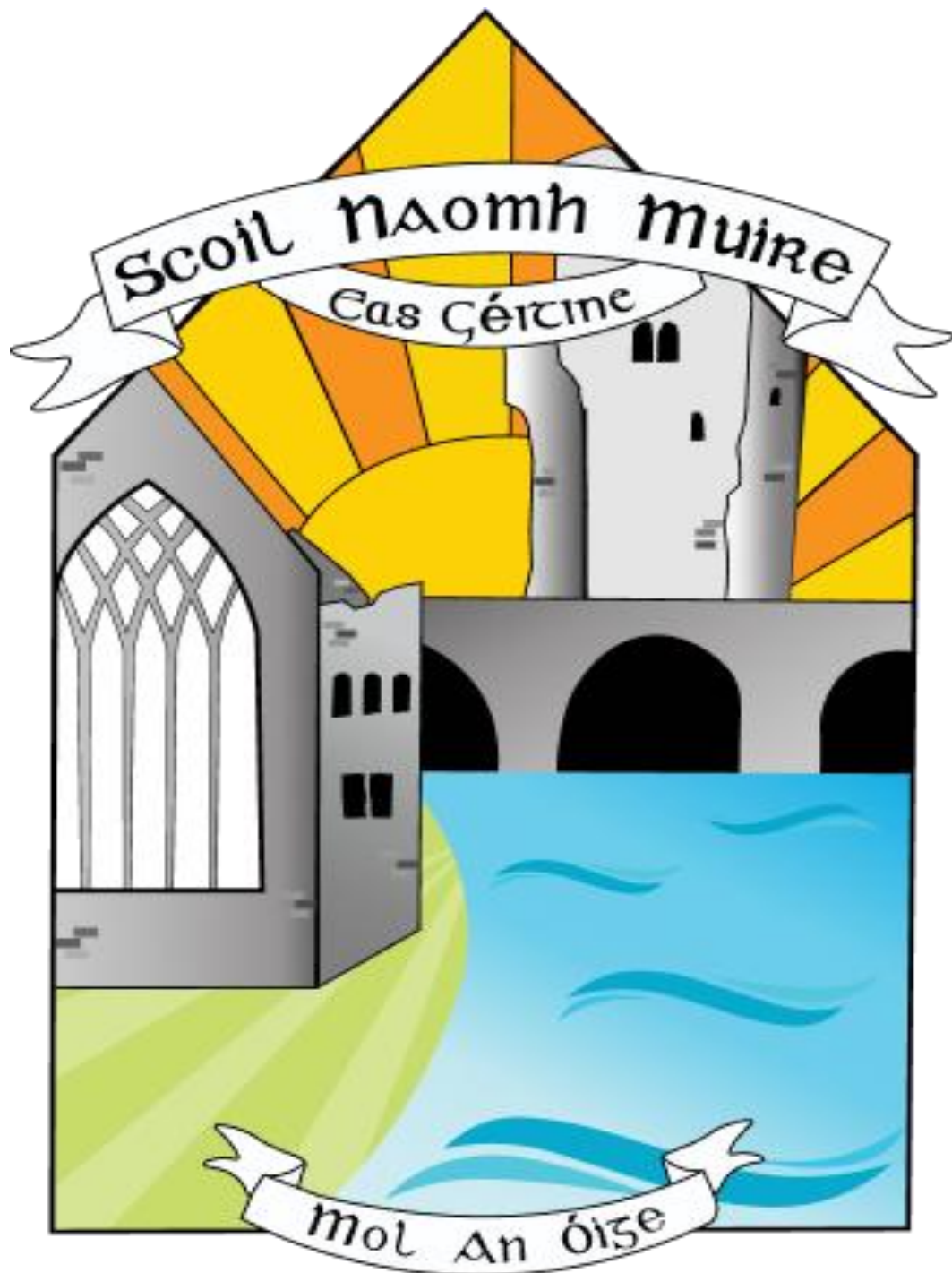


CELEBRATING OUR YEAR 2025/2026

Scoil Naomh Muire Eas Géitine



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Principal's Address

As another successful school year draws to a close, it is wonderful to reflect on the many achievements, memorable experiences and special moments that have taken place in Scoil Naomh Muire Eas Géitine throughout 2025/2026.

