

TULLAMORE EDUCATE TOGETHER

Scoil Náisiúnta Ag Foghlaim Le Chéile An Tulach Mhór

'Learn Together to Live Together'



MAY 2026

WELCOME

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It's incredibly hard to believe we only have twelve and a half days remaining this academic year and we have so much to squeeze into that time! The weather has finally been kind to us so please remember to send your child to school with a sun hat and sunscreen. Today, we had a really heartwarming assembly delivered by Senior Infants on 'Belonging', the children spoke and sang magnificently with confidence and they should be really proud of themselves. Massive thanks to the children and to Cathy for bringing it all together. It was a really nice reminder that we are all different yet we all belong in our school.

Congratulations to Diya (6th Class), Megan (5th Class), Tom (4th Class), Valeriia (3rd Class), Oisín (The Arc), Lara (2nd Class), Salomao (1st Class), Jack (Senior Infants), Ahmed (Junior Infants) who were the May recipients of our handwriting awards, well done to all and thank you to Breda for overseeing.

Prizes were also awarded to our Green Week Art Exhibition winners. Congratulations to Kaya, Nyla (Junior Infants), Jack (Senior Infants), Nikolaya (1st Class), Eoghan (2nd Class), Aamiya, Sarah (3rd Class), Rohit (4th Class), Iffah (5th Class), Nora, Olivia (The Arc) David, Yousof, Albion, Cillian & Adam (6th Class). The art exhibition was really impressive and showcased the children's creativity.

Behind the scenes we are currently updating our school website and we aim to have this up and running during the summer break. Moving forward, we hope to move all enrolment applications online to streamline our admissions process and to make it simpler for families to apply for a school place. We hope that the updated website proves to be a useful source of information (policies, newsletters etc.) for everyone and showcases the incredible learning which takes place across our school every day.

At our last Board meeting the Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment policy was ratified. The ratified policy reflects the updated Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025. I would encourage everyone to become familiar with our child protection procedures. We will also be seeking feedback and evaluating these updates with the entire school community next Term. The Board also ratified the Irish Exemption Policy, this policy is available upon request from the school office and will also be published on the school website. It should be noted that it is our view that children should continue to study Irish to at least 5th or 6th class level before any decision is made to grant an exemption.

The learning never stops! 6th Class are busy preparing for their Graduation (11th). We are also preparing for Sports Day (16th), we have track & field in the Harriers (5th), a Talent Show (17th), school tours, attendance awards and our final assembly (18th). Let's finish the year strong and be in school every day for all of the experiences that children take with them from primary school. Have a wonderful June Bank Holiday weekend and a reminder that the school is closed for staff training on Tuesday 2nd June. See you all next Wednesday, take care.

