

Summer Newsletter 2026



First Communion

Our 2nd-class pupils celebrated the sacrament of First Holy Communion at Mullagh Church on 9 May. Huge thanks go to Mrs Flanagan and Fr Donagh for preparing the children in the lead-up to the event.

Sporting events

Our pupils, both boys and girls, have taken part in various sporting events recently. The girls' 13-a-side competition began in Quilty, but, unfortunately, they did not advance to the next stage. The boys reached the final of the 15-a-side competition held in Lissycasey on 4 June, but were beaten by their opponents. Our trio, Oran, Dailthi Óg, and Seán, competed in the Munster Cumann na mBunscoil Skills Competition in Mallow on the 3rd and achieved a fantastic result, finishing 2nd overall, with Seán named the competition's top scorer.

We want to extend a huge thank you to Ms Doyle and Mr Kelly for their significant dedication and effort in training our pupils over the past year.

Bike Week

We had a fantastic week from 11th to 15th May, celebrating Bike Week. Each pupil brought their bike or tractor, and Mrs Flanagan and the JLT had a full day of cycling activities ready for them. The 5th & 6th classes received Cycle Right training over two consecutive Fridays, focusing on road safety. We extend our gratitude to Mrs Flanagan for all the work and organisation she put into the event, making it a success.

School Tours

On May 29th, the senior pupils from 3rd to 6th class went to the U.L. Activity Centre in Killaloe. It was a very successful day, with all pupils having a great time. There were water and land-based activities, and all activities were inclusive, with pupils who don't normally shine coming to the fore. The juniors, seniors, and 1st- and 2nd-class students went to Turoe Pet Farm on June 9th. They, too, had a fantastic day and returned to school exhausted.

SET Review Allocation

Our 'Desktop Review', the final stage of our SET review allocation, involved submitting additional paperwork and attending a Teams meeting with the review committee. As a result of our application, we have been granted an additional 7.5 SET hours per week, starting on September 1st. While it may seem like a small amount of time each week, it will benefit some of our pupils with additional needs.

New Junior Infants

On June 5th, our new Junior Infants came to school for their induction day. They had met Mr Kelly at our Open Night in January, and he had also visited their pre-schools prior to that event. On the induction day, Peter from Clare Libraries set up in the hall and spoke to parents about the importance of joining the

library. They received a small bag of books from Miltown Library afterwards. Thanks to Davina Daly's generosity, Shannon Ices' ice cream van drove into the school yard and provided an ice cream to each child in the school. We thank her for that generous gesture.

School Visits

Peter from Clare Library also met with each class in the school and promoted the importance of literacy and visiting the library for many events, not just reading books.

We also had a visit from the Local Authorities Waters Programme and Greener Clare, Clare County Council. Karen Foley discussed the Blue Flag beaches and what helps areas earn a Blue Flag, and Colm O'Loughlin showed the pupils the insects living in our freshwater rivers and lakes and explained their importance. They set up engaging activities in the hall for the pupils to enjoy and try out. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed them.

Wellbeing Week

We celebrated Wellbeing Week in Annagh from 8th to the 12th of June. The pupils enjoyed a week of very interesting activities. They began with Yoga on Monday, with a relaxing session led by Aoibhe King in the hall. They had the Aquatic session, while the junior end of the school went on a nature walk. During the week, the pupils worked on Art and History/Geography/Science projects of their own choosing for display during our Wellbeing Walk on Friday evening. Each evening, both Ms Doyle and Mr Kelly ran football and basketball leagues, while the pupils also participated in activities such as Bingo, Table Quizzes and Clay Day. While the junior pupils were on their school tour, the senior pupils were visited by Dan Garrihy from Clare Sports Partnership, who organised wonderful and inclusive games for all the pupils. Heartfelt thanks to Ms Doyle for coordinating the events during the week.

The week finished with our Wellbeing Walk, which took place on Friday, 12th, at 7 pm. We had a big turnout and raised €3.111. Parents visited the classroom displays and complimented the pupils on their fantastic work. Overall, it was a great evening of chat, community engagement and socialising.

Graduation

We bade farewell to our 6th class on Wednesday 17th. Our ceremony, led by Fr Donagh, began at 11 am in the hall. We had a large crowd, with 14 in that class. They were great role models for the rest of the school and will be missed. We wish them well in their new educational journeys. We want to extend our thanks to Fr Donagh for his meaningful ceremony; to Mrs Flanagan for organising the pupils; to Brian Cooney for providing additional chairs; to Diane Lahiff and her team for collecting them and dropping them at the school; and to John Sexton for removing them from the school and returning them to Cooneys after the ceremony. Thanks to Nessa, our secretary, for designing the certificates and collecting the photos, and to Mrs Flanagan for creating the slideshow at the end. Thanks to Ms Doyle for organising the decorations. To the members of the board of management who attended the ceremony, we appreciate your presence.

Primary School Survey

Our school-specific results of the school survey sent to parents and guardians a few months ago were sent to each family via Aladdin. The survey covered three categories: Co-Educational/Single-Sex Preference, Patronage/Ethos Preference, and Language Preference. As there was no overall appetite to change the current system, this result was communicated to parents.

Summer Camps

Summer camps will run for two weeks, with week 1 running from Monday 22nd to 26th and week 2 from 29th to July 3rd. A huge thank you to the camp organiser, Mrs Flanagan, and the camp manager, Ms Doyle. The pupils are guaranteed to have a fantastic time during both weeks.

Willie Clancy Week Classes

When the camps end, the school will facilitate SSWC from the 6th of July to the 11th, with adult banjo classes running from 10 am to 1 pm each day. Mrs Flanagan will be here each day to ensure that everything runs smoothly and safely from the school's perspective. As we are a new venue, we have been given a scholarship to award to a pupil of our choice. We decided to offer it to Ethan Brooks from 6th class. He attends annually and is a deserving recipient. Members of SSWC, Deirdre Comber and Harry Hughes, came and presented Ethan with his scholarship.

Dates:

- Our school closes for the summer break on Friday the 19th
- The school will reopen on August 26th for the new academic year.

Bíodh Samhradh álainn, slán sábháilte agaibh go léir.

