

# EOLAS - MÁRTA 2025

## Scoil Mhuire, Ballincollig

### Board of Management – Report to Parents

- The Board has sanctioned the school calendar for the 2025/2026 academic year.
- The SET Circular was presented, and the Principal's Confirmation of Correct Deployment was signed.
- The Board acknowledged the work carried out during Friendship February and commended its positive impact on pupil wellbeing.
- The Board noted the positive effect of the new school signage in enhancing the physical appearance of the school and contributing to a more welcoming and professional atmosphere.
- The Board expressed sincere thanks to staff members for their continued commitment to organising and running a wide variety of after-school activities.

This month we share the fourth and final **'Helping your child with Irish at Home'** Tip Sheet for parents, developed by the NCCA.

You will find **'Spreagadh agus Spraoi sa Bhaile/Fun at Home'** [here](#).



Please drive slowly and carefully around our school. Be aware that our young students are vulnerable road and footpath users. Extra caution should be taken when reversing or turning in the vicinity of our school entries.



On station road, we welcome our new School Traffic Warden, Maria Rubio, who will support our girls in crossing the road when arriving to and leaving school.

### Message from the Principal

Welcome to the March edition of our EOLAS. The month of March was no different to any other month in Scoil Mhuire, as it was bustling with activity!

With the stretch in the evenings and signs of spring all around us, there's a lovely sense of renewal and energy in the air. This month, we also marked special moments in the lives of our school community – to those who celebrated Eid, we hope it was a joyful and meaningful occasion. As we continue through Lent, many of our pupils are preparing for Easter through small acts of kindness, reflection, and generosity – all of which contribute to the positive spirit that fills our corridors each day.

In this month's EOLAS, you'll find some updates and key information for the weeks ahead. Thank you for giving your full attention to all our messages – your support plays such a vital role in everything we do here in Scoil Mhuire.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Liz Uí Bheinéid  
Principal





Our 6<sup>th</sup> Class debating team have had a very successful campaign in this year's 'Concern Primary Debating' Competition. Teammates Tara, Ellie Rose and Martha successfully competed in three rounds against other Cork schools, debating motions of interest such as 'School Summer holidays are too long', 'All Irish people should be given a bicycle', and 'Our schools should be paperless'. A huge well done to the girls and their supporting teachers, Iníon Uí Shé, Iníon Uí Dhálaigh and Iníon Uí Mhaidín, who gave their time after school to prepare and compete in each round. The girls worked incredibly hard in preparation, and we look forward to hearing their debates in Dáil Éireann in the near future!



*Feis Maitiú*  
Corcaigh

Massive congratulations to the girls in Iníon Uí Nualláin's Rang a Trí, who took 1st place in the Feis Maitiú 2025 Action Verse category last week! The girls performed two poems with fantastic energy and enthusiasm, impressing the adjudicator, who praised their wonderful stage presence.

A big thank you to our brilliant drama teacher, Tara O'Connor from Spotlight Performing Arts, for guiding and preparing the girls so beautifully. We're so proud of you all—Maith sibh, a chailíní!



## Keeping our Classrooms Clean

Visitors to Scoil Mhuire often comment on how clean and well-kept our school is, and that's something we're very proud of!

It is everyone's responsibility to keep Scoil Mhuire clean and tidy. Pupils can play a big part by working together—starting in their own classrooms—to keep the floors litter-free and help maintain a beautiful, welcoming school for all.

This month, we are excited to launch a new initiative! Each week, our wonderful cleaners, Yvonne and June, will select the 'Cleanest Class' in the school. The winning class will receive a special poster for their door and extra playtime.

We can't wait to see which classes will shine over the coming weeks!

Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí!



Pupils of 5th & 6th class participated in a very important and thought-provoking online safety workshop last week, facilitated by **Barnardos Children's Charity**. These child-centred workshops teach children to stay safe online by learning 4 simple rules and by asking children to be S.T.A.R.s online. (See poster below) We encourage parents to be vigilant about safeguarding your child or children online, and to be familiar with parental controls on devices and apps. Barnardos host Parent Webinars twice a month, the link to register for these, and some helpful videos also can be found [here](#).

## Important Reminders

4th April - School Closure (New Primary Maths Curriculum inservice for teachers)

7th-11th April - STEM Week

11th-28th April - Easter Holidays (early closure 11th April)

9th May - PFA School Disco (note rescheduled date)

14th May - 'Bi Cinealta' Staff Training (early closure)

24th May - First Holy Communion

27th June - Summer Holidays





Congratulations to our 6th Class pupils who celebrated their Confirmation on Friday, 21st March in the Church of St. Mary & St. John.

The ceremony was led by Bishop Fintan Gavin, who was delighted to confirm the girls in their Catholic faith, joined by our parish priest, Fr. Alan and our chaplain Fr. Rónán.

A huge well done to the girls, their families, and their teachers-Iníon Uí Shé, Iníon Uí Dhalaigh, and Iníon Nic Ailín-on a beautifully prepared and prayerful celebration of this special sacrament.

Many thanks also to the wonderful 5th Class choir, to the SNAs for their support, and míle buíochas to Bean Mhistéil for her musical arrangement and accompaniment throughout the Mass.



## SPOTLIGHT ON



### 'Greenschools' Committee

The Green Schools Committee reminds everyone in the school to be aware of our environment, energy usage and making Scoil Mhuire a greener place. The committee is made up of a representative from each class from 1st - 6th class. Each girl was voted in by their class, some of the girls ran some excellent campaigns to get voted in by their classmates. Each Green School's representative gets a badge for people to know that we are a part of the committee.

We are working towards gaining our seventh green flag which is called 'Global Citizenship - Energy'. As part of this theme we have been reading the schools energy meters and looking at ways we can reduce our school's energy usage. Each of our green schools representatives are 'energy detectives' in their classrooms, making sure all lights and whiteboards are turned off before we leave the classroom. We also promoted the 'Water is Life' Greens Schools poster competition in each of our classrooms. Students were invited to create a poster highlighting the importance of water in our lives and we got some amazing entries.

As part of the global aspect of our flag, we surveyed each girl in 4th, 5th, and 6th class about how much they know about climate change. We will be looking at the results from those surveys and making some graphs and percentages to show the results of these. We will be doing these surveys again at the end of the two year cycle to see how the awareness of climate change has changed in the school.

**Emily, Alice & Elly**

**5th Class Green Schools Representatives**