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February 2026 Newsletter

Debating Success: Our debating team continued their winning streak last week, emerging victorious after a hard-fought and highly competitive contest against Carrigabruise N.S. The motion up for debate was “The weekend should be three days,” with Muff confidently arguing in favour.

The team delivered thoughtful, well-structured arguments, demonstrating excellent teamwork, critical thinking and impressive public speaking skills. Their ability to respond clearly and persuasively to the opposing side’s points was particularly commendable.

Well done to the children for their preparation, enthusiasm and confidence on the day, and sincere thanks to their teacher, Mr Donnellan, for his dedication, guidance and continued support. We are extremely proud of their achievement and look forward to seeing their continued success in future debates.

On the day the speakers were Aideen, Arlene and Laila and they were ably assisted by Dara, Odhrán, Sarah and Kayla.

Credit Union Quiz: On Friday 6th February our school was magnificently represented at the local Credit Union School quiz. We entered both a Senior and junior team. Both teams represented the school with great pride and they performed fantastically. Our senior team were placed 6th overall in a competitive grade competing against strong teams from local schools, our students showed remarkable confidence and determination.

There was great delight in the hall when our junior team were announced as the winners of their group. This is an outstanding accomplishment for both the pupils and our school. Well done to all. Congratulations also to all of our other teams who took part.

This success reflects the dedication and hard work of the children, class teachers and Gillian. Over the past number of weeks, great effort has gone into preparing both teams, and their collective effort has truly paid off with this well-earned win.

Team A: Aoife Byrne, Lola Kemp, Danny Lay & Robyn Clinch.

Team B: Odhrán Byrre, Dáithí Burns, Chloe Burns and Sarah Reilly.

Cumann na mBunscol Quiz: The Cumann na mBunscol Cavan quiz will be held in the Kilmore Hotel on Wednesday, February 25th for Senior Teams and Wednesday, March 4th for Junior Teams. Teams will be chosen this week and will be advised in due course.

Safer Internet Day: We marked Safer Internet Day on February 10th with a range of activities across the school. Children from 3rd to 6th class worked collaboratively on Internet Safety Awareness posters and had the opportunity to share their learning with one another during our Internet Safety Assembly. Many thanks to Ms. McEnaney for organising and facilitating this very engaging and informative assembly.

We were also delighted to welcome Community Garda Vincent Connell to the school on Thursday, February 12th. He spoke to the children about the importance of staying safe online and highlighted key points around responsible internet and age limits for social media use. It was a very informative talk with many valuable takeaways for our pupils.

We would like to remind parents that it is important to be aware of what children are accessing online, particularly in relation to age at which children are allowed to access social media. Parental guidance and supervision play a vital role in ensuring children use the internet safely and responsibly.

Bike Green: The children in 5th and 6th Class have completed their Cycle Right course on Wednesday last. They have survived the wet conditions and completed both the theoretical and practical classes. Cycle Right is the national standard for cycle training. It provides practical cycle safety and skills training to promote competent and confident cyclists. The 6-week course covered essential road safety and competency skills such as bike handling, correct use of helmets, traffic lights, traffic signage, travelling at appropriate speeds for the road surfaces and conditions, moving between major and minor roads, meeting pedestrians/animals/vehicles.

Thank you to Francis and the team for facilitating the course.

First Penance: It was a special day for the children of second class as they celebrated their First Penance ceremony on Thursday, February 12th, at 2 p.m. in Muff Church. Thank you to Mrs. Campbell for preparing the children so well for this important step in their faith journey, and to Fr. Gerry for celebrating the occasion.

Preparation Mass: Communion and Confirmation Classes are invited to Mass on Saturday February 21st for the celebration Mass of 'The Lenten Journey'.

This is the last preparation Mass before the Sacrament of Confirmation, and the Confirmation Sponsors are asked to attend with the Confirmation Pupil.

Confirmation: The Children of 6th class will be celebrating their Confirmation on Sunday March 1st in Kingscourt at 12 o' clock. It is special day in the lives of the children and their families as they continue their journey in faith. We will be communicating dates and times of the upcoming rehearsals.

Grandparents Day: A really important day in the school year is Grandparents Day. On Wednesday 22nd January we were delighted to host the grandparents of the 6th class children. We thank them for making a special effort to come and visit us to school. There was lots of colourful art, poetry, and historical artefacts on display. There was an afternoon of great conversation, and everyone really enjoyed the special occasion.

GAA Coaching: We are in the fortunate position to have Benny attending the school each Wednesday to deliver GAA coaching. This term it is Ms Mc Nally and Mrs Mc Campbell's classes who are participating.

Swimming: The 6-week block of swimming lessons finished up last Friday February 13th. Children from 1st to 6th class have really enjoyed the experience and the children have made great. Thank you to Kells Simming Pool for the excellent tutoring and also a big thank you to the Parents Association for contributing towards the cost of the lessons.

Handball: Cumann na mBunscol Handball competition takes place in Kingscourt Handball alley on Thursday February 26th. Competitors will be advised this week.

School closure for Midterm: Mid-term is almost upon us and as you are aware the school will be closed on Thursday 19th & Friday 20th of February.

Parents Association Cake Sale: Muff Parents Association Annual Bake Sale & Raffle will be held in the school hall on Saturday 21st February after 7.30pm mass. Baked goods can be dropped to the school from 6.30pm.

Hot School Meals: The school will be making the transition from cold school meals to hot school meals over the coming weeks. At present, we have not been given a specific start date by our supplier, The Lunch Bag, as they are still finalising some logistical arrangements. The Area Sales Representative from

The Lunch Bag will be in contact with parents/guardians in due course with further information regarding the lunch menus and details on how to download and use their app. We will share any additional updates as soon as they become available.

Move To Improve: Children from Junior and Senior Infants have successfully completed the 6-week Move to Improve programme. Throughout the programme, the children focused on developing their functional movement skills, improving core stability, and building teamwork through fun and engaging team games.

It has been a fantastic experience for all involved. The children showed great enthusiasm, energy, and determination each week, and it was wonderful to see their confidence and coordination grow over the course of the programme.

Programmes like Move to Improve play an important role in supporting children's physical development, balance, and overall wellbeing, while also encouraging cooperation and positive social interaction.

A huge well done to all the children for their fantastic participation and effort — you should be very proud of yourselves!

School Calendar: Please find below the school calendar for the year. Some dates are subject to change.

- **Feb Mid-term**-Closed Thursday and Friday 19th and 20th
- **St Patrick's Day** – Tuesday 17th March.
- **Easter Break** – Finish Friday 27th March at 12:30 – Re-open Monday 13th April
- **Staff Oide Curriculum Day** – School closed Thursday 30th April
- **May Bank holiday** – Closed Monday 4th & Tuesday 5th.
- **June Bank Holiday** - Closed Friday 29th May and Monday 1st June.
- **Summer Holidays** - School closes at 12pm Wednesday 24th June, 2026.