Before reflecting on the year, it is fitting that we acknowledge a very special member of our school community who retires this year after twenty years of dedicated service, Eileen Sharp. Eileen has touched the lives of countless children and families through her kindness, patience, professionalism and unwavering commitment. Her dignity, warmth and wonderful sense of humour have enriched our school community and helped create the caring atmosphere that defines our school. Her legacy will live on through the many children she supported, the friendships she built and the example she set for all of us. We thank Eileen sincerely for her outstanding contribution and wish her health and happiness in retirement.

This year saw the introduction of our monthly whole-school assemblies, continued success in sport, achievement of our second Green Flag, a wonderful Christmas concert, Wellbeing Week, swimming lessons, school tours and countless memorable learning experiences. We are proud of the effort, kindness and resilience shown by our pupils throughout the year.

We would also like to acknowledge and thank Caoimhe Condon, who completed her third-year co-operative placement with us this year.

Caoimhe worked primarily in Junior Infants but was always willing to lend a helping hand wherever it was needed throughout the school. Her enthusiasm, professionalism, kindness and positive attitude made her a valued member of our school community, and she was a fantastic addition to the staff during her placement.

As a past pupil of Scoil Naomh Muire Eas Géitine, it has been especially rewarding to welcome Caoimhe back as she pursues a career in education. We are always proud to see former pupils returning to the school and following their ambitions in teaching and learning.

I thank our pupils, staff, Board of Management, Parents' Association and wider community for their support. Together we continue to provide a caring, inclusive and vibrant environment where every child can flourish.

Brendan Hayes
Principal

Celebrating Eileen Sharp



For twenty years, Eileen Sharp has been a constant source of care, encouragement and support in Scoil Naomh Muire Eas Géitine. Her compassion, professionalism and dedication have positively influenced generations of pupils and staff. Eileen's contribution extends far beyond her role; she helped shape the culture of kindness, inclusion and respect that exists within our school today.

On behalf of the entire school community, we thank Eileen for her remarkable service and wish her every happiness in retirement.

Junior Infants

The children in Junior Infants have worked so hard and learned so much this year. They have formed wonderful friendships and worked together as a team throughout the year. From the very beginning, they settled into school life and showed a real eagerness to learn.

This amazing group of children has enjoyed all aspects of school life and embraced the many activities each season brought. From dressing up for Halloween to performing at our Christmas Concert, where they bravely sang their hearts out for the whole school and their families in the Community Hall, they have made wonderful memories together. They have flipped pancakes, hunted for Easter eggs, celebrated their grandparents, taken part in cycling activities with Garda Eoin and enjoyed celebrating birthdays together.

Outside the classroom, they have enjoyed football, hurling, basketball, cycling, dancing and many new experiences on our fantastic AstroTurf. Junior Infants especially loved Thursday mornings with Chloe from Music Generation. She introduced the children to a variety of musical instruments and helped them compose and record their very own class song, *We Are Junior Infants*. They also thoroughly enjoyed their hurling sessions with Cormac every Friday.

Most recently, Junior Infants enjoyed their first school tour to Free Range Kids in Croom. The children had a wonderful day and took part in hands-on activities such as baking their own cookies, visiting the animals and completing a scavenger hunt. We certainly had some tired boys and girls on the journey home!

We also enjoyed our very first Sports Day in June. We were blessed with beautiful weather and made full use of our amazing AstroTurf facilities. Everyone had a fantastic day.

All of our Junior Infants have made tremendous progress since the beginning of the school year. Una and I have loved watching them grow, learn and develop throughout the year, and we wish them every success and happiness as they move on to Senior Infants.

