



Bush Post Primary School Newsletter

May 2025

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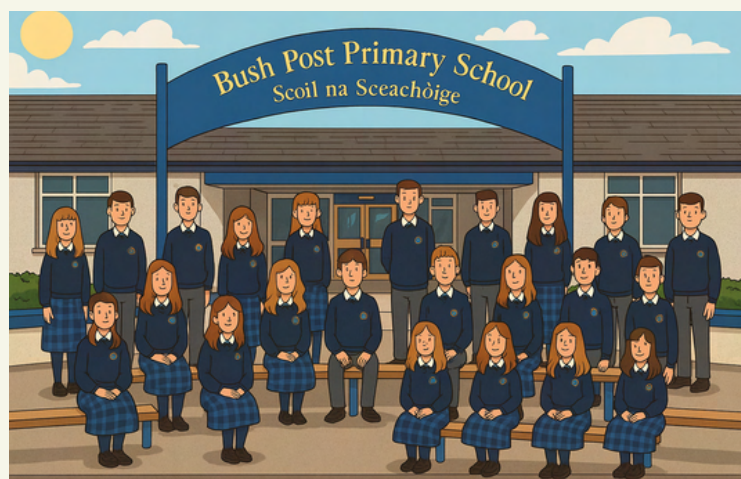
Thank you to all staff and students who contributed to another outstanding graduation ceremony celebration. It was the best of Bush!



Prefect Team 2025-2026

**Head Boy
JP McKeown**

**Head Girl
Sophie Rose
Caldwell**



Leaving Certificate Class of 2025



Enjoy our final newsletter of the academic year! Lots of exciting clubs, sports and activities happening daily, alongside our teaching & learning. Sporting achievements, end of year reward trips, award assemblies, in school workshops, visits out, visits in, graduation ceremony, a trip to Manchester for our TY's and state examination preparation, it has been a busy month!



Congratulations to our 3rd year students who received their Student Profiles for their participation in the Junior Certificate Schools Programme. Mrs Gartland programme coordinator, presented students with the profiles during their recent JCSP celebration.

TY End of Year Trip





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End-of-Year Message from the Principal and Deputy Principals **Bush Post Primary School**

As we approach the end of another memorable academic year at Bush Post Primary, we would like to take a moment to reflect on the many achievements and milestones that have made this year truly exceptional.

2024–2025 has been a year of progress, pride, and partnership. Academically, our students have reached new heights, with outstanding results across year groups. We also recorded our highest whole-school attendance in the last 5 years—a testament to the positive school environment fostered by our staff, students, and families.

Our sporting achievements have brought well-deserved recognition to Bush Post Primary. Whether on the rugby pitch, basketball court, GAA field, soccer ground or camogie team, our students represented the school with skill, determination, and integrity. Each match played and medal earned reflected the teamwork and spirit that defines our school community.

This year also marked a transformational step forward in our facilities, as we proudly moved into our state-of-the-art new building. This modern learning environment supports the evolving needs of our students and staff, and we're excited to continue this journey with the opening of our new Learning Hub in September—a dedicated space designed to enhance learning and wellbeing for all.

While most of our students begin their well-earned summer break, we extend our thoughts and support to our 6th Year students, who remain focused and determined as they prepare for their Leaving Certificate exams. Over the past week, many have taken part in a special Learning Hub programme, showing great commitment to their studies. We wish both our 3rd and 6th year pupils the very best of luck in their upcoming state exams in June.

We would like to sincerely thank our staff for their tireless dedication, our students for their energy and enthusiasm, and our parents and wider community for their continued support. Together, we have made this a year to remember.

We wish you all a safe, restful, and enjoyable summer. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the autumn for another exciting chapter in the life of Bush Post Primary.

Warm regards,

Kevin Joyce Principal

James McCoy, Deputy Principal

Rosanna Hart, Deputy Principal

TRANSITION YEAR NEWS

May 2025

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Congratulations to our TY Engineering students who won the in school AMTCE Schools competition under the supervision of their teacher Mr Harkin. The successful students were Oscar Dunleavy, Jake Gorham, Chistopher Cowe and Mark Malone. They designed a product remote controller which essentially is a cover that covers unnecessary buttons on a remote primarily for use by young children and the elderly. The cover leaves access to the power button, volume adjuster and channel. These students represented the school at the Louth AMTCE schools finals in DIFE on Thursday 15th May.



