



March

# Bush Post Primary School Newsletter Seachtain Na Gaeilge



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## Sam Maguire at the Bush!



## Seachtain na Gaeilge

Enjoy this month's newsletter! Lots of exciting clubs, sports and activities happening daily, alongside our teaching & learning. Seachtain na Gaeilge, Literacy week, Enterprise Finals, in school workshops, visits out, visits in and sport events, it has been a busy month!



We celebrated Seachtain Na Gaeilge in Bush by hosting a range of Irish language and cultural activities throughout the week. Great fun was had by all. Students engaged in treasure hunts, table quizzes, a poc fada competition and a poster competition. They practiced their dancing skills in a céilí and watched a traditional Irish music and dance performance at break times on Friday. Many thanks to the following students who performed in the show: Rowan Mulligan, Stephen Óg Mc Guinness, Liam Keenan, Lucy Keenan, Fiona Mc Intyre, Molly Keenan and our dancers, Saoirse Gaskin and Grace Davies.





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***Mr. James Mc Coy appointed to the position of Deputy Principal at Bush Post Primary School, Dundalk, Co. Louth***



**Dear School Community,  
I am both honoured and excited to introduce myself as the new Deputy Principal of Bush Post Primary School. As I embark on this journey with such a vibrant and welcoming community, I look forward to working closely with our students, staff, and families to continue to foster an environment of excellence, support and growth.**

**Firstly, I would like to go on record and wish my predecessor, Ms Mc Donnell, all the best in her retirement after serving as Deputy Principal for the past 18 years. With a background in educational leadership, my passion for education has always been driven by a desire to support each student in their individual journey. I am a firm believer in creating a nurturing environment where both academic and personal development can thrive.**

**Together with the senior leadership team of Mr Joyce, Principal, and Ms Hart, Deputy Principal, our dedicated team of teachers and support staff, I am committed to ensuring that every student at Bush Post Primary has the opportunity to reach their fullest potential and in doing so preparing our young people for a happy and successful adult life.**

**I believe that communication and collaboration between the school and home are key to a student having a successful and fulfilling educational experience and so I look forward to working in collaboration with parents/guardians in the future. I look forward to meeting many of you in the weeks and months ahead, and I am excited about the opportunities we will create together as we continue to make Bush Post Primary a place where every student feels valued and inspired.**

**Kind regards,**

**Leas-Phríomhoide | Deputy Principal**



# TRANSITION YEAR NEWS

## LOUTH COUNTY ENTERPRISE AWARDS

March

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A big congratulations to all three Transition Year mini companies who attended the County Finals of the Louth Enterprise Awards Competition in the Fairways hotel on Thursday, March 13th.

Ms. McKevitt would like to commend the students on their superb behaviour, interview with three separate judges and display stands.

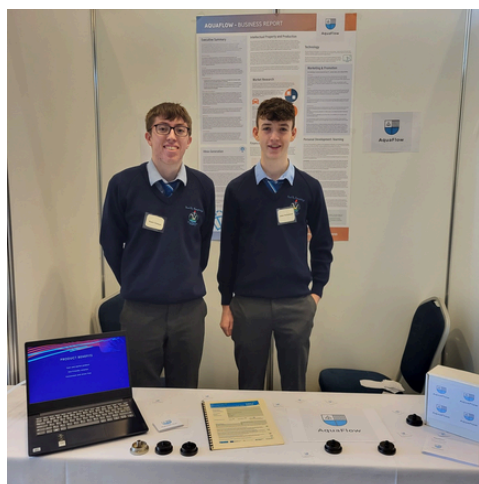
Congratulations to -

Deanta Le Gra - Ava Boyle, Aine Gallagher and Ellen Roddy.

AquaFlow - Ruairi Holland and Adam McGuinness.

Buzzin Blooms - Fiona Wynne and Veronika Zbigley.

A huge congratulations to 'Deanta Le Gra'. The girls won 'The Best Sales Award' competing against 51 other mini companies. Such a wonderful achievement and another beautiful hand crafted award to add to our collection!



# TRANSITION YEAR NEWS

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Transition Year students went on an Irish trip to the GPO in Dublin on Monday 24th March. It was a great experience for students to gain knowledge on Irish History, the fight for independence and their challenge in keeping the Irish language alive.



Two TY Art groups have been selected as finalists in the Relove Fashion Grand Final. Their design and interview impressed the judges, and they are excited to showcase their outfits in an exhibition at the Rediscovery Centre. The Grand Final will take place in Ballymun on April 30th. Their designs will be featured across social media channels, giving them even greater exposure.





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A massive thank you to Ms Mulholland, Ms Ruddy & all the staff for your support and kind donations for the bake sale this week, we managed to raise €1120 for the Maria Goretti Centre!

