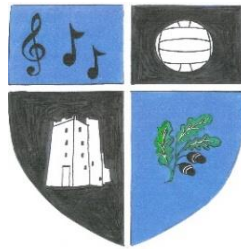


Scoil Chéile Chríost Rathmore N.S.

Newsletter June 2025



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Dear Parents/Guardians

As the school year draws to a close, I would like to thank you for your co-operation and support throughout this school year on behalf of the Rathmore N.S. Board of Management, teachers and staff. All **Class Booklists** for 2025/26 school year will be emailed via Aladdin to school parents/guardians for each class level and will soon also be available to download from the school website on www.rathmorens.ie. The cost of each class booklist is again reduced due to payment to schools of the Government Free School Books Grant which covers the cost of all your child's textbooks, workbooks and copybooks. You will receive a notification through **Aladdin Connect** to advise when you can begin to pay your child's other **expenses for the new academic year** which are not covered. These include Photocopying, Art and Craft supplies, Aladdin Connect and 24 hour Pupil Accident Insurance.

The **school calendar** for 2025/26 has been agreed and is displayed on the school website. We say 'Slán' to class teacher **Ms. Amy Gleeson** who is taking a career break for the 2025/2026 school year and wish her well. On behalf of the Board of Management, I want to acknowledge the dedication of all our teachers, special needs assistants **Louise, Rita, Nora and Brenda**, our school Caretaker **Paul O'Sullivan** and school Secretary **Martina Lawler** who all work together to ensure each child in the school is cared for and supported to learn in an attractive, well maintained and safe school environment.

We are fortunate to have a very supportive **Parents' Association Committee** co-chaired this year by **Donna Mahony & Jane Byrne**. They would welcome new members to join when we begin the new 2025/26 school year. Sincere thanks to our parent volunteers who are members of our **Library Committee** and to the school **Garden Committee** who have looked after our beautiful school garden all year and worked with the children in their class plots. We appreciate the work of hurling coach **John Holmes**, and **Rob Thompson** GAA Games Development Officer, who have both coached the children during the year.

It has been another very busy school year and I hope that you and your families get the opportunity to rest and recharge over the Summer and the school will reopen on Thursday, 28th August for the start of the 2025/26 school year.

Go raibh mile maith agaibh agus Slán!

Lucy Travers, Principal Teacher

Board of Management School Bí Cineálta Anti-Bullying Policy & Student Friendly Copy

The Board of Management of **Scoil Chéile Chríost Rathmore N.S.** wishes to advise that the new Bí Cineálta Anti-Bullying Policy and Student -Friendly Policy were ratified during the Board of Management on 18th June 2025. A copy will be uploaded to the school website and will also be available in the school office.

Sixth Class Graduation- Class of 2025



Our **Sixth Class Graduation Mass** was celebrated by **Fr. Comer** in the school P.E. Hall last Friday, **20th June**. Thank you to **Mr. Walsh** and **Ms. Malone**, their class teachers, to **Ms. A. Gleeson** for leading the school choir and musical accompaniment, to **Mary Clifford & Tom Ryan** for preparing the altar, to **Brigid Judge** for supplying the floral arrangements and organising the tree planting ceremony, to **Martina Lawler**, our school Secretary for co-ordinating the Mass Booklet and to **Paul O'Sullivan**, our school Caretaker for preparing the school hall for the ceremony and refreshments afterwards.

We are very grateful to our **Parents Association** who organised an ice-cream van to come to the school as a treat for every child in the school as part of the celebrations and helped us to cool down! There was a fantastic response to the request for donations of home baking from the parents of children in **Fifth Classes**. Thank you to the members of the **Parents Association** who assisted with the tea/coffee service and well done to all for making it so special!

On Monday **23rd June**, all the Sixth Class children were treated to a lunch treat prepared by our caretaker and resident 'chef' **Paul** helped by our school secretary **Martina** and **SNAs Rita, Lousie/Brenda and Nora!** We congratulate the **Class of 2025** and wish them well as they leave Rathmore N.S. to begin the next stage of their educational pathway, but don't forget to come back and see us! Slán go fóill and go n-éirí an t-ádh libh go léir!

Teachers for the 2025/26 School Year

Please see a list of classes and teachers for the new school year 2025/2026. Parents/Guardians will be advised when the teacher recruitment process is completed by the Board of Management and remaining class teachers have been appointed.