TY End of Year Trip



Conor Harris visited the TY and LCA students and he delivered a gripping and engaging personal account of his struggles with addiction.



TRANSITION YEAR NEWS

May 2025

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First year and TY students have been involved in a paired reading programme for six weeks. Each first year student was assigned a TY student as a reading tutor. The first years choose a book of their choice and TY's read the book with them. Florence Gilen who is a past teacher of history and religion in Bush Post Primary school and is now a well known author presented the students with their certificates. Well done to everyone involved and a huge thanks to Florence for coming and presenting the students with their certificates.

TY students from 4 Oriel, 4 Setanta and 4 Donnard have been awarded their Certificates on completion of the online course The Brain: The Fantastic to the Forgetful created by Alzheimer's Society of Ireland (ASIDSI)

The e-learning component is made up of 5 modules.

Module 1 - Growing Older

Module 2 - About the Brain

Module 3 - A Healthy Brain

Module 4 - What is Dementia

Module 5 - Perceptions of Dementia

Well done to all pupils.



TY End of Year Trip

Alton Towers & Manchester Adventure!

Monday 26th – Tuesday 27th May

May 2025

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Our TY students certainly finished the year with a bang – and a 2am wake-up call! Bright-eyed (well, mostly!) and ready for adventure, we gathered at the airport in the early hours of Monday 26th May to kick off our End of Year Trip.

Our first stop? Manchester! After a smooth flight from Dublin, we hopped on a bus and made our way straight to Alton Towers. With rollercoasters, water rides, and plenty of screams (mostly excited ones!), the day was packed with thrills and spills. From the heights of Oblivion to the twists of The Smiler, there was something for everyone – even for those who preferred to keep their feet on solid ground with a churro in hand!

After a full-on day, we made our way to our accommodation for a well-earned rest (and probably a few stories swapped about who screamed the loudest).

Tuesday 27th kicked off with a visit to the iconic Etihad Stadium – home of Manchester City. A fantastic behind-the-scenes tour gave us a glimpse into the world of top-flight football (and more than a few selfies were taken in the dressing room!).

Next stop – the Trafford Centre – where students took on the challenge of shopping with the same enthusiasm they'd shown on the rollercoasters. From snacks to souvenirs, everyone found something to bring home.

We wrapped up the trip with our journey back to Dublin, tired but full of great memories. The students were a credit to the school – respectful, good-humoured, and brilliant company throughout. It was a fun, rewarding experience and a perfect way to round off the year.

A huge thank you to the staff who made this trip possible: Sarah Begley, Caoimhe Byrne, Jennifer Hand, Darragh McCann, and Lisa Mulholland, – your time, energy, and enthusiasm were much appreciated.

Here's to the memories made, the friendships strengthened, and the laughs shared – an unforgettable trip!



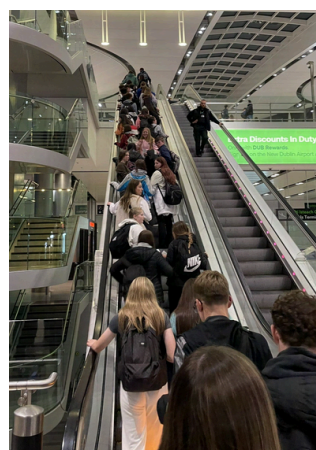
TY End of Year Trip

Alton Towers & Manchester Adventure!

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Leaving Certificate Study Week

May 2025

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The 6th Year Bush Study Hub launched the final week of academic year as an initiative to support Leaving Cert students in their final days of secondary education. Aimed at providing a structured, quiet, and supportive environment for focused study, the hub has proven to be a highly effective and well-received resource.

Participation:

A total of 91 pupils registered for the Study Hub, indicating strong demand and student recognition of its value. Attendance has remained consistently high throughout the week.



After school study
will continue next
term - every
Monday, Tuesday &
Wednesday. Snack
provided! 15.50 -
17.45.

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Art Department

May 2025

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Art students from 3rd Year, Transition Year, Senior Cycle, and the Leaving at Ó'Fiaich College. The session focused on portfolio preparation—a vital step for any student aspiring to continue in the fields of art and design. Mr. Reilly shared a variety of portfolio examples, showcasing sketchbooks, concept development, and completed pieces. Students gained valuable insight into what further education institutions look for: creativity, originality, and a clear personal voice.

