Bunscoil Clochar Mhuire
Ní neart go cur le chéile

St Mary's Convent Primary School

Bunscoil Clochar Mhuire
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Imlitir 7
27th January 2026

Dear Parents / Guardians

We celebrated Catholic Schools Week last week and it was a lovely way to acknowledge our Mercy ethos and Catholic values. We were honoured to have Fr John and Sr Claudia visit for our Catholic Schools Assembly presented by the pupils from Mr Galligan's class. The legacy of Mercy is very dear to us and underpins all we do. Sr Claudia reminded us to love and serve one another. Fr John blessed us all.

We were also delighted to welcome so many Grandparents on Grandparents' Day and to see the special bond that exists between them and their grandchildren. The Parents' association kindly provided the hospitality.

This week we have another big event in our school and parish. Pupils in Sixth Class will receive the sacrament of Confirmation. Bishop Tom Denihan will confirm the pupils on Friday, Jan 30th in St Patrick's Church. Pupils from Fourth Class and Fifth Class have been rehearsing with the choir boys from St Michael's and will sing at the ceremony. All the children have been preparing very diligently for the occasion. We thank the teachers, SNAs and Fr Paul and Fr John for all their help and guidance along the way to this important landmark in their faith journey.

The school is pleased to announce that **Mr. Eoin Kane** will take over from Ms Webb to teach in Room 5 from February 3rd. Welcome, Mr. Kane and thank you to Ms Webb. Welcome also to **Ms Aoife Coonan** who joined us to teach Room 26 pupils, and to **Ms Maura Dineen,** our newest support teacher. We hope you all will enjoy your time here with us in St Mary's.

With the continuing inclement weather, please ensure your child wears appropriate clothes/gear to school. Ensure that coats and accessories are labelled. Please check below in the Lost and Found section for mislaid items.

Lastly, we encourage you to have a look at the key points of the updated policies on the next page of this Imlitir. Our policies are designed to create a safe, supportive, and consistent environment where all children can thrive. When children hear the same messages at school and at home, it helps them feel secure, understand expectations, and make positive choices. So let's work together and strengthen the message!
Ní neart go cur le chéile!

Siobhán Nally

Principal

LOST & FOUND ITEMS

Please note that uncollected items will be donated to SVP in the next two weeks.

IMPORTANT POLICY REMINDERS

Our Bí Cinéalta Anti Bullying Policy was launched last September and contains updated and best practice guidelines for addressing bullying behaviours. Central to it is the definition of bullying as being targeted, intended and repeated. We are working towards developing a 'telling' culture within the school so that children will know to tell an adult if they feel they are being bullied and this allegation will be acted on using the steps outlined in the policy. We are currently implementing this new policy within the school which will take some time to embed. The policy is available to view on our website and can be discussed with your child. We advise all parents and guardians to be familiar with it.
https://stmarystrim.ie/wp-content/plugins/smart-slideshow-widget/2025/09/Bi-Cinealta-Policy.pdf

May we also remind parents of the content of our **Digital Device Policy** as below:
Introduction and Rationale Aims Guidelines for Pupils Digital Devices Policy

- Pupils are not allowed to take out, turn on or use mobiles/smart phones/smart watches or personal digital devices while on the school premises or on school trips.
- Pupils involved in 'after-school' activities, including sport, music, choir, homework club and drama, may not turn on any personal digital devices until they have left the school premises.
- Pupils may not use their mobiles/smart phones/smart watches or any other personal device to take photographs, video footage or a voice recording of any pupil or staff member in the school environs or while away from the school during school time.
- Parents/guardians who need to contact a pupil during school hours should do so by phoning the school office.
- Pupils who need to contact home during school hours may do so by using the school landline, with prior permission from the teacher or another member of staff. There are landline connections in all classrooms and in the secretary's office. The school mobile may, at the discretion of the teacher, be used by pupils to contact parents/guardians during trips away from the school grounds.

We kindly ask for your support in following and reinforcing our school policies, as this partnership plays a vital role in your child's wellbeing and learning. By working together and staying consistent, we can give our children the best possible foundation for success, protect the safety, dignity and wellbeing of all children and adults within our school community as well as complying with GDPR law.

DATES TO REMEMBER

SCHOOL CLOSURES

TEACHERS TRAINING DAY
29th JANUARY 2026

ST. BRIGID'S DAY
2nd February 2026

CONFESSION

FOR CONFIRMATION CLASSES

will be on Wednesday,

28th January 2026 at 6pm

at Trim Church

JUNIOR INFANT PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

Meetings will take place on the 10th & 12th February, please log into Aladdin Connect tomorrow to book your time slot.

THE BIG SING

Our Big Sing Choir will perform on **Friday, 24th April 2026**.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Second class will celebrate their First Holy Communion on **Saturday, 23rd May 2026**

CONFIRMATION FOR 6TH CLASS

The girls in Rooms 30 and 31 will be confirmed in Trim on Friday, 30th January. We wish them and their families well as they celebrate this special day. We hope the Holy Spirit will guide them along their way and help them with future challenges and decision making.