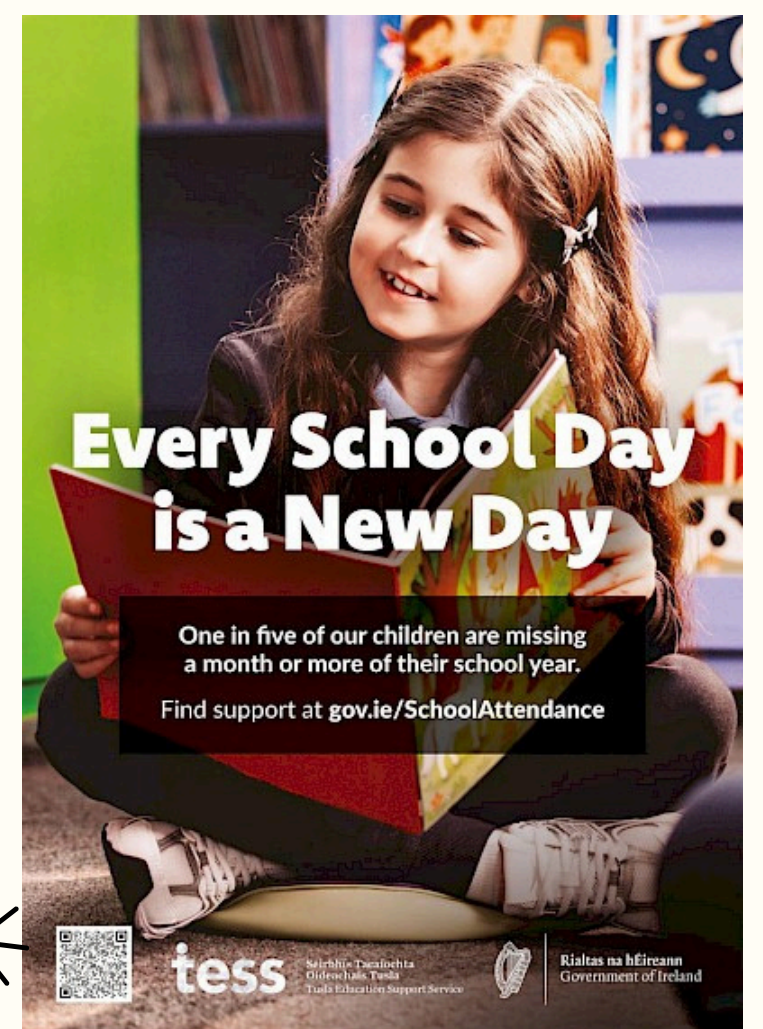
FTD BROTHERS - MARATHON CHALLENGE

We were so pleased to learn that Jordan & Cian, the 'FTD' brothers' were going to be passing by the school on their incredible journey across Ireland on Tuesday last. It is an incredible feat of endurance for a tremendous cause. Their story has touched the hearts and minds of everyone who has heard it, including in our school community. It has promoted discussion and connection around the topic of dementia. Jordan & Cian are an inspiration to us all and we were so happy that we had an opportunity to show our support.



ATTENDANCE

To date in the 2025/26 school year almost a quarter of our students have missed a month of school or more. Attendance simply needs to improve and we need your support. It is acknowledged that children will get sick from time to time and will need to stay home from school, however, it is clear that many absences are elected absences. Every school day counts for your child's social and educational development and we need to be conscious of the message we are imparting to our children when we do not prioritise attendance, in effect, education is being devalued. We will continue to work closely with our Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) and with families to support children at risk of educational disadvantage. Your support with improving levels of attendance is needed and greatly appreciated. Click on the image to access further advice and support.



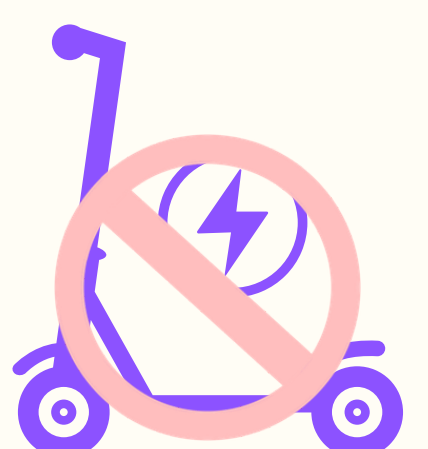
WELLBEING WARRIORS

On Friday the 15th of May the Department of Education invited our Wellbeing Warriors to the Tullamore Court Hotel to take part in a student consultation as part of a national review of wellbeing promotion in our schools. The purpose of the child friendly consultation was to hear directly from children about what supports their wellbeing in school, what can make school difficult at times, and what schools can do better to support children's wellbeing and positive mental health. Our Wellbeing team were incredible ambassadors for our school and were commended for their engagement and contribution to the review. Thank you to all the children involved - Jennifer, Alex, Róisín, Anna, Maria, Rohit, Miah, Milan, Kira, Wiktor, Aaron & Itanas.



E-SCOOTERS

Under the Road Traffic (Electric Scooters) Regulations 2024, it is illegal for any person under the age of 16 years of age to ride and e-scooter in a public place, including footpaths & cycle lanes. E-scooters pose a significant risk of injury for younger users and many people are unaware that children under the age of 16 are operating these devices unlawfully. An Garda Síochána have asked us to share this information with our school community to raise awareness, prevent breaches of the law, reduce risk of injury and support a safe school commute for all.