Alongside portfolio advice, Mr. Reilly provided a comprehensive overview of what the Art, Craft and Design course entails throughout the year. From observational drawing to mixed media, ceramics, and digital design, the course explores a broad range of media in an experimental and hands-on way.

A significant aspect of the course is the development of a personal body of work, allowing each student to pursue their own artistic interests. This work can then form the foundation of a strong and individual portfolio, ideal for applying to Art and Design colleges.

Importantly, the talk also highlighted the many career and college opportunities that can follow on from the PLC. Graduates have gone on to study at top art colleges or enter careers in areas such as animation, illustration, teaching, and fashion design.

This inspiring visit offered students a realistic and motivating look at the pathways available to them in the creative industries. We thank the Ó Fiaich College Coordinator-Gerard Reilly for his time and for sharing his expertise with our young artists.



Credit Union Art Competition Winners
Chapter Level - 14-17 yrs-2nd Maia Davidson
Chapter Level - 11-13 yrs-1st Ellie Behan
Chapter Level - 18yrs & over-3rd Meabh Mc Clancy

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TY - Art Zoo project



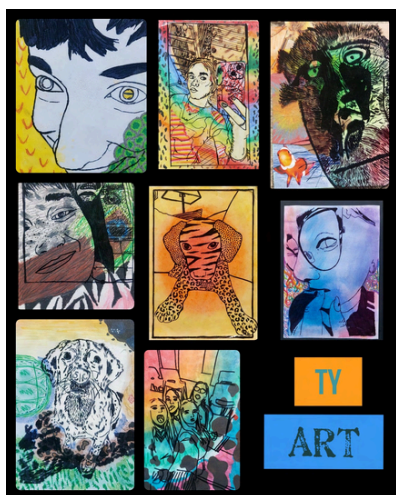
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Exploring the theme of sustainability, our Transition Year Art students took inspiration from their recent trip to the zoo and followed this theme through in their artwork back in the classroom. Using their phones, students captured or selected personal photos of themselves, zoo animals, or their own pets. They experimented with angles, close-ups, props, and facial expressions to explore how images can tell a story and convey emotion.

Building on this photographic work, students then created stunning mixed media art pieces based on their favourite animals from the zoo. Using black Sharpie on acetate sheets, they carefully illustrated patterns, shapes, and forms. These acetate drawings were layered over vibrant backgrounds made using a variety of materials—including recycled packaging, paint, collage, oil pastel, and chalk—adding depth, colour, and texture to their final pieces. Sustainability was at the heart of this project. Students were encouraged to reuse and repurpose materials, linking their work to environmental awareness and wildlife protection. Each piece reflected not only the students' artistic skills but also their personal connection to the animals and the importance of caring for our planet.

The final artworks were rich in texture, full of expression, and bursting with colour.



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Important Dates

Coming up ...

- **Wednesday 4th June - State Exams Begin**
- **Monday 16th June - All Reports Deadline**
- **Return to school Wednesday 20th August**



Good luck to all our 3rd and 6th year exam students! The very best of luck and good wishes to our students sitting their Junior and Leaving Certificate exams respectively. You have worked so hard and we are so proud of you and your achievements.

Keep calm and collected - it will all be over soon! Remember to eat well, get plenty of sleep, keep hydrated and minimise distractions when studying.

Exam timetables are available on the school website <https://bpps.ie/>



Bush Post Primary School Green School's Committee

May 2025

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Thank you to all the Green schools committee who have grown and planted the summer bedding for the school garden in the school green house. The students have grown sunflowers, marigolds, lavatera and stock from seed. This week all plants were planted into the school garden. Well done everyone. We are hoping to have a very colourful display this summer.



Bush Post Primary School

End of year award assemblies

May 2025

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3rd Year award assembly



Excellent attitude to learning



Outstanding behaviour



Carla Harper with Principal, Mr Kevin Joyce.
Carla has not missed one class in 3 years!

5th Year award assembly

We are delighted to recognise students who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to their education through excellent attendance. Congratulations to Emily Liu and Hannah Mc Grath on achieving 100% attendance this year—an exceptional accomplishment! Well done also to Callum Wallace, Seamus Smalle, Emily Clifford, and Sean Holland, who received Excellent Attendance Awards for their dedication and consistency.



Aidan Derham

Most academically improved award

1st Year award assembly - 100% attendance.