Goodbye, Junior Infants,

*It's time to part,
You've grown so much and won our hearts.
Off to new adventures in Senior Infants,
Shine bright – we know you'll be brilliant!*

Ms. Daly and Una







Senior Infants

I cannot believe how quickly this school year has flown by! It has been a wonderful year in Senior Infants, filled with learning, laughter and memorable experiences. The children have grown tremendously in confidence and independence and should be very proud of all they have achieved.

There was no shortage of excitement throughout the year as the children took part in a variety of enjoyable events and activities. From pancake making to Grandparents' Day and cycling lessons with Garda Eoin, every occasion was embraced with enthusiasm. They also loved staying active through football, hurling and dancing, and enjoyed a visit to the newly opened library in Askeaton.

Every week brought further excitement when Chloe from Music Generation joined us. Through her engaging lessons, the children learned about musical instruments, singing and responding to music through movement and dance.

My fabulous boys and girls gave me the best send-off before my wedding. They loved hearing all about it when I returned, and some even used it as inspiration during playtime!

Playtime continued to be a highlight throughout the year, with the children immersing themselves in a variety of imaginative role-play settings. From running busy cafés, airports and classrooms to exploring seasonal themes and community roles, they demonstrated excellent creativity, teamwork and communication skills.

Looking back, it is incredible to see how much each child has developed, both academically and socially. They have worked hard, shown kindness towards one another and approached new challenges with enthusiasm and determination. It has been a privilege to watch them grow and flourish throughout the year.

Rachel and I are extremely proud of all they have accomplished, and we wish them every happiness and success as they begin the next stage of their school journey in First Class.

Ms. O'Callaghan and Rachel









Ms. Sharpe's Class

As we wrap up a fantastic school year in Ms Sharpe's class, we are so proud of all the experiences the boys and girls have enjoyed together.

Some of the highlights included our trip to Kilmeedy Farm, where everyone had a great time exploring, and our equine therapy horse-riding lessons with Liskennett, which helped to build confidence and brought lots of smiles.

We also loved our walks to the park and visits to the local library. Back in the classroom, there was plenty of fun too, with dancing, telling jokes and sharing lots of laughter along the way.

Through all of these activities, the pupils have been learning more about themselves in a positive and supportive way. We have had a great year!

Ms Sharpe, Bríd and Diane

First Class

As we reach the end of another wonderful school year, we would like to take this opportunity to reflect on some of the many exciting experiences, achievements and special memories that the children in First Class have enjoyed throughout the year.

We kicked off the school year with a fantastic Halloween Dress-Up Day. The children arrived in a wonderful variety of costumes and enjoyed a day full of Halloween-themed activities, games and fun.

December was a magical month in First Class. The children worked incredibly hard preparing for the Christmas Show and proudly showcased their talents on stage. We also enjoyed carol singing in Centra, spreading festive cheer throughout the local community and sharing the joy of Christmas through song.

Pancake Tuesday was a much-anticipated event. The children learned about the tradition and enjoyed delicious pancakes while taking part in a variety of fun classroom activities.

March brought lots of excitement to First Class. The children celebrated World Book Day by dressing up as their favourite book characters and sharing stories and books with their classmates.

We also took part in Seachtain na Gaeilge, where the children enthusiastically participated in quizzes, a variety of Gaeilge activities and céilís, helping to celebrate our language and culture.

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt was another highlight, with the children having great fun searching for hidden treats around the school grounds.

Wellbeing Week was packed with enjoyable activities designed to promote health, happiness and teamwork. The children participated in whole-school soccer tournaments, enjoyed daily yoga sessions and supported a successful bake sale. It was wonderful to see everyone getting involved and working together.

In May, the children attended Science Craft Day in Mary Immaculate College. They took part in a range of exciting hands-on science experiments and activities that encouraged curiosity, creativity and problem-solving skills.

We were also delighted to celebrate Grandparents' Day. It was a very special occasion where the children had the opportunity to welcome their grandparents to the school and share some of their learning and achievements.

