



# LISNAGRY SCHOOL NEWS

## CHRISTMAS 2025



### Welcome Note

Nollaig Shona daoibh go léir. As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, I extend my warmest wishes to you and your families for a happy, holy, healthy and relaxing Christmas, and every blessing for the New Year. 2025 has once again been a very positive year for the Lisnagry N.S. community, marked by many memorable moments and achievements.

### School Highlights

#### Christmas Fair

Our recent Christmas Fair was once again a great success. Sincere thanks to our wonderful pupils, Parents' Association, volunteers and staff for the huge effort they put in to make the day so enjoyable. There was a fantastic range of stalls offering beautiful arts and crafts, including wreaths, decorations, Christmas jumpers and treats. The children especially loved the visits to Santa's grotto. Thank you to our generous sponsors and parents who donated prizes for the raffle, and congratulations to all the winners. All funds raised will be reinvested in the school to continue to improve our facilities and resources.

#### Celtic Image Shield Runners-Up

A huge well done to both our boys and girls footballers who represented the school so brilliantly at the county football finals last month. Our girls team made us incredibly proud, reaching the Image Shield final after a fantastic campaign.

They were extremely unfortunate on the day, narrowly missing out in additional extra time after normal extra time couldn't separate the teams. The girls have been absolutely outstanding all year and certainly didn't deserve to lose such a close contest.

They approach every training session and match with enthusiasm and commitment, and each of them has a very bright future ahead. Well done girls — we are all so proud of you.

Science Week 2025 in November was a great success, with pupils enthusiastically exploring their curiosity through predicting, investigating, collaborating and experimenting. Children took part in a wide range of activities including egg drops, coding, zip lines, marble runs, blubber gloves and catapults, among many others. Daily science teasers were enjoyed by all, and pupils loved sharing and showcasing experiments with their buddy classes. We certainly have some future scientists here in Lisnagry! A special thank you to Ellen Condon for delivering her always excellent and engaging science show for our 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils.



## Upcoming Events

**Christmas Choral Afternoon** The children will sing carols on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December. To accommodate everyone we would ask families with surname A – L to come on Wednesday and families with surname M – Z to come on Thursday.

**Santa Dash** We will have our Santa Dash this Friday morning, weather permitting. All classes will walk the loop starting at 9:10 am. Children can wear their Christmas jumpers and Santa hats. Everybody is welcome.

**Peace Proms** Our Peace Proms choir will perform in U.L. on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> March. This is always a great experience for the pupils.

**Grandparents' Day** As part of Catholic Schools week celebrations, we are having Grandparents Day on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February. This is to show appreciation for the contribution they make to their grandchildren's lives. The grandparents of Junior and Senior infants are invited in for a cup of tea and a chat on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 12.30pm.

**Book Fair** We will have a Book Fair in school from 15<sup>th</sup> April. We appreciate your support as the school receives a percentage in total sales back in books for our school library.

**Chess** Our 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils will take part in the Féile Fichille Chess Tournament on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March.

**Swimming** Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Class pupils will commence swimming lessons in U.L. starting on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January. 4<sup>th</sup> class will also get the opportunity in Term 2.



## Notices

### **Road Safety – Stop and Drop**

The safety of our pupils is always our top priority, especially during morning drop-off and collection times. We are very fortunate to have a Stop and Drop facility, and for it to work safely and smoothly, we kindly ask for your full cooperation. With a school of our size, patience is essential as it takes time for everyone to exit the area safely.

Please drive as far forward as possible to the front-door end of the Stop and Drop before stopping. Children should enter and exit the school using the railed pathway. Cars should not be parked or left unattended in the Stop and Drop area, nor should parking take place outside the island or along the road, as this causes an obstruction on a public roadway. Please refrain from doing this.

For your child's safety, please ensure they exit the car on the path side only. Exiting on the roadside is extremely dangerous due to passing traffic.

We also ask parents to remain vigilant and to regularly remind children about road safety. Pupils have been spoken to in school about looking carefully before crossing the road and stepping safely off footpaths.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in keeping everyone safe.