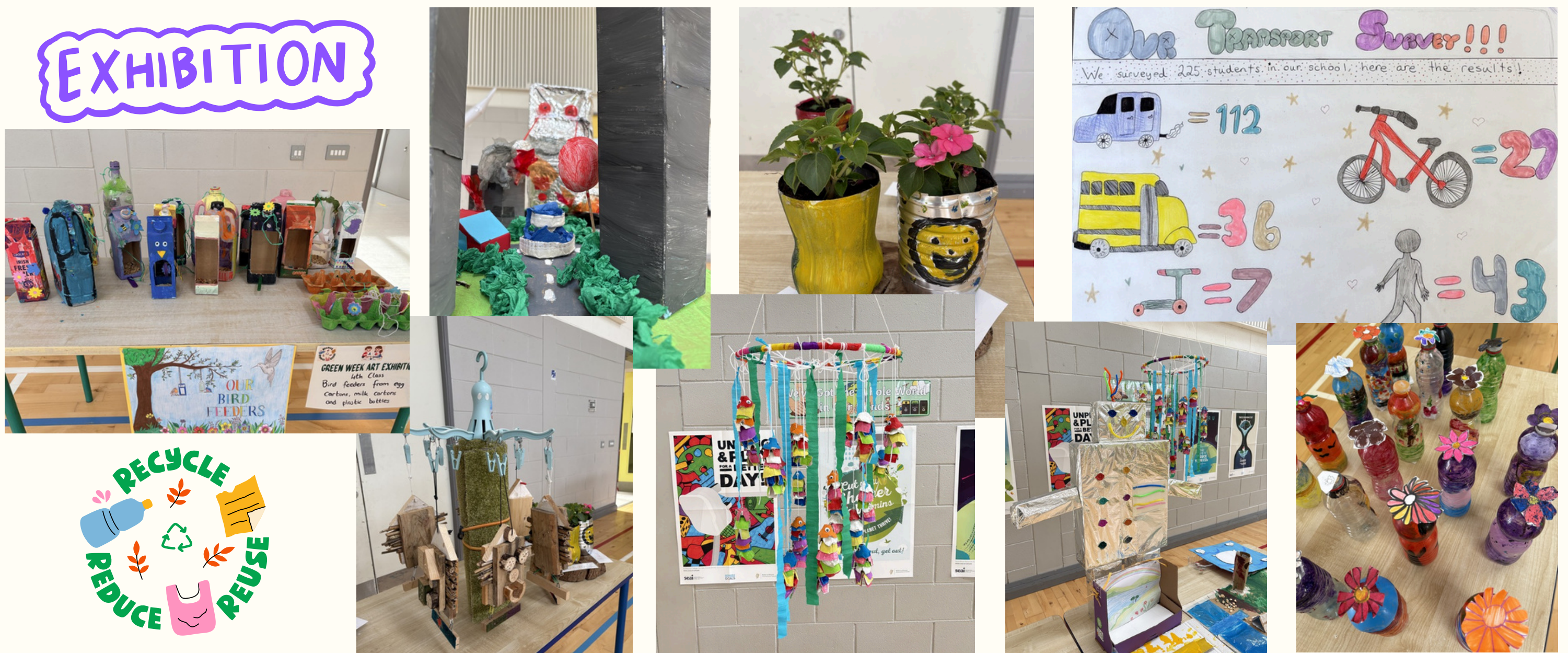


GREEN WEEK

In September we elected our first Green Team in several years, with representatives from 3rd to 6th class. Over the year, the team of ten members met frequently to discuss various events linked to the environment. The team delivered resources to all the classes for events and topics such as: National Tree Week, sustainability, Fair Trade and pollution. The Green Team also acquired litter pickers from Offaly County Council. A rota was devised for the year, which gave every class in the school a full week on litter picking duty to ensure we keep our school clean.

The pinnacle of the Green Team's work in the school was the organisation and running of Green Week, which ran from May 5th- 8th. The Green Team completed a transport survey in preparation for this, where they compiled data from all of the classes to see how people get to school. They discovered that more than half of our entire student population come to school by car.

The Green Team did so much work for Green Week, which involved 'Turn Off Tuesday', 'No Waste Wednesday' and 'Anything But A Bag Thursday'. All classes were given the litter pickers for 2 hours during the week and the school was spotless! The highlight of Green Week was the art exhibition on Friday. All classes made art pieces from recyclable materials, including cardboard, egg cartons and plastic bottles. The final creations were incredible. Overall, it was a hugely successful and enjoyable week. Thanks to Alison and our Green Team for a great year!