One of the biggest highlights of the year was our fantastic school tour to Turoe Pet Farm in Galway. The children had an amazing day enjoying the various attractions and activities while spending time with their friends.

Sports Day in the GAA field was another memorable occasion. The children showed great enthusiasm, determination and sportsmanship while participating in a variety of races and team events.

Most recently, the children thoroughly enjoyed a Movie Day, complete with delicious treats in the hall, organised by the Student Council.

The children participated in a wide range of enjoyable activities throughout the year, including swimming lessons, football coaching and camogie sessions. These experiences helped to develop important skills while encouraging teamwork, confidence and physical fitness.

We were also fortunate to enjoy weekly music sessions with Chloe from Music Generation. During these engaging lessons, the children explored songwriting, performance skills and even created some of their own music. It was wonderful to watch their creativity and confidence grow throughout the year.

Each month, the children proudly took part in our school assemblies. These assemblies celebrated pupils' achievements, with children from First Class receiving Kindness Badges and Gaeilgeoir Badges in recognition of their positive attitudes, effort and contribution to school life.

Thank You

It has been a pleasure to watch the children learn, grow and flourish throughout the year. We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved, both inside and outside the classroom.

We wish all our First Class families a safe, happy and relaxing summer and look forward to hearing about the children's adventures when they return.

Best wishes,

Ms. Carroll, Ms. Power and Anna





Second Class

What a fantastic year it has been in Second Class! From September to June, the children approached every challenge and opportunity with enthusiasm, positivity and a willingness to do their very best. They settled quickly into their new classroom routines and were eager to learn from the very first day.

Our first term was full of exciting experiences. We welcomed Foynes Fire Search and Rescue, who taught us all about their important work, with firing the water hose proving a particular highlight! Football training got underway and was enjoyed by all, while the children also began learning the tin whistle, embracing the challenge of mastering a new instrument.

Maths Week brought plenty of fun through games, quizzes and maths trails, and it was wonderful to see everyone working together and enjoying maths. Before long, Halloween arrived, bringing lots of fun with costumes and games, before our attention turned to preparing for the Christmas Nativity. The children performed brilliantly on the night, taking great pride in their roles and entertaining everyone with a delightful performance.

The New Year saw us writing our resolutions and hopes for 2026 before taking part in Water Action Day and the Croke Park Movement Break Challenge. As spring arrived, we celebrated St Brigid's Day, St Valentine's Day and Pancake Tuesday, which was followed by the very special occasion of First Confession.

World Book Day was another highlight, with great excitement around the school as children dressed as their favourite characters and shared their favourite books. Hurling training also began, and the children showed tremendous improvement throughout the year through their hard work and perseverance.

We finished the term with our much-loved Wellbeing Week, where meditation, canvas painting, the bake sale and, of course, the soccer tournament were firm favourites.

Our final term focused on working hard across all subjects and preparing for First Holy Communion. The children also showcased their talents at the monthly assembly through singing a Communion hymn, performing on the tin whistle and presenting an Irish rap.

Communion Day was a wonderful occasion, and the children made everyone proud with their singing, prayers and Mass responses. Other highlights included the Cycling Safety Workshop with Garda Eoghan, Grandparents' Day and our school tour to Turoe Pet Farm, where everyone had a fantastic day meeting the animals, learning fascinating facts and enjoying the playgrounds, AstroTurf pitches and bouncing castles.

June also brought Movie Day and Sports Day, providing the perfect ending to a busy and enjoyable year.

As we reach the end of another school year, I would like to thank Second Class for making it such a memorable one. They have been a wonderful group of children who approached every day with enthusiasm, kindness and determination. They have been a pleasure to teach, and I am so proud of everything they have achieved. I wish them every success and happiness as they move on to Third Class.

Ms. Curtin & Rachel





Third Class

We had such a memorable and busy year in Third Class. We shared many wonderful experiences throughout the year, and here are some of our highlights.