### **School Roof Works**

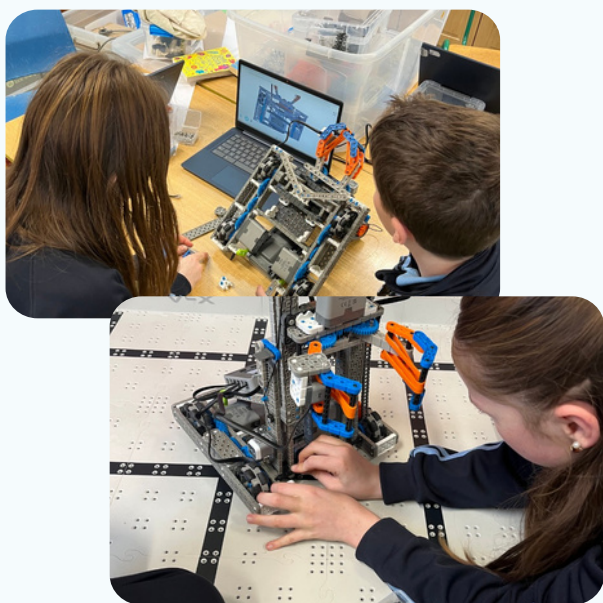
We are delighted to inform you that our school has been approved for funding under the Climate Action Summer Works Scheme 2026 for the replacement of our main roof. After having to undertake emergency repairs twice in the past decade, this long-awaited investment will provide a permanent and much-needed solution. We received confirmation of the funding only two weeks ago, and the Board of Management is currently in the process of tendering for an architect to lead the project. We are hopeful that the works can proceed during the summer holidays to minimise disruption to teaching and learning. We will continue to keep parents updated as timelines become clearer.



## Notices

### Vex Robotics

Sixth class have been engaging with the Dell sponsored Vex IQ Robotics programme since October. The programme allows the pupils to design, build and program their very own robot. The vex competition on January 29th gives pupils the opportunity to apply their newfound STEM skills in an enthralling game-based engineering challenge. They will compete with other schools. Beyond robotics, they learn lifelong skills of teamwork, leadership, project management and presentation skills.



### Reminder: Our Voluntary No-Smartphone Code

This voluntary code offers guidance to parents and guardians who are unsure about when—or whether—to introduce smartphones and social media to their children. It's also a chance to have meaningful conversations at home about healthy digital habits and age-appropriate content.

By choosing to delay smartphone and social media use as a community, we can ease peer pressure, support each other, and help create a more balanced and positive digital environment for our children.

**Enrolment:** If you have a child starting school in September 2026, please notify the school ASAP. The closing date for the receipt of applications is 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2026.



## Notices

### SPHE- RSE

As per school policy, the RSE programme will be taught in every classroom during term 2. RSE is a key component of the SPHE curriculum. RSE provides pupils with opportunities to develop knowledge and practical skills necessary to sustain healthy personal relationships with self and others. Topics are explored with children in a developmentally appropriate spiral nature.

### Wellbeing Committee

Our Wellbeing Committee for this year is up and running and includes children from Junior Infants right through to Sixth Class. The committee gives children a chance to share their ideas and opinions and will pass on a monthly positive affirmation to their class.

This year, we are placing a strong focus on student voice. By listening to children and involving them more in school life, we help them feel valued, confident, and connected, knowing that their opinions matter and can make a difference.



### Ahane County Football Heroes

We were delighted to welcome past pupils and parents in on Friday 12th of December, who played a key role in Ahane's recent County Football success. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate their achievements and to inspire our current pupils with their dedication and teamwork.



## Cúinne na Gaeilge



A Chairde,  
Beatha is sláinte chugaibh, Nollaig shona agus beannachtaí na féile oraibh ar fad.

*Friends, good health to you all, Merry Christmas agus seasons greetings.*

Bhí cúpla mí gnóthach ag Coiste na Gaeilge.

*Coiste na Gaeilge had a few busy months.*

Scaipeamar frásaí na seachtaine agus nuacht an choiste ar na ranganna gach seachtain.

*We dispersed the phrases of the week agus the news of the choiste to the classes every week.*

Chruthaíomar maisiúcháin le haghaidh Aonach na Nollag agus díoladh iad ag an ócáid.

*We created decorations for the Christmas Fair agus they were sold at the occasion.*

Ina dteannta sin, chrochamar foclóir na Nollag as Gaeilge ar dhoras gach seomra ranga.

*As well as that we hung Christmas vocabulary as Gaeilge on the door on every classroom.*

Tá súil againn go mbeadh briseadh álainn agaibh ar fad. *We hope you all have a lovely break.*

Seo cúpla frása deas as Gaeilge d'aimsir na Nollag.

*Here's some phrases as Gaeilge for Christmas.*

- Is fada liom go dtiocfaidh an Nollaig! *Bring on Christmas!*
- Beannachtaí an tSéasúir oraibh. *Seasons greetings to you.*
- Beannachtaí na Nollag agus gach rath sa bhliain nua ort. *Happy Christmas and every blessing in the new year to you.*

Sin a bhfuil go fóill, go dtí an chéad nuacht litir eile

Slán go fóill.

*That's it for now, until the next newsletter.*

Bye.



## Christmas Holidays

The school will **close at 12:00 p.m. on Friday, 19th December** and will **reopen on Monday, 5th January.**

Thank you all for your support and cooperation throughout 2025. It has been wonderful to work with such enthusiastic pupils, dedicated staff, and supportive parents.

We also extend our deepest sympathies to those in our school community who have experienced loss this year. **Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha dílis.**

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year! **Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh go léir!**

MICHAEL FEENEY

