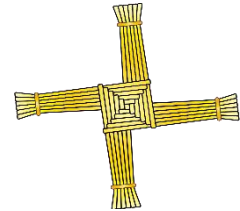
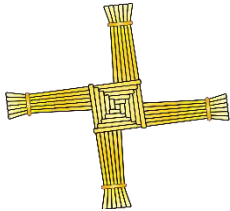


Nuachtlitir Feabhra 2024

# *Scoil Chéile Chríost Rathmore N.S.*

## *Newsletter February 2024*



Website: [www.rathmorens.ie](http://www.rathmorens.ie) Phone 045-862145

Email: [office.rathmorens@gmail.com](mailto:office.rathmorens@gmail.com)

Twitter: [@Rathmore School](https://twitter.com/Rathmore_School)

Safer Internet Day- 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024



**webwise**.ie

Dear Parents/Guardians,

February 6<sup>th</sup> marked the 21st anniversary of Safer Internet Day, which has become a landmark global event in the online safety calendar. The theme for Safer Internet Day 2024 was **'Tech in our World'** and through a series of events which took place involving 200,000 children and young people from schools and organisations across Ireland, explored the role of digital technology in young people's lives, their views on new and emerging technology, and the changes they would like to see enacted online.

Children are spending more time online at a younger age and we have a responsibility as educators and as parents to ensure their safety through effective supervision, monitoring and safety awareness. The dedicated Safer Internet Day page has lots of ideas, activities, education resources and videos available on <https://www.webwise.ie/saferinternetday/>.

All resources and more information can be accessed on the Webwise website at: <https://www.webwise.ie/category/parents/advice/>

Wishing you and your families a safe and enjoyable Mid-Term break!

*Lucy Travers*  
*Principal Teacher*

## Nuachtlitir Feabhra 2024

### Visit of Garda John Brien of Naas Community Policing Unit- Safer Internet Day 2024



As part of our school activities to promote online safety, age-appropriate **Webwise** presentations for primary school pupils were shown to the children by the teachers in 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> classes. All classes were also visited by **Garda John Brien** from the Naas Community Policing Unit who spoke about the role of the Garda in the Infant classes and keeping safe online in 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> classes.

### Junior Infants Enrolment 2024/2025 School Year

Offers of places in next year's Junior Infants classes to all successful applicants have now been issued. Parents/Guardians are asked to return additional information and baptismal certs to our school Secretary **Martina** by 19<sup>th</sup> February which is the closing date.

### Life Credit Union Quiz 2024



Well done to the children on our *Under 11* and *Under 13 School Teams* who represented Rathmore N.S. in the *Life Credit Union Quiz* on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January in Tougher's Restaurant in Naas. They did our school proud in what was a very close contest.

Under 11s Team: **Aoife Goode, Robyn Lawler, Matthew O'Sullivan, Róisín O'Sullivan**

Under 13s Team: **Billy Osborne, Will Gillespie, Tommy O'Loughlin, Gloria Queally**

Thank you to teachers **Ms. Malone, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Collier and Mr. O'Brien** for their help with the organisation of both teams and accompanying them to the Quiz Finals.

## Nuachtlitir Feabhra 2024

### Parents Association- Christmas Fair Fundraising Total

Thank you to all the members of our *Parents Association* chaired by **Tom Kearney** for organising a very successful **Christmas Fair** once again this year which raised a total of €5,145.07 (nett expenses). All the money raised will go towards funding school events and resources. Thank you to everyone for your support!

### Spirit of Rathmore – January Awards



A big congratulations to our January recipients of the *Spirit of Rathmore* awards which celebrate those children who have been nominated by their teachers for being kind in school. These awards are part of our whole school approach to promoting a positive school culture and positive relationships, which value kindness, empathy and integrity.

Junior Infants: *Kate O'Brien & Beaux Denvir*

Senior Infants: *Chloe Prendergast & Caoimhe Carroll-Mulkere*

First Class: *David Hynes*

First/Second Class: *Matthew Moore*

Second Class: *Madeleine Downes*

Third Class: *Kate O'Neill*

Third/Fourth Class: *Sam Berrigan*

Fourth Class: *Colm Flynn and Dylan Healy*

Fifth/Sixth Class: *Adam Hodder*

Fifth Class: *Ruby Harding*

Sixth Class: *Jasper Readman*

### New Primary Maths Curriculum - Information For Parents

The *Department of Education* (DES) has published a new *Primary Maths Curriculum* for children in primary schools. All teachers in Rathmore N.S. completed continuous professional development on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January when the school was closed for pupils.