Term 1

In September, we took part in a historical and geographical walk, observing the man-made and natural features of our local environment. We explored our beautiful town, walking over our majestic 600-year-old

limestone arch bridge and taking in the Castle, Franciscan Friary, Old Creamery and Askeaton's Páirc na Saoirse, all set against the beautiful backdrop of the River Deel.

In October, we enjoyed a fantastic Maths Week, taking part in maths trails, measuring activities, baking and identifying shapes, symmetry and lines in our school environment. Halloween was great fun, as we dressed up in our spooky costumes and played traditional Halloween games.

Science Week brightened up November with a variety of exciting experiments. The children, with their kind and generous natures, were eager to donate shoeboxes filled with goodies for the Shoebox Appeal.

December was a busy month in the lead-up to Christmas. We enjoyed carol singing in Centra and attended a performance of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* in TUS. The musical was produced by students from Salesian College, Pallaskenry, and we thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

We were also busy preparing for our Christmas production of *Cinderella Rockerfella*. Third Class provided much of the singing and backing vocals and were absolutely outstanding.

Term 2

We celebrated the Feast of St Brigid by making crosses from straws and singing *We Sing a Song to Brigid* at assembly. Eimear taught us how to play the song on our tin whistles.

Shay, a Gaelic football coach, completed six coaching sessions with us and helped to develop the children's football skills.

Cormac began teaching us hurling in March, and these sessions continued until June. He also joined us for Sports Day, and we always had a wonderful time with him.

We celebrated World Book Day, with the children arriving in fantastic costumes based on their favourite book characters. We even had a wonderful Mr Stink!

In April, we enjoyed a fantastic Wellbeing Week, taking part in mindfulness activities, visiting our Garden of Remembrance and walking the labyrinth. We baked and purchased delicious treats at the bake sale and participated in a soccer blitz filled with energy and fun. We finished the week with an Easter egg hunt around the school grounds.

Term 3

In May, we were privileged to have Professor Declan Downey from UCD provide us with a guided tour of our beautiful castle. We are very grateful to Askeaton Civic Trust for organising this wonderful experience.

We rounded off the year with a fantastic school tour to the UL Adventure Centre in Killaloe. Kayaking proved particularly popular. Another highlight was Sports Day, which began with a challenging 3km run before moving on to tag rugby, hurling, circuit training, rounders, soccer and athletics. The wheelbarrow race provided plenty of laughs for everyone involved.

In our final week, we performed two beautiful pieces at our closing school assembly. First, we played *Óró, Sé do Bheatha 'Bhaile* on the tin whistle, which Eimear had taught us so well. Ms Nolan accompanied us beautifully on the concertina before we sang the song together.

The children then performed the beautiful *Circle of Life* from *The Lion King*, which received tremendous applause and brought our year together to a wonderful conclusion.

Ms Nolan was an outstanding support teacher for Literacy and Numeracy throughout the year, and we were very fortunate to have her support.

To conclude, we enjoyed a fantastic year of learning, fun and friendship. We were also very lucky to have our kind and caring SNA, Elaine, accompanying us throughout the year with such warmth, support and dedication.

Ms. McElligott & Elaine

Ms. Hayes' Class

Term 1

We welcomed a new pupil to our class at the beginning of the school year. We played lots of oral language games to get to know one another, and all of the children settled in very well.

We returned to Liskennett Equine Centre for horse-riding lessons, and the children were delighted to be back on the horses. Halloween brought plenty of excitement, with dressing up and enjoying traditional Halloween games.

During Science Week, we carried out a variety of experiments. We created a rainbow using Skittles and investigated which objects in our classroom were magnetic.

We also visited Newcastle West Library, where we enjoyed spending time in the sensory room and exploring the wide selection of books available.

As part of our learning about plants, we investigated the conditions needed for growth and planted beautiful spring flowers in our planter.

In December, we began preparing for our Christmas Concert by practising songs and completing lots of festive artwork. We also enjoyed a special trip to visit Santa in Jetland Shopping Centre. The children were delighted to meet Santa and his elves and could hardly wait for Christmas to arrive.