Confirmation Day: Friday, 30th January 2026 2:00pm

- 2pm - St Mary's, Gaelscoil and Educate Together
- Video message from Bishop Deenihan with the children https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9M1x9ESIC70

CONFIRMATION CHOIR

Our choir will be performing at two Confirmation ceremonies on **Friday, January 30th.**

* **11am (St. Michael's NS and Boardsmill NS)**

* **2pm (St. Mary's NS, Gaelscoil na Bóinne and Educate Together)**

Memory Lane Photography will be taking Confirmation photos on Tuesday, 3rd February 2026

SCHOOL NEWS

Christmas Magic

Its five days til Christmas, I wait for all year, its the day to Christmas it brings so much cheer, the stockings are hung and the tree is so green, with colourful lights that glitter and gleam, the presents are wrapped with shiny red bows, and a snowman outside with a big carrot nose, Santa is ready to take his long flight through the air in the frosty Moonlight. Elves are all tricking, and children are picking their favorite Christmas hit toys. as Christmas magic sparkles bright for all the girls and boys!

by Mia McElhinney

Age: 9

POETRY COMPETITION

Mia McElhinney from Room 20 is the proud winner of a €50 One for All voucher from Folens, after coming 2nd in their poetry competition. Her poem 'Christmas Magic' will also appear in the next Christmas Siamsa book! Well done Mia.

CREDIT UNION QUIZ

Well done to our 5th/6th girls who represented the school in the Cumann na mBunscoil quiz!

They're were unlucky not to qualify , but hopefully we will have better luck in the upcoming Credit Union quiz!

BADMINTON NEWS

St Mary's Badminton team are through to the Leinsters!
We are so proud of our girls!

Badminton Ireland

This certifies that

St. Marys Convent

has successfully pulled off

The Heist

and secured a place at the

Leinster Primary School Finals

15th January 2026

Moate Sports & Recreation Centre

REVERVE ART COLLECTION

Room 26 pupils attended an art display and workshop in the Swift Cultural Centre on Friday, 23rd January with their teacher, Ms.Coonan. They had the opportunity to work in small groups with a variety of artists using clay, charcoal, paint, fabric and other mixed media. This event is open to the public this Saturday and is well worth the visit. Thanks to the artists for hosting them and working with the children.

STAFF CAR PARK and PERMITTED PARKING

We need to be more careful in our cars especially around our young children. It has been brought to our attention that some parents are driving through the school grounds, parking or reversing in the staff car park to drop off children here or at St. Michael's school. This poses a serious risk to our pupils and is strictly prohibited. The staff car park is for staff and parents with vehicles displaying disabled parking badges only. Parents collecting children from Homework Club are also asked not to park in the school taff car park. Please park in the church car park and walk to collect your child from there. We would appreciate your cooperation and vigilance with this matter. We are aware of the parking issues in the Church car park and are assured that they will be resolved very soon.

GREEN NEWS

Our green flag theme is Food and Biodiversity with an emphasis on Global citizenship. There are many links between Food and Biodiversity:

- Did you know one third of the food we buy ends up in the bin? As a nation that is one million tonnes of food waste per year.
- 25% of the world's freshwater supply is used to grow food that is never eaten.
- In Ireland, bees are our main pollinators but one third of our bee species are threatened with extinction.

What can we do:

- Start growing our own food
- Choose sustainable methods to grow like avoiding pesticides and peat free soil
- Add spaces for wildlife in your garden
- Buy local produce when you can and avoid
- like palm oil when possible

We are asking pupils and parents to think up a good jingle or motto in relation to Food and Biodiversity so that all the pupils can learn it and take it on board.

Remember a GREEN school is a COOL school!

Nath na Seachtaine: In ainm an Athar agus an Mhic agus an Spioraid Naoimh

Seanfhocal na Míosa: Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí.

Parents Association

Valentine Bake Sale

The Parents' Association will be hosting the school's annual Valentine Bake Sale on Friday 13th February.

For this upcoming bake sale, it will be the turn of the following class years to kindly bake/send in buns and biscuits for us to sell on the day:

Junior Infants
1 st Class
3 rd Class
5 th Class

To add to the fun, children are also invited to wear pink and red on the day.

More information to follow nearer the date.

Used Book Sale

To celebrate World Book Day, we will be holding a Used Book Sale on Thursday 5th March. If you have any children's books at home that are no longer needed and you would like to pass them on, we would be delighted to receive them for the sale. It is a fantastic opportunity to have a clear out of books that your children are no longer reading and for them to replenish their libraries for their appropriate age group.

Further information on when book donations can be made in February will be included in the next imlitir.

PA Meeting

Our next PA meeting will take place on Friday 6 th February at 9.15am. All welcome to attend.