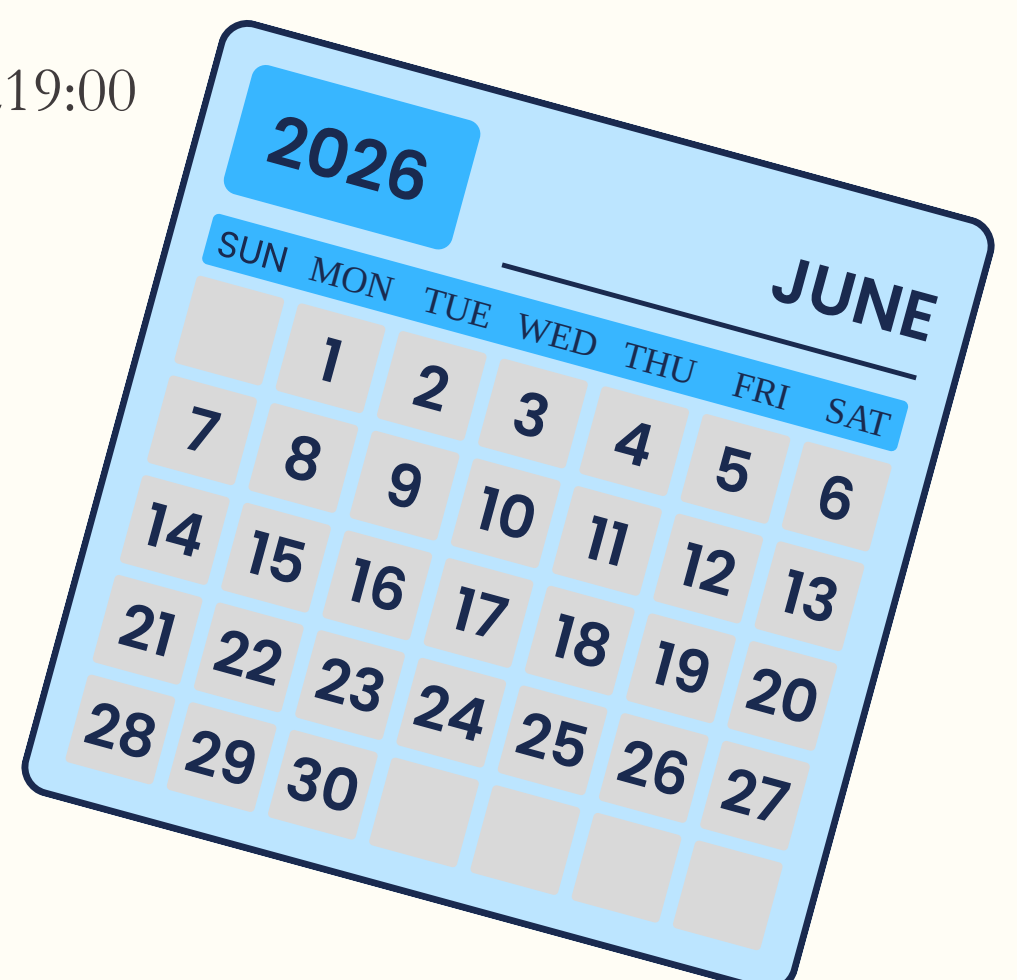


DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 2nd June - School Closure/Primary Curriculum Framework Teacher Training
- 3rd June - SI - 6th Class 26/27 intake Welcome Meeting @14:15
- 5th June - Offaly Primary Schools Track and Field Championship 2026
- 10th June - Board of Management - Parent Nominee (nomination & election) @19:00
- 11th June - 6th Class Graduation
- 12th June - End of Year Reports Issued
- 16th June - Sports Day
- 17th June - Talent Show
- 18th June - Attendance Awards
- 19th June End of Term (school finishes at 12:00)

SCHOOL TOURS

- 4th June - Junior & Senior Infants School Tour
- 8th June - 3rd & 4th Class School Tour
- 9th June - 5th & 6th Class School Tour



NOT RETURNING TO SCHOOL? LET US KNOW

At this time of year, I like to gently remind families to let us know if there are any plans for your child(ren) not to return to the school next year. We understand that families' circumstances can change, and we are always here to support smooth transitions where needed.

Having an accurate picture of our enrolment is very important for the school. Our staffing allocations are directly linked to pupil numbers, and early notification of any departures allows us to plan carefully, manage our admissions process effectively, and ensure that we can provide the best possible resources and supports for all of our pupils.

If you do know that your child will not be returning, I would greatly appreciate it if you could let us know as soon as possible, even if plans are not yet fully finalised. This early communication makes a real difference and is, in many ways, one of the most helpful ways you can support the school community.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT - PARENT NOMINEE

The Board is seeking a male parent nominee to join the current Board of Management. The nomination and election process will take place in the **School Library on the 10th of June at 7pm**, and everyone is welcome to attend. Details of the nomination and election process have already been shared through Aladdin and are also available upon request from the school office.



BOM AGREED REPORT

The Board of Management met in person on the 11th May 2026. Below is their Agreed Report:

- The Board discussed the necessary repurposing works required for the opening of a third ASD class for September 2026.
- The Board were informed that the school has registered to take part in the school based Summer Programme. Staffing to deliver the programme is already in place and events for the two week programme are currently being arranged.
- The Board discussed all proposed motions for the Educate Together AGM.
- The Board were updated on projected enrolment and staffing for 2026/27.
- The Board would like to thank Alison & Shauna for leading the recent Green & Active weeks across the school.
- The Board were informed that the school has registered interest in the 'Say Yes to the Language' programme.
- The Board welcomed the re-establishment of the parent's association ahead of the 2026/27 school year and would like to thank all parents involved.
- The Board were informed of the dates for the Junior Infant intake welcome meeting & the Senior Infants – 6th intake welcome meeting later this Term.
- The Board agreed that we would proceed with upgrading the school website to support online enrolment and communication to the wider community.
- The Board approved the Irish Exemption policy.
- The Board approved the updated Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment policy.
- Finally, the Board would like to extend their condolences to the Dunne & Tyrell families along with the entire school community in Boher NS on the passing of Bobby Dunne. The Board also extends its condolences to Sarah Cleary, Eileen Moynihan, Michael Joyce and their families on their recent losses.