Class Level 2025/26	Teacher 2025/26
Junior Infants 1	Ms. Larkin
Junior Infants 2	Ms. Flynn
Senior Infants 1	Ms. Z. Gleeson
Senior Infants 2	Ms. Broe
First Class	Ms. Doyle
Second Class 1	TBA
Second Class 2	Ms. Kenny
Third Class	Mr. Walsh/Ms. Murphy (Job-Share)
Third/Fourth Class	Ms. Shaw
Fourth Class	TBA
Fifth Class	Ms. Malone
Fifth/Sixth Class	Mr. Collier
Sixth Class	Mr. Bolton

Shrub Planting Ceremony in the School Garden



A Shrub Planting Ceremony to mark the graduation of the Sixth Class of 2025 will take place in the school Garden tomorrow **Tuesday 24th June at 2pm**. The Verbena bush has been supplied as a parting gift to the pupils by **Brigid Judge** of *Yellow Furze Nurseries* and will serve as a fond reminder of our *Sixth Class of 2025*.

Our school garden is now in full bloom and it is a wonderful resource for all the children in the school. Special thanks to our garden volunteers including **Brigid Judge, Sakoto Yoshimura, Julie Shiels, Máire Lawler and Liz O'Reilly** for sharing their gardening knowledge with the children during the year and ensuring the garden is always looking its best. It is always much admired from visitors to the school.

School Uniform Swap Event –Tuesday 24th June

In line with our school Sustainability policy, the *Parents Association* are organising a school **Uniform/Eadestown Shorts Swap Day on Tuesday 24th June at 1pm in the school PE Hall.**

To allow sufficient time for parents/guardians to donate Rathmore N.S. uniform items and for the PA to organise the event, we are having **No-Uniform Days on Monday 23rd, Tuesday 24th, and on Wednesday 25th June.** The children can wear leisure clothes suitable for school activities on those days with a **donation of €2 in cash** which will go towards Green Schools.

A donation of €10 payable at the Swap for uniforms received is requested which will go to our *Parents Association* towards funding school activities during the year.

Note that there are currently a large number of unclaimed school uniform items in the school Lost Property basket. These items will be donated to the uniform swap day if unclaimed.

Thank you for your co-operation and support and we look forward to a successful **Uniform Swap Day on Tuesday 24th June.**

School Attendance Update



**National School
Attendance
Campaign**

Pupil attendance rates in Rathmore N.S. are up since the beginning of the 2024/2025 school year with a **94.7%** attendance rate for this year compared to **93.6%** for the 2023/2024 school year. Well done everybody and let's keep the upward trend going into next year!

Naas Lions Club Peace Poster Winner Announced



Congratulations to **Sophia Elliffe** in **Ms. Malone's** Sixth Class who was judged the school winner in the *Naas Lions Club Art Peace Poster Competition* for 2025 judged by teacher/artist **Anne Walker** and **Brenda Hyland**, mother of our past pupil and Ireland rugby team international player **Tadhg Beirne**. We were also delighted to have also been presented with a cheque to the value of €250 to the school.

Mini-Companies in Fifth Class



Mr. Bolton's Fifth Class have been busy learning about the world of business while working on their mini-companies project. They invited all classes to come and purchase some of the products on sale, all for a good cause, as they are donating all profit to the **Jack and Jill Foundation**. We were delighted to hear that they raised a fantastic total of €1,267.00. Well done everyone for your charitable work to help others in need in the spirit of Rathmore!

In school we started a mini company project and are selling a bunch of things. It is helping us learn all about profit, business, budget, loss and responsible spending. All of the money is going to the Jack and Jill Foundation. We wrote letters to our parents for investment, we bought stock and did a trial runs, but now it's the real deal. We sell 3D printed items, toast, Stationary, fidgets and mystery boxes and we are so excited to sell. - **By Brooke Gyves**

In 5th class we had a project to work on. It was about money, profit and loss. We were all divided up in groups for a mini company, each company were all selling different things. We had our parents as our investors - each family gave us €10. Altogether we had had €40. Our goal was to make that €40 again and pay our investors back. All the extra money is going to the Jack & Jill Foundation. On the 16th of June we hosted our first proper shop at big lunch for the infant classes and little lunch for the Seniors classes. We would love your attendance. - **By Saoirse Tracy.**

We are doing and managing a mini company in 5th class. We started in April and we are selling all kinds of stock. We are doing this to learn about profit and loss. We did a small survey and the school voted for Croc Charms for our group. All of the profit is going to the Jack and Jill Foundation. We were also learning about investments. Our parents have invested €10 each, so we got €50 altogether to invest. I am excited to begin selling. - **By Harry Glynn**