Term 2

We took part in the Croke Park Active Breaks Challenge, where the children enjoyed learning about different areas of Croke Park while completing daily challenges.

We continued to observe our spring flowers as they grew and blossomed, adding wonderful colour to the outside of our school.

The children learned all about St Brigid and made beautiful crosses from rushes. We also celebrated Pancake Tuesday by making our own pancakes and choosing from a variety of delicious toppings.

Inspired by the Traveller Pride event we attended last year, we made traditional bread using just flour and buttermilk. It was delicious and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

World Book Day was another highlight. The children dressed up, designed their own book covers and took part in a quiz. We also visited the local library, where librarian Anne Ward read stories to the children and gave them an opportunity to choose books to borrow.

We celebrated Wellbeing Week with a variety of enjoyable and relaxing activities, including canvas painting, a soccer tournament and an Easter egg hunt.

Term 3

April was Autism Awareness Month, and we spent time learning about autism and celebrating neurodiversity. We also practised mindfulness activities and deep breathing exercises. Swimming lessons began in our local pool, and the children greatly enjoyed developing their swimming skills each week.

We visited the new library in Askeaton and were amazed by the transformation from the old building. Our class also travelled to Kilmeedy Social Farm, where we learned about robotic milking and enjoyed meeting some very cute kittens and puppies.

One of our pupils received the Sacrament of Confirmation this year, and we were very proud to celebrate this important milestone with him.

June was a particularly busy month. The children travelled to Killaloe for their school tour, where they enjoyed a fun-filled day of water-based activities and co-operative games. A wonderful day was had by all. We also enjoyed Sports Day in the GAA field and were delighted to receive an ice-cream treat from the Parents' Association.

A particularly emotional occasion was our classroom tea party to celebrate the retirement of our wonderful SNA, Eileen. While we were sad to say goodbye, we wish her every happiness in her retirement and thank her for all she has done for our class and school community.

We also said goodbye to one of our pupils as they graduated from Sixth Class. We wish them every success and happiness as they begin secondary school.

Ms Hayes, Helen, Eileen and Marion







Fourth & Fifth Class

As another wonderful year draws to a close, we look back on many memorable experiences and achievements that made this school year so enjoyable.

We were delighted to welcome our hurling coach, Cormac, who worked with us throughout the year every Friday afternoon. Through his guidance and encouragement, we developed our hurling skills significantly, and this progress was clearly evident during our end-of-year school hurling blitz, where every child played an important role for their team.

We were also fortunate to receive an introduction to the French language and culture from native French teacher Ms Baro. She visited our classroom every Thursday for an hour-long lesson throughout the year. We learned French vocabulary relating to numbers, animals and everyday conversational phrases through a variety of enjoyable activities.

Merci beaucoup, Ms. Baro!

Foynes Fire Brigade visited the school and provided us with a fascinating tour of their fire engine. We learned about the equipment they use and the importance of fire safety both at home and in everyday life.

In History, we studied the Normans and discovered that some of our pupils have Norman ancestry reflected in their surnames. We also explored Askeaton's rich Norman heritage during a guided tour of Askeaton Castle led by Professor Dalton. We are grateful to Askeaton Heritage Trust for organising this excellent educational experience.

This year, we began learning the tin whistle with Eimear. While it proved challenging at first, we made tremendous progress and learned a wide range of tunes, including *Sean South of Garryowen*, *Amhrán na bhFiann* and *Killeagh*. We hope many of the children continue their musical journey during the summer and beyond.

During Maths Week, we conducted class surveys, gathered data and displayed our findings through graphs and charts in the classroom.

Science Week allowed us to investigate electricity and electrical circuits through a range of engaging experiments.

We thoroughly enjoyed celebrating World Book Day and our love of reading. The children dressed up as their favourite book characters and took part in a whole-class literary quiz.

