



# Bush Post Primary School Newsletter Open Night 2025



October 2025

[www.bpps.ie](http://www.bpps.ie)

We are truly grateful to everyone who attended our Open Night — parents, guardians, students, and community members. Your enthusiasm, curiosity, and support made the evening so special.

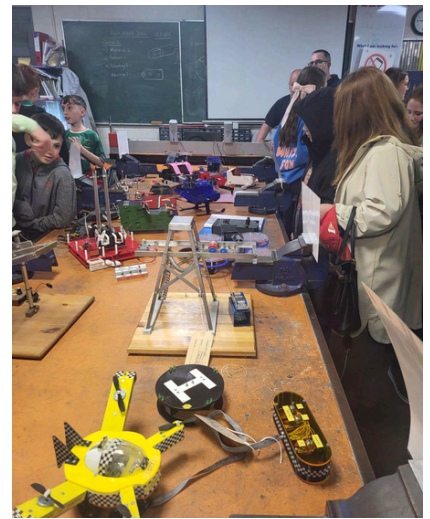
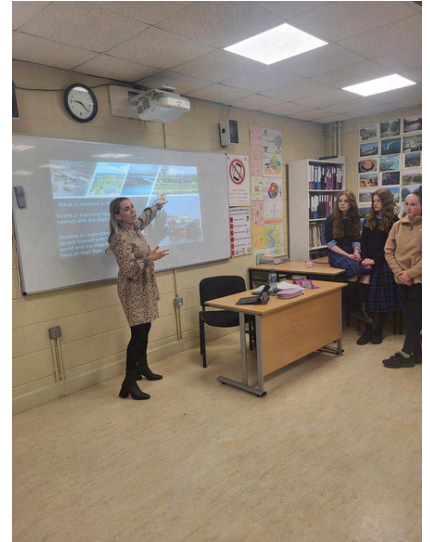
A huge thank you to our dedicated staff and amazing student volunteers who showcased our school's spirit, talents, and opportunities.

We hope you enjoyed exploring our classrooms, meeting our teachers, and discovering the many ways our school helps students thrive.

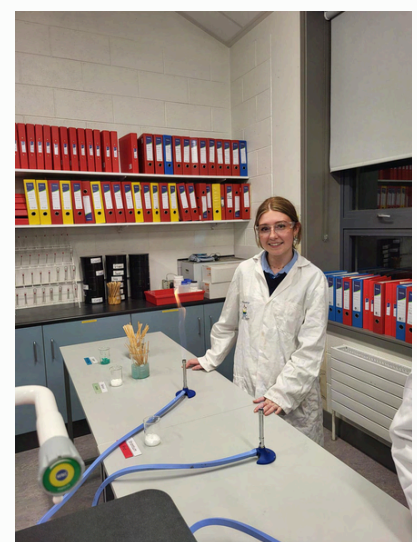
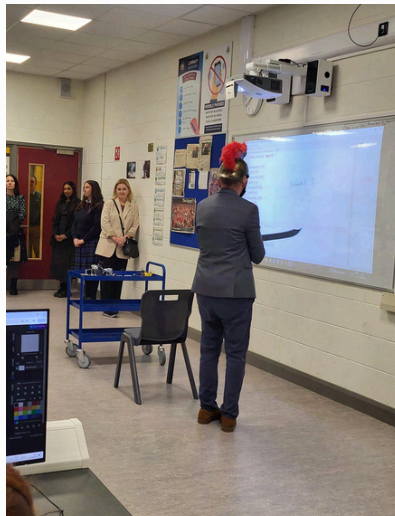
We look forward to welcoming you into our school community in 2026!

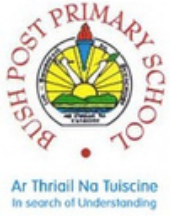


# Bush Post Primary School Newsletter Open Night 2025









# Bush Post Primary School Junior Certificate Results Day

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Congratulations to our Junior Cycle students on the wonderful results in the state examinations. We wish each one of them every success in senior cycle.



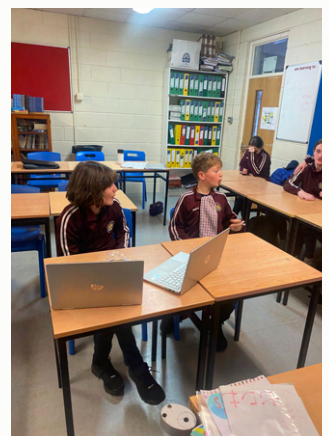
## A Pizza Party Lunch for our incredible Prefects:

Mr Mc Coy and Mr Malone would like to say a huge thank you – your dedication, leadership, and positivity have made such a difference in our school community this year. From setting a shining example to lending a helping hand at important school events when it's needed most, you've shown what true teamwork and spirit look like. We're so proud of everything you've accomplished in your new roles — and excited to see all the great things still to come!