The new Primary Maths Curriculum does not change much of *what* children learn, but it improves *how* children learn Maths. This includes more learning through play and use of concrete materials, more opportunities for pupils to engage in Maths talk and problem-solving activities. It also provides more opportunities for children to be creative, take risks and be challenged. The new Primary Maths Curriculum will be implemented during the 2024/25 school year.

You will find information about the new *Primary Mathematics Curriculum* [here](#).

## Féile Bríde 2024



*Féile Bríde* was celebrated across the school on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February with the children in some of the senior classes weaving traditional St. Brigid's crosses using reeds sourced locally. These crosses were then blessed by **Fr. Comer** during the school Mass. We appreciate the work that went in to preparing the hall and altar to celebrate this special Mass and thanks is due to our caretaker **Paul O'Sullivan**, to our secretary **Martina Lawler** for preparing the Mass booklet, to **Brigid Judge** for the floral arrangements, to SNA **Nora Lawler** for working with the children to create a special St. Brigid's themed display board in the school, to **Ms. Malone** and the children in 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> class for the beautiful collaborative artwork depicting St. Brigid's cloak and to **Ms. Gleeson** and **Ms. Larkin** and the members of the choir who sang beautifully. Thank you also to all the teachers who ensured St. Brigid's Day was a special day in the school.

## Spelling Bee Competition 2024

Congratulations to Fifth Class pupil **Allana Coogans** who has qualified to represent Rathmore N.S. in the next round of the **Spelling Bee** competition at county stage. It was a very close contest and we have some super spellers in Rathmore N.S.! Well done to **Fionn Magee** also in Fifth Class, who was the runner-up in the school final. Thank you to **Ms Malone, Mr. Collier and Mr. Walsh** for organising our school qualifying stage and we wish **Allana** the best of luck in the next round of the competition.



## Nuachtlitir Feabhra 2024

### Safety in the School Car Park: Message from the Board of Management

Please exercise caution at all times when entering and exiting the school car park.

Parents /Guardians are reminded that **reverse car parking** is in operation in the school car park.

Drivers are asked to **1. Turn only on the roundabout and 2. Let children out of parked cars on the footpath** and *not* on the driveway.

The school opens to receive pupils at **8.45am** daily. No responsibility is accepted for pupils arriving on the school grounds before that time as there is no supervision. Classes commence each day at **9.00am** and pupils are expected to be on time. **Please note that children who arrive late to the school after 9.00am or following attendance at appointments should enter through the front door of the school.**

Parents are requested to be punctual when collecting their children at home time or have arrangements in place to ensure their child is collected promptly at **2.40pm** (1.40pm for infants) if not collecting them in person themselves, as the school cannot accept responsibility for children after that time. **Parents/Guardians should ensure that young children in their care are supervised at all times while on the school premises** Thank you for your co-operation with these safety measures.

*Board of Management Rathmore N.S.*

### School Library



We are very grateful to have a School Library which is run by our volunteer parents *Library Committee*. The children always look forward to their weekly visits to exchange their library books and it is a very positive activity to foster a love of reading among the children.

We are also looking forward to celebrating **World Book Day 2024** which takes place on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March**. Money off book vouchers to the value of €1.50 will be distributed to all the classes in the school shortly.

*If you have some spare time and would like to volunteer to help out in the Library on Friday mornings, please contact Martina in the school office TEL: 045-862145.*



## Nuachtlitir Feabhra 2024

### Ireland Reads is back for February 2024!

Irish libraries, Children's Books Ireland, Age Friendly Ireland, Adult Literacy for Life, NALA, booksellers and others are partnering once again to get the whole country reading this month in the lead up to Ireland Reads Day on **Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> of February**.

They are asking everyone to pledge to 'Get lost in a good book' during February or on Ireland Reads Day itself, **February 24<sup>th</sup>** – whether that's reading a book, a newspaper, a comic – whatever works grabs your interest!

**Here's how you can get involved. Visit [www.irelandreads.ie](http://www.irelandreads.ie), where you can:**

Get some reading inspiration – simply enter the type of book you like best, how long you have available to read each day and the website will suggest a book and tell you how long it will take to read it. **Visit your library during February or on Ireland Reads Day** All over the country, libraries will be holding events and activities in support of Ireland Reads. Libraries have lots planned for all ages during February and on Saturday, February 24 for Ireland Reads Day.