## *Second Year football team*



The OIDE Music team visited the music department on Friday to film teaching and learning with 2nd, 3rd and 5th years. Each class group were filmed taking part in a variety of activities and some students were interviewed about their learning experiences afterwards. The team were very impressed with the student's participation and responses and were quick to compliment each student. The footage will be compiled into a short video which Ms. Lynch will present to the NCCA, SEC and Inspectorate at the beginning of April. The video will then be shown at cluster days nationwide next year.

# *Bush Post Primary School*

## *Newsletter*

### *Safe Pass training*

March

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Safe Pass is a one-day health and safety awareness programme. The aim of the programme is to improve your knowledge and awareness of health and safety standards and practices in the construction industry. During the day, the students will cover the following learning units:

- Introduction of Site Safety
- Legislation and Site Safety
- Site Accident Reporting
- Introduction to Risk Assessment
- Risk Assessment for Electricity
- Risk Assessment for Excavations
- Risk Assessment for Heights
- Behaviour-Based Safety
- Site Safety and Construction Equipment
- Site Safety and Construction Vehicles
- Personal Health and Welfare
- Noise and Vibration
- Personal Protective Equipment

Safe Pass Registration Cards are issued for four years after which time the card holder must attend a Safe Pass course to update their safety awareness training. You must be 16 years of age to attend this course. This course opens the door to the construction site for our students, as it is a legal requirement needed to access any Irish construction site. The students attending this course will now be able to work on site during their holidays, both legally and more safely.





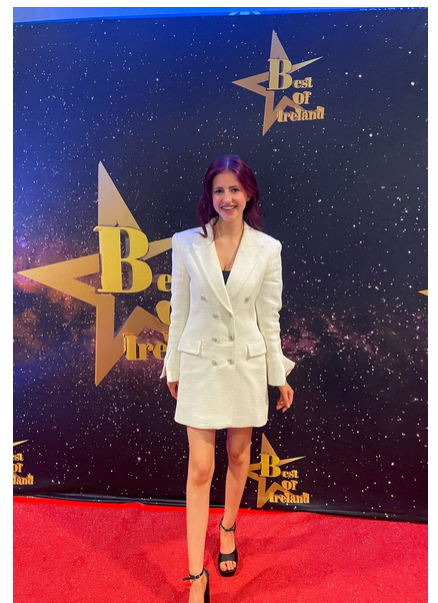
# *Bush Post Primary School Music*

March

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The cast and crew of The Addams Family enjoyed a spectacular night at the Best of Ireland School Awards. Schools from all over the country travelled to the event which began with a red carpet ceremony followed by a glittering awards ceremony. The standard was incredibly high and Bush were thrilled to come away with Bronze for Best Costumes and Bronze for Best Choreography. Congratulations to Ms Mulholland and her team of talented TY students who made spectacular costumes and to Ms Fox for all her hard work in designing and teaching the dance moves. Congratulations also go out to Holly Rose Callan who was nominated as one of the best dressed ladies on the night and to Sé O Hagan who was our Best Dressed Man on the night! We'll be back next year!

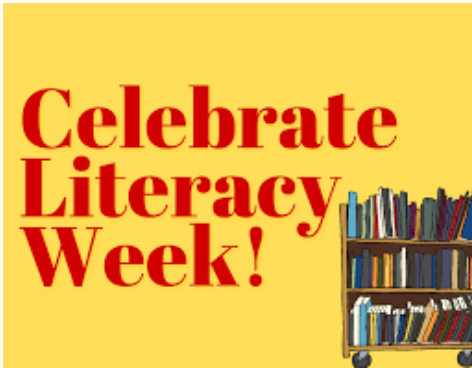


# *Bush Post Primary School*

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From March 3rd to 7th, our school was alive with literary excitement as students took part in Literacy Week 2025! Across all year groups, students embraced the joy of reading by Dropping Everything and Reading each day. The GP area featured engaging PowerPoints on novel, drama, poetry, film, and speech terms, helping to deepen students' understanding of literary concepts.

Here's a look at what each year group got up to:

1st Years had great fun with the grammar mystery quiz, showcased their creativity with blackout poetry, and cheered on contestants in the Spelling Bee.

Congratulations to Sarah O'Rourke (1 Táin) for taking the top prize, with strong performances from Farah Flynn, Aisling Keenan, Teaghan Moran, Dylan Mills, and Ellen Malone.

2nd Years took part in public speaking, passionately sharing their favourite topics in a three-minute speech addressing their classmates.

3rd Years and TY students tackled escape room challenges based on their studies, racing against the clock to see who could solve it the fastest!

5th Years worked together on a poetry competition, summarising their year so far in creative ways. They also competed in a lively game of Countdown on Friday.