Valentine's Day provided an opportunity to create thoughtful cards for people who are special to us. There was certainly a lovely atmosphere in the classroom that day.

Our study of Norman castles also inspired some wonderful artwork. The children demonstrated great creativity and imagination while designing and sculpting replica castles from clay.

In Art, we learned about the life and work of renowned Irish artist Paul Henry. After exploring his paintings, the children selected a favourite piece and attempted to recreate it themselves, producing some fantastic results.

Many pupils participated in the school Christmas Concert, displaying tremendous confidence and talent on stage before a packed Community Hall audience. Others provided backing vocals, helping to make the performance a tremendous success.

We also attended a production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, which was thoroughly enjoyed by pupils and staff alike.

The arrival of spring brought celebrations for St Brigid's Day. The children made St Brigid's Crosses from rushes and distributed them to classes throughout the school, as well as bringing them home to their families.

One of the highlights of the year was our guided visit to Limerick Port, where we toured the Irish Naval Service patrol vessel, LÉ George Bernard Shaw. We were given access to many areas of the ship, including the engine room, crew quarters, catering facilities and deck areas. The children were fascinated by the experience and also received information packs and branded stationery from the Naval Service.

Our classroom also benefited from a range of new board games this year. These resources proved extremely useful during wet breaks and outdoor learning sessions, helping to develop problem-solving, strategic thinking and teamwork skills.

Our school tour to the UL Adventure Centre in Killaloe was another fantastic experience. The children challenged themselves through a variety of land- and water-based activities, and it is fair to say there were some very tired passengers on the journey home!

Sports Day was another major highlight. The day began with a challenging 3km run before the children rotated through eight activity stations. The enthusiasm, participation and enjoyment shown by everyone made it a truly memorable occasion.

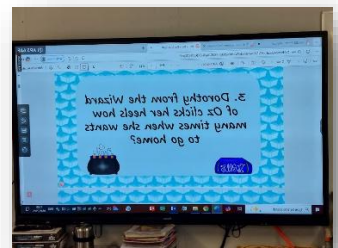
Finally, we would like to thank everyone who supported Fourth and Fifth Class throughout the year. In particular, we thank our parents and guardians, whose support is invaluable. We also extend our sincere thanks to all of our SNAs, especially Mags, who worked tirelessly with us throughout the year.

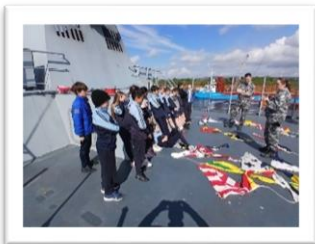
We would also like to thank Helen, Eileen and Marion, along with our support teachers Ms Moloney, Ms Carroll, Ms Burke and Ms Blessing, for the guidance, encouragement and assistance they provided throughout the year.