## Shelter and Link from Robert Swindell's Stone Cold novel - Courtroom activity

The first years got a chance to unleash their inner barristers in Mr. Murphy's English class as they took turns defending and accusing both the protagonist and antagonist of their studied novel; Robert Swindell's Stone Cold. The students had to firstly examine the evidence brought forth by both the defendant's team and the prosecution's team, before discussing their arguments as a jury. Finally, the judge, with their highly fashionable wig and makeshift gavel, decided who had the better argument. This activity deepened the student's understanding of the novel, the characters, as well as the themes of societal failure, prejudice and loyalty that feature heavily throughout the story.



TY students attended the Louth Youth Conference in the Fairways hotel on Wednesday 8th October. They learned about the many volunteering opportunities in Co. Louth and the benefits of engaging in volunteering.



Fifteen students from TY travelled to The High School in Ballynahinch on Tuesday 14th of October to take part in the SEPI Impact day. This is a programme where students from across Northern Ireland and the border counties work together to build relationships while developing the skills, confidence and creativity needed to thrive in an ever-changing world. On the day students worked through design thinking workshops to create greener, healthier, more connected communities, with brilliant support from Bank of Ireland and KPMG employees. Students will continue to work on this programme over the next number of months.



# Transition Year News

## Enterprise - Visit in



October 2025

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Francis Verling on behalf of the Student Enterprise Programme (SEP) is helping our Transition Year students to become entrepreneurs and to try their hand at running a business while in school. Francis visited the students in Ms. McKevitt's enterprise class on October 21st. He delivered a workshop on 'Production' and 'Pricing' and spoke to the students about selling opportunities in the lead up to Christmas. Students will now focus on production and selling their wide range of products. They will attend numerous trade fairs on the Peninsula in November and December and host the annual trade fair in the school in early December (Date to be confirmed).

A big thank you to Francis for guiding our budding entrepreneurs!



# Transition Year News

## W5 STEM Visit

October 2025

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### **Bush TY Students Attend W5 STEM Day in Belfast**

Transition Year students from Bush Post Primary School recently travelled to W5 Science and Discovery Centre at the SSE Arena, Belfast, to take part in an inspiring STEM Discovery Day focused on innovation, creativity, and careers in technology.

The event brought together schools from across the island of Ireland to explore the world of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) through hands-on workshops, live demonstrations, and interactive exhibits. Students had the opportunity to engage directly with industry experts, test cutting-edge technologies, and gain insights into how STEM skills are shaping the future of work.

During the visit, Bush TY students explored W5's new In Our Nature and W5 LIFE zones, took part in coding and robotics challenges, and attended talks from professionals working in fields such as artificial intelligence, game development, renewable energy, and medical technology. The highlight of the day was the keynote presentation on STEM careers of the future, which encouraged students to think creatively about how digital skills can be applied to solve real-world problems.

The trip tied in perfectly with the Computer Science and Digital Media modules being studied in Transition Year, offering students a practical insight into topics such as automation, innovation, and sustainability. Many commented on how inspiring it was to see how classroom learning connects to emerging technologies and exciting career pathways.



# Transition Year News

## W5 STEM Visit

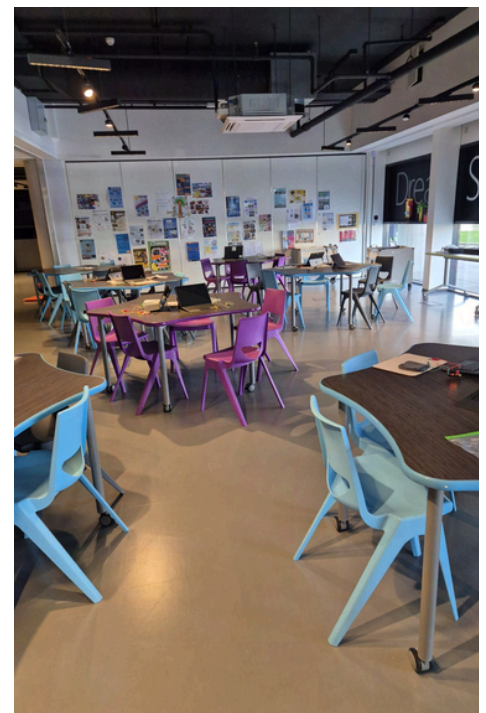
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Bush Post Primary's CS teacher thanked the organisers at W5 and SSE Arena Belfast for hosting such a dynamic and well-run event, noting how valuable it was for students to experience STEM learning in an interactive, real-world setting.

"It was amazing to see how technology is changing everything from medicine to music," said one TY student. "It made us realise how many opportunities there are if you keep developing your digital skills." The Computer Science Department looks forward to building on this experience with further STEM-focused activities and partnerships throughout the school year.



# Transition Year News

## Maths week

October 2025

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Throughout October, students across all year groups took part in a variety of activities to celebrate Maths Week. Each morning, a daily maths question was announced over the intercom, encouraging students to put their problem-solving skills to the test. A big congratulations to Susie Mackin, who claimed victory by correctly solving the most questions throughout the week! Classes also enjoyed a school-wide scavenger hunt and poster competition, where students showcased creativity, logic, and teamwork.

Our Transition Year students took part in a trip to Airtastic in Lisburn, where they engaged in challenges designed to develop their mathematical thinking, teamwork, and communication skills in a fun and active environment.