Warmest regards,
St. Mary's Parents' Association

Jiggle 'n' Jump
After School Club

We have some spaces in Jiggle 'n' Jump After School Sibling Club. It runs from 1.50pm St. Mary's pick up, until 2.50pm when the older kids finish in St. Mary's & St. Michael's. It's a great help to parents with kids finishing at both pick up times, it's conveniently located, as well as being great for the kids who get to have fun in a specially designed space, being looked after by a team of childcare professionals who prioritise the kid's safety, wellbeing and happiness.

- **Only one collection**
- **Conveniently located beside the school**
- **Kids make new friends**
- **Kids learn new games**
- **Kids get to socialize through play**
- **Play board games, cards, lego, Arts & Craft etc.**

Contact Julie @ 0868505310, or through the Facebook page

Jiggle 'n' Jump

***€38 weekly, NCS accepted (€27.30 weekly with universal subsidy)**

Jiggle 'n' Jump
After School Club

After School Emergency Relief staff members required

We are looking to add to our pool of relief staff, for when the After School needs an additional staff member to cover. You may be given advance notice, or it may be at short notice. It could be to cover several mornings/afternoons during the week, or just one here and there as needed. Although a certain amount of flexibility is required, as you will be part of a pool of relief staff, you can advise of your availability at the time and possibly work around other commitments you may have.

€15.25 p/h (above industry minimum wage 18+ years old)

It would be desirable for a candidate to have:

- Minimum of 1 years' experience working with children 4yrs-12yrs
- Experience coming up with ideas to entertain kids, and willing to be silly and have fun playing games
- Friendly and patient demeanour
- Ability to work off own initiative and work well with others
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills (to aid with homework)
- Flexibility & reliability as you could be called in at short notice to cover anytime Monday to Friday between the hours of 8-9am or between 1.30pm – 5.30pm, or between 9.30am-5.30pm during school holidays (Minimum working hours 2.5 hours cover per day term time, and 4 hours cover per day non-term time).

Main Duties and responsibilities for Afterschool :

- Supervising and supporting the Afterschool Children to complete homework in a timely manner
- Supporting afterschool team to ensure effective communication and planning of Art, games, sports, snacks and other activities
- Observing, monitoring and recording where necessary the wellbeing of the children.
- Maintaining accurate attendance records on the children, keeping within ratio and adhering to other regulatory requirements.
- Meeting and greeting parents in a positive and friendly manner each day.

*A successful candidate will only be able to start after Garda Vetting (completed by Jiggle 'n' Jump) and receipt of 2 verified references have been received.

IF YOU FEEL YOU ARE SUITABLE, ARE FLEXIBLE, AVAILABLE DURING THE TIMES MENTIONED ABOVE AND WOULD ENJOY WORKING WITHIN A HOMELY ENVIORNMENT, OFFERING A SAFE AND HAPPY PLACE FOR KIDS, THEN PLEASE CONTACT JULIE @ 0868505310 OR JIGGLENJUMP FACEBOOK PAGE

Jiggle 'n' Jump
After School Club

After School staff members required

€15.50 p/h

Jiggle 'n' Jump After School Club is recruiting a staff member to work 10-20 hours a week. As the days and hours may change weekly, it would suit someone available in the mornings (8-9am) and afternoons (1-5.30pm). The role will also require cover during school holidays (between 9.30am to 5.30pm)

To be considered for this role, it would be favourable to have a:

- Minimum of 2 years' experience working with children 4yrs-12yrs
- Arts & Crafts, sports or dance experience
- Childcare qualification is desirable but not essential
- Dynamic and flexible approach to tasks
- Ability to work off own initiative and work well with a team
- Excellent communication skills both written and verbal, to assist with homework
- Flexibility to work from Monday to Friday between the hours 1pm – 5.30pm. In time, will be required to work some weekday mornings 8-9am. Also, includes cover for non-term time school holidays between 9.30am to 5.30pm.

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- Supporting afterschool team to ensure effective communication and planning of Art, games, sports, snacks and other activities
- Observing, monitoring and recording where necessary the wellbeing of the children.
- Maintaining accurate attendance records on the children, keeping within ratio and adhering to other regulatory requirements.
- Maintaining close, effective, working partnerships with parents to ensure the wellbeing of their children.
- Meeting and greeting parents in a positive and friendly manner each day. Inform parents on any events they can contribute or participate in.

This is a term & non-term time position, additional hours may be available to cover staff holidays, appointments or sick leave. Successful candidate must have 2 verifiable references, be fully Garda Vetted (completed by Jiggle 'n' Jump), and complete the Children's First online Cert before commencing.

CONTACT JULIE ON WATSAP 0868505310 OR JIGGLENJUMP FACEBOOK PAGE WITH A CV LISTING YOUR RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

ROBINSTOWN FC

Robinstown FC are now getting ready for the new season. They have an extensive range of teams and are recruiting boys and girls for the following age groups.

Academy	2020-2022
Under 7	2019
Under 8	2018
Under 9	2017
Under 10	2016
Under 11	2015
Under 12	2014
Under 13	2013
Under 14	2012

If you have a child that wants to play message Eamon at 086 2228246.