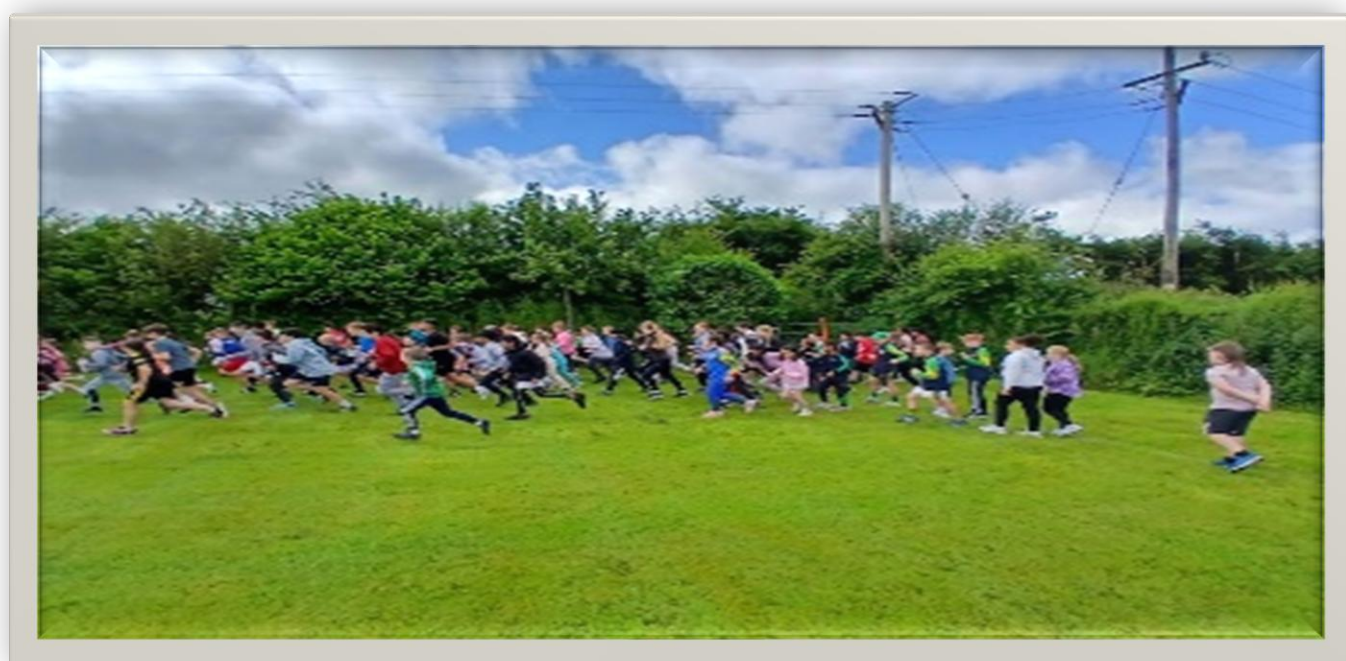
Well done to all the boys and girls on a fantastic year of achievements. Enjoy your summer holidays!

Mr. O'Connell and Mags









Sixth Class

We had a memorable and busy year in 6th Class. Throughout the year, the boys and girls embraced their final year in primary school with enthusiasm and positivity, developing a wonderful sense of unity and friendship within the class.

We shared many special moments together, but some of the standout highlights included our Christmas Concert performance, where the children acted and sang their hearts out, our Confirmation Day, Grandparents' Day and our Graduation Day.

Below is a list of the many activities and events we participated in throughout the year. Each experience contributed to making this final year in primary school both enjoyable and unforgettable.

I would like to wish all the boys and girls of 6th Class every success and happiness as they begin their new educational journey in secondary school. May they carry with them the friendships, memories and lessons they have made during their time in primary school.

Mr. Connolly

Term 1

September

- 6th Class helped the Junior Infants settle in on the yard.
- Visit from the Fire Brigade.
- Tin whistle lessons began and continued throughout the year.

October

- Maths Trail to celebrate Maths Week.
- Halloween dress-up day and class party.
- French lessons began every Thursday afternoon.

November

- Science Week experiments.
- Participation in the Shoebox Appeal.

December

- Visit to TUS to attend a musical.
- Carol singing in Centra.
- Christmas Concert in the Community Hall.
- Secret Santa in the classroom.

Term 2

January

- Croke Park movement breaks began.
- Hurling skills training with Cormac commenced and continued for the final two terms.

February

- Confirmation Retreat with Home of the Harvest.

March

- Dress-up day for World Book Day.
- 6th Class received their end-of-year hoodies.
- Mindfulness Week, during which 6th Class organised the school bake sale.
- Whole-school soccer tournament.

Term 3

April

- 6th Class received the Sacrament of Confirmation on 24th April, a beautiful and memorable occasion.
- Swimming lessons began every Thursday and continued for the remainder of the year.

May

- Whole-school hurling tournament.
- Visit to Askeaton Castle to learn about the history of the town.

June

- School tour to UL.
- Sports Day.
- Trip to Shanahan's for ice cream.
- Graduation ceremony on 16th June.