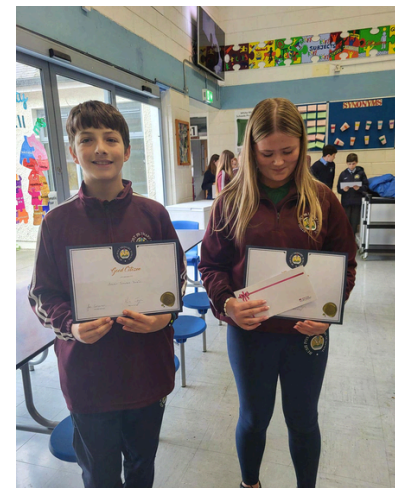
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End of year award assemblies

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1st Year award assembly - 100% attendance & Best Young Citizen



Bush Post Primary School

Sports News

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North East All Stars!

Huge congratulations to our U19 All Str Nominees - Daniel Finnegan and Josh Condon. Selected for the team through a combination of public and mentor votes. Fantastic achievement for these lads and Bush Post Primary.



Well done to our 4 Future Stars winners Chloe Boyle, Aoibheann Reilly, Andrew McArdle & Katie McDonald. The awards ceremony was held in DkIT on Wednesday 30th of April.

Huge thank you goes out to CCRO Niall Kerley who has been integral to the recent success of rugby in Bush Post Primary School. On behalf of players and coaches we are eternally grateful for all your help.



North Leinster winning captains Sean Thornton and Michael O'Shaughnessy flanking our past pupil and Leinster Championship winner Peter Lynch at our presentation. Huge thanks to Peter for taking time out of his busy schedule to celebrate the team and present them with their medals. We would like to wish Peter and the Louth team the very best of luck with Louth's All Ireland campaign.



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Sports News

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Congratulations to Bush Post Primary's first camogie team on an amazing year. The ladies took part in different leagues and headed to Co Kildare to take part in a semi final against a Wicklow team. Unfortunately the ladies were pipped at the post, but for their first representation of the school, we can only image some amazing possibilities for their future. Well done



Sports Day



Bush Post Primary School

Sports Day

May 2025

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Sports Day at Bush Post Primary was a huge success, filled with energy, laughter, and team spirit. Students took part in events such as football, dodgeball, volleyball, tug o' war, fun relays, and the no man's land game. The whole school community got involved, cheering on their classmates and enjoying the friendly competition. A highlight of the day was the arrival of an ice cream van, where students cooled down with delicious treats. The weather played its part and the atmosphere was electric and full of fun, making it a memorable day for everyone. We're already looking forward to next year!





Ar Thriall Na Tuiscine
In search of Understanding

May 2025

Bush Post Primary School

Reward trips

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The 5th Year students enjoyed a great day on Monday 26th May to Lets Go Hydro in Belfast. Students had great fun tackling the various obstacle courses and slides. However the highlight for many was getting pay back on their teachers by throwing them into the water. Students stopped off in Applegreen for lunch on the way home. Well done to all 5th Years on another excellent years work.

First & Third year trip to Emerald Park





Ar Thriall Na Tuiscine
In search of Understanding

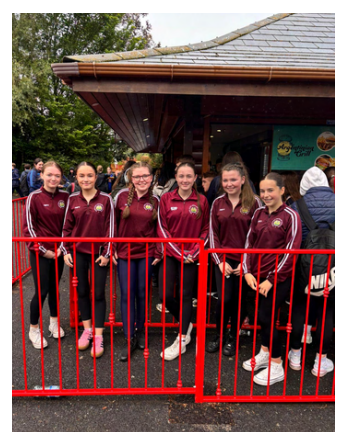
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Bush Post Primary School

Reward trips

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Second Year trip to Emerald Park





Ar Thriall Na Tuiscine
In search of Understanding

May 2025

Bush Post Primary School

Home School Liaison

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Congratulations to the winners of the May Attendance Drive. We would like to encourage all students to strive for their best attendance possible next year. Not to worry if you didn't win this year, there will be more prize draws for those with excellent attendance next year! The prizes have been picked as a family reward, we want to say thank you to all the parents/guardians who worked hard to get our children to school. Have a lovely summer and a well earned break.

The winners were:

First Prize - Sean Hughes - Sky Park Family
Voucher - All Activity Day Pass for the Family
Second Prize – Peter Thornton - Four Seasons
€100
Third Prize
Evan Donnelly - €50 Food Voucher
Ben O'Kane - €50 Food Voucher

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)