Hello from 5th class. At the start of April, we started a mini company. We were put into groups and had to pick a few ideas. Our first mission was learning about profit and loss and stuff to start a company. Two weeks later we wrote a letter to our parents telling them all about the company asking for €10 of an investment. Telling them if we can't pay them back we will clean or help with stuff around the house and that all the money goes to the Jack & Jill Foundation. After sending the letters we worked on money, logos and profit. Then when we had all our investment money we bought the supplies and sold them to 5th and 4th class in a trial run. Now that we are ready we will be selling our stuff from June 16th to June 20th. We

will be in our classroom and selling to all of the school. So we are asking kids to bring in change to buy from our stalls. Thank you for reading this. - **By Kate Noone**

Rathmore N.S. Earns Silver Award in SFI Curious Minds Initiative!



This year, all classes at Rathmore National School proudly took part in the **SFI Curious Minds initiative**. It was a fantastic journey of exploration, discovery, and hands-on learning right across the school.

As part of this initiative, students explored all strands of the science curriculum and worked hard to complete every element required for the **SFI Curious Minds Silver Award**. Throughout the year, pupils engaged in a wide range of fun and educational STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths) activities helping them explore the mysterious and wonderful ways in which the world works.

A major highlight of the year was our **Science & Sustainability Week** in early February. The whole school came together to celebrate science through engaging activities. We were especially thrilled to welcome younger classes & parents to our Science Fair, where 5th and 6th class students proudly presented their own inventions and impressive displays. In March, our 4th/5th class helped us get closer to our goal by representing our school in the **ESB Science Blast**, showcasing their creativity and critical thinking skills.

We are absolutely delighted to announce that Rathmore NS has qualified for this prestigious award! Thank you for all your support— we hope you'll join us in celebrating this wonderful achievement!

Special thanks to **Ms. Malone** for co-ordinating our successful whole school application.

Spirit of Rathmore Certificates- May & June 2025

Congratulations to the **May** and **June** *Spirit of Rathmore* Certificate Award winners who have been nominated by their teachers for showing kindness and consideration to others around the school and contributing to a happy and positive school culture in Rathmore N.S. We are so proud of you!

Let's remember to Bi Cineálta!



May 2025		June 2025	
Junior Infants	CJ Pender & Sadie McCormack	Junior Infants	Ayla Heffernan & Donnacha Carroll Mulkere
Senior Infants	Seán Duggan	Senior Infants	Jamie Guinan
First Class	Charlie Hill & Oscar Prendergast	First Class	Eva Gillespie & Daire Hyland
Second/Third Class	Olivia Sullivan	Second/Third Class	Cameron Belle Pender
Second Class	Isla Ward	Second Class	Dáire Hyland
Third Class	Robyn Kinsella	Third Class	Jacob Wall
Fourth/Fifth Class	Rory Magee	Fourth/Fifth Class	Cameron Belle Pender
Fourth Class	Max Sommer Killeen	Fourth Class	Joey Kavanagh
Fifth Class	Laragh Maher	Fifth Class	Adam O'Dowd
Sixth Class	Nina Smith & Aoife Finn	Sixth Class	Helen Nolan & Cian O'Brien

School Library

We are lucky to have such a well-resourced school Library which is operated each Friday by volunteer parents who are part of the *Library Committee*. The children look forward to their weekly visits to choose or exchange a book. A big thank you to all the parents who are members of our *School Library Committee* and new parent volunteers are always welcome to come along and help out on Friday mornings and support the school in fostering a love of reading among the children.

Great work has been done in organising the library book shelves and repairing damaged books, adding to the supply of books available to borrow and supplementing book titles which were requested by the children themselves. Please contact a member of the *Library Committee* or the School Office if you can spare some time and would like to get involved.

8th Green Schools Flag – Marine Environment



Hi, it's Ruby and Eoin from the Green Schools Committee. This year was a super year for the Green schools because after two years of hard work, we were rewarded our 8th green school's flag-global citizenship the Marine environment, Litter and Waste.

Over the last two years our whole school had to work hard at maintaining our other 7 green schools' flags. We looked after the biodiversity in our school, we made sure we recycled and disposed of our waste properly and we made a big effort to collect water in our school garden.

In order to receive our Marine flag the whole school had to get involved with different marine projects over the last 2 years. We created a marine slogan, we organised a Marine day, we updated our green schools board and we had to carry out surveys. Our teachers played their part too and made our lessons interesting by teaching us all about the oceans and marine life.