### Green Schools Committee



### Green schools update:

Hi, it's Bobby and Robert from the Green Schools Committee and we have some updates for you.

Thank you to everyone for making a big effort to get behind Plastic Free Friday we are seeing less plastic in our classrooms!

The green schools committee recently ran a whole school slogan poster competition because we need a new green code. It is important that our new green code is associated with the Marine Environment Flag which we are working towards getting!

Over 250 slogan posters were submitted, and **Ms Shaw, Ms Kenny and Ms Gleeson** had the very difficult job of short listing the posters down to just 12! One winner from each class was selected for the final vote. When the final 12 were selected, the *Green Schools Committee* and *Student Council* voted on their favourite Green Schools slogan poster. All members came to Ms Shaw's room and placed their vote. Congratulations to **Allana Coogans** in 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> class who was the overall winner with her wonderful slogan " *Tidy your rubbish away and let the fish play*". There was such a high standard of slogans, so we have decided to display some of the slogan posters on our green schools notice board.

Some recent Golden Bin winners have been Mr Bolton's Junior Infants, Ms Gleeson's Senior Infants and Ms Shaw's 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> class.

## Trócaire Lenten Campaign 2024



Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024**. Trócaire boxes have been delivered to the school and will be distributed to all classes. This year Malita and her family (picture Patricia and Patrick, age 12) are suffering every day in Malawi from the extreme effects of climate change, facing severe flooding and burning dry spells within a single season. You can support this family in so many ways to build a better future by supporting the **Trócaire Lenten Campaign** for 2024.

## Sacramental Preparation

Children making their **Confirmation** are asked to attend the next preparatory **Saturday Mass at 7.30pm** in Eadestown Church on **24<sup>h</sup> February**.

The Parish Preparation *Nua Programme* for all children receiving the **Sacrament of Confirmation** will continue on **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February** in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Eadestown.

The **Ceremony of Light** will take place on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in Kiltel Church** and the children will receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation** on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April in Eadestown Church at 11 o'clock**.

**First Penance** for all children making their **First Holy Communion** this year will take place on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 7.30pm** in Eadestown Church. The children will receive the **Sacrament of First Holy Communion** on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 11.00am**.

We are looking forward to the celebration of these special Sacraments in our parish in the months ahead and we appreciate the preparation that is undertaken by **Fr. Comer** and the Parish Preparation Team and the class teachers, and **Ms. Malone, Mr. Collier, Ms. Larkin & Ms. Kenny**.



Please ensure your child's **Baptismal Certificate** has been given to **Martina** in the School Office for all children in both **Second** and **Sixth Classes** who will be receiving the **Sacraments of First Holy Communion or Confirmation** this year.

## Co-Curricular Activities

Swimming lessons are underway in K Leisure Naas for the children in **Ms. Larkin's 2<sup>nd</sup> Class**. Swimming lessons for the children in **Ms. Kenny's First/Second Class** and **Ms. Flynn's First Class** will begin on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February**. Payment can now be made on Aladdin epayments.

Hurling coaching with **John Holmes** continues on **Tuesdays** in the PE Hall.

## Nuachtlitir Feabhra 2024

GAA coaching with Rob Thompson, takes place on **Thursdays**.

Senior Boys Football Training with Mr. Bolton & Mr. O'Brien is taking place during lunchtime on **Wednesdays and Fridays**.

Under 10 Boys Football training with **Mr. Bolton & Mr. O'Brien** is taking place during lunchtime on **Mondays**.

Girls Football Training with Ms. Shaw & Mr O'Brien is taking place during lunchtime on **Tuesdays**.

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Boys Hurling Training with Mr. Collier is taking place during lunchtimes weather permitting.

**Boots and gum shields must be worn for all football and hurling training.**

### Dates for your Diary

**Mid-term break:** School closed on **Thursday 15th and Friday 16th February 2024.**

**St. Patrick's Day:** School closed **on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024.**

**Easter Break:** Starts at 12.30 pm on **Friday 22nd March 2024** and school re-opens on **Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024.**

**May Bank Holiday:** School closed on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup>, Monday 6<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024 and re-opens on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024.**

**June Bank Holiday:** School closed on **Monday 3rd June, Tuesday 4th June and Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June re-opens on Thursday 6th June 2024.**

**Summer Holidays** commence on Thursday **27th June 2024 at 12.30pm.**