6th Years put their skills to the test with a Countdown challenge to round off the week.

Literacy Week 2025 was a fantastic success, filled with fun and creativity. A huge thank you to all students and teachers who took part.





# *Bush Post Primary School Green School's Committee*

March

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A big thanks to the Green Schools Committee and the fifth year boys David, Craig, Shay, Shane and Dwayne who helped the Grange Residents Association in Bush Park. The picnic tables and flower pots were sanded and painted. The flower beds and pots were weeded. Everyone worked very hard and Bush Park looked spectacular at the end of the day. A special thanks to Ms. Ruddy and to Declan and Ann from the Grange Residents Association who provided paint, paint brushes and cleaning materials and directed operations on the day.





March

Thank you to Queen's University, Belfast who hosted a private campus tour and lecture on 4th February 2025. Thank you also to Sínead McDonald for her valuable presence on the day.



It was a real pleasure to welcome back our past pupil and former prefect, Colin Sharkey. Colin spoke to 5 LCA about life after Bush PP and the benefits of enrolling in a PLC course. Colin held a captivated audience, and students were very comfortable asking questions and seeking advice. The Guidance Department would love for other past pupils to get in touch and share their career journey with us. Thank you again to Colin.







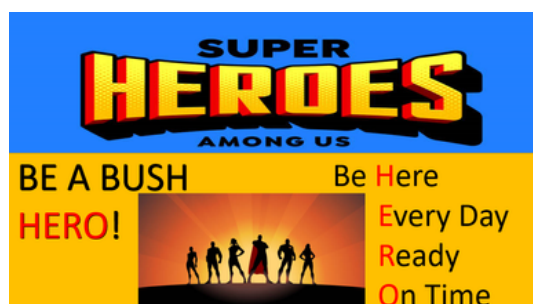
Ar Thriall Na Tuiscine  
In search of Understanding

March

# *Bush Post Primary School*

## *Home School Liaison*

www.bpps.ie



Thank you to all the parents that completed the Parents/Guardians Survey. We have started our Parent/Guardian Wellbeing Programme this term, it was extremely enjoyable and parents left feeling refreshed and recharged. We will also be running a Pilates Parents' Programme and a Shabby Chic Furniture Up-Cycling Programme. A new 'Parents' Connect Group' will be forming this year. The aim will be to offer more opportunities for parents to form positive connections, involve parents in developing our school community and offer fun and worthwhile activities and classes for parents/guardians. Thanks to all the parents who got in touch to say they would be interested in joining. If you would like to join please text Ciara Harkin on 0862035834.

As most of you already know, this year the school started using COMPASS education app. This has been a great success, offering our parents instant access to attendance information, behaviour logs, emails, newsfeed and all school reports.

### ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Present for all 166 school days = 0 teaching hours missed

100%

97%

161 days present  
5 days absent = 28 teaching hours missed

158 days present  
8 days absent = 45 teaching hours missed

95%

94%

156 days present  
10 days absent = 56 teaching hours missed  
(Eg: 2 week holiday)

153 days present  
13 days absent = 73 teaching hours missed

92%

90%

149 days present  
17 days absent = 95 teaching hours missed

146 days present  
20 days absent = 112 teaching hours missed

88%

(At 20 days, Tusla must be informed)

After school study continues - every Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday.  
Snack provided!  
15.50 - 17.45.



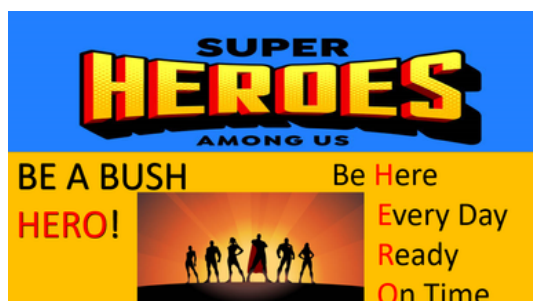
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If you have not yet downloaded the COMPASS app, please scan the QR code below on a device and follow the instructions on how to upload the app to your phone/device.

Moving forward, communication with parents regarding reports, trips and general information will go through this app, it is essential that at least one parent/guardian has access to it. An email has been sent to all parents not yet on the app, containing log on details. If this email hasn't been received, please contact the school, and provide us with a correct email address to send the information. Or alternatively, parents can call into the HSCL office (beside the carpark at the back of the school) between 8.30-9.00pm and we can download the Compass app for you.

We will be beginning a new attendance drive during our final months in school, it is important that students are present until the end of the school year. More details will follow on attendance competitions. Every day counts.....90% of success is showing up!



SCAN ME



Important dates coming up....

- Thursday 3rd April - Bi Cinealta day.
- Thursday 10th April – 1st year PTM.
- Easter Break – 14th – 25th April.