In September, we will be trying to achieve our 9th green schools' flag- Global Citizenship and Travel, this will be the start of our new two-year cycle.

See you all in September for even more green schools updates!!

Tennis Success!



A team of 3 boys (Adam O'Dowd, Senán Murphy and Alex Guinan and 3 girls (Laragh Maher, Leah Dowling and Kate O'Neill) represented Rathmore N.S. in a Naas schools mixed doubles tennis event recently, which was organised by Naas Lawn Tennis Club in May.

Congratulations also to Patrick O'Dowd in Third Class who was selected to represent Team Ireland in a Junior Tennis International tie in the Netherlands in May and were the winners on the day!

Cumann an mBunscol Football, Hurling & Camogie Competitions



We all gathered in the school yard recently to send a special message to wish the Kildare hurlers and past pupils, **Rian** and **Cian Boran** and **Harry Carroll** good luck in the Joe McDonagh Cup Final which they won against Laois. Cill Dara Abú!

Tomorrow, **Tuesday 24th June**, we will give a big Rathmore N.S. welcome to our past pupils when they will visit the school and bring along the Joe McDonagh Cup to mark this big achievement and a first for the Kildare hurling team.

Thank you to teachers *Mr. Bolton, Mr. Walsh, Ms. Lancaster, Ms. Behan, Mr O'Brien* and *Ms. Flynn* who give of their time to run lunchtime and after-school sports training with the children. Rathmore School Teams were entered into the *Cumann na mBunscol Cill Dara* Boys Football, Girls Football, Boys Hurling and Camogie competitions which took place in GAA Clubs throughout the county.



A big well done and congratulations also to all the children from the school who took part in the Eadestown Community Games Athletics finals.

Naas Library Summer Stars Programme



Summer Stars National Reading Adventure 2025

<https://www.librariesireland.ie/services/right-to-read/summer-stars/more-about-summer-stars>

Summer Stars is the public library national summer reading programme for children that runs from the start of June until the end of August. All children throughout the country are invited to join the adventure and to enjoy the fun and pleasure of reading and writing over the summer. Summer Stars is non-competitive and every child who reads even one book/e-book is regarded as having completed the programme – and **iActivities for Summer Stars 2025**

1. Summer Stars BorrowBox: Browse, borrow, read and listen to the Summer Stars collection of children's e-books and e-audio books through the library's BorrowBox app. This is free for all members to use from anywhere, anytime. Non-members can join online for free at <https://www.librariesireland.ie/join-your-library>.

2. Storytime: Summer Stars storytime will be delivered by library staff, available in your local library.

3. Books: Public libraries are open so do visit to stock up on your summer reads and register for Summer Stars!

4. Reading cards and reviews: Children can track their reading progress with reading cards which can be marked each time a book is read, online or in print form. These are available from your local library or for download and print below. The [reviews section](#) on this website allows readers to upload their views on what they have read.

5. Online Activities: Check your local library social media and website for upcoming Summer Stars events and activities!

Watch this space for any updates throughout Summer Stars and check out [your local library service](#) or local library website for further information on local activities and events. It's all completely free!

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Dr. Seuss

Parenting Support



I would like to draw your attention to a valuable resource for parents and teachers called parentingsupport.ie which provides information on parenting supports and services in County Kildare and Wicklow including:

- Details of upcoming parenting courses and talks in your area (mostly free)
- Information on local services and organisations that support parents
- Downloadable booklets and leaflets on a range of different topics relevant to parents

It is a multi-agency initiative of the Kildare West Wicklow Parenting Forum of which Kildare Library Service is a member. The full website address is: <https://www.parentingsupport.ie/> where you will find more information.

REMINDERS

Please remind your child to bring home all items of their clothing before the school closes for the holidays on Wednesday 25th June at 12.30pm..

Please return all school rental books/library books before Tuesday 24th June. Thank you for your co-operation.

Dates for your Diary

Summer holidays commence on Wednesday 25th June 2025 at 12.30pm and school buses will depart the school at the earlier time of 12.10pm. Please ensure that children collected by car are **collected promptly** at their allocated class time above in order to avoid traffic congestion in the car park.

The school will re-open for the 2025/26 school year on Thursday 28th August for all classes.

Staggered Closing Wednesday 25th June:

12.10pm Funbugs Collection

12.10pm Busses leave the school

12.15pm Junior & Senior Infants & their siblings

12.20pm First & Second Classes & their siblings

12.30pm Rest of school - 4th to 6th Classes

Have a great Summer!