In addition, peer education took place in 1st Year maths lessons, with TY students stepping into the role of teachers to support and guide younger students through engaging problem-solving tasks. This collaborative learning opportunity was thoroughly enjoyed by both year groups and created a fantastic sense of community within the school.

Maths Week was a wonderful celebration of practical learning, teamwork, and the fun to be found in numbers!

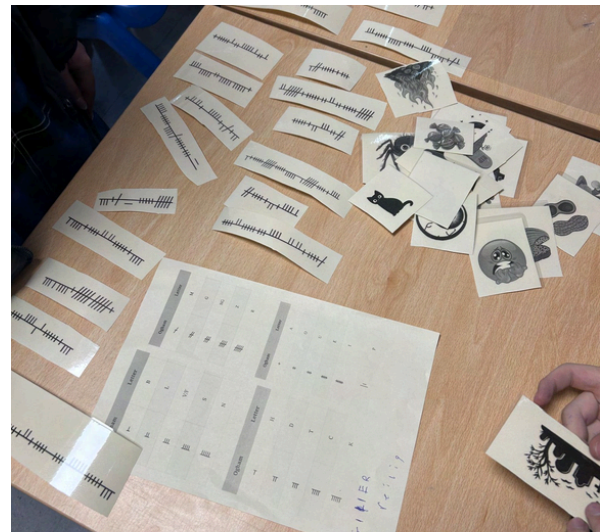


## TY Irish Cultural Studies:

TY students learned about Ogham, the Medieval Irish alphabet, in their Irish cultural studies class. Students then competed to figure out the meaning of a variety of Irish words written in Ogham and match them with their corresponding symbol.



A group of our Transition Year students, with the help of their teachers Ms Campbell and Ms McCarragher, have recently applied to take part in an exciting new TV quiz show as Gaeilge on TG4. The students worked together to create their application video which showcased their enthusiasm, confidence and love for Gaeilge. We're wishing them the very best of luck as they await the results — who knows, we might soon be cheering them on from our screens!



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

Congratulations to all the 2nd Year Wood Technology on completing their first project this year. We had some very creative designs and very well finished products! A special mention for Killian Murphy who created an excellent display for his model lorries.



As part of their French food and recipe unit, our 2nd Year students took part in a cultural tasting session featuring a selection of classic French foods. Students sampled three cheeses, Camembert, Saint-Agur, and Brie, alongside some sweet treats including madeleines, pain au chocolats, brioches, and croissants. Using French vocabulary and new grammar structures, they described the taste and texture of each item and expressed their opinions. Bravo à tous !



Huge thank you to everyone who contributed to our bake sale on Thursday the 23rd of October. We raised over €1000 for Irish Cancer Society to mark the anniversary of our late beloved secretary Niki Heatley.



## Transition Year Key Dates 2025/2026

November 5th - Croke Park Museum trip  
10th - 14th Work Experience week 1  
20th - DKIT College Careers Trip  
24th - STEM Programme Day 3 Computer Science Students  
December Enterprise Trade Show Business students  
2nd - 5th Christmas Exams  
January 9th - Sports Campus Ireland Trip  
20th - National Art Gallery & Cultural studies trip to Dublin  
February 3rd - Dublin Zoo Trip  
9th - 13th Work Experience week 2  
26th - Parent Teacher Meeting  
March - Queens University Trip  
5th - Grand Opera Theatre, Belfast - To Kill a Mockingbird  
April 20th - 24th Work Experience week 3  
Kavanagh Centre Monaghan visit  
May  
Summer Exams  
\*\*\*\*\*Exact dates to be confirmed for some trips.



## Important Dates coming up

- 5th November - TY trip to Croke park
- 3rd – 7th November – 3rd & 6th Year Christmas Assessment Week
- 7th November - Community Coffee morning with Carlingford Nursing home at 11am-1pm with Ms Begley & Ms Woods TY Tutor classes.
- 10th -14th November TY Work Experience Week 1
- 20th November 6th Year Parent Teacher Meeting – 3.50 - 6.20
- 25th November – Oide Whole Staff Child Protection Training for all staff



October 2025

# Bush Post Primary Green School's Sustainability Committee



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Green Schools' Sustainability Committee have been incredibly busy this term.

A new committee was formed which meets weekly at senior lunchtime.

We held a Green Schools' Sustainability Week where we delivered classes on biodiversity during CSPE time. The committee really enjoyed delivering the class and the issue of biodiversity was discussed at length with CSPE students. Students were surveyed before and after the class to check on how much learning took place and the results were incredibly positive.

We held a Green Schools' Poetry Competition and a Digital Poster competition. News will follow of the winners.

Students attended an online meeting with Green Schools' Ireland where we learned about biodiversity, the threats that are posed to it and how to increase biodiversity.

Following on from meetings held between Green Schools' Committee members and members of Glenmore AC and Cooley Parish Committee, Bush PP have now Re-Turn bins located on the track and at the door of the new GP area. Students are encouraged to place their Re-turn bottles and cans in the bins and raise money for charity. Students are also encouraged to place batteries in our battery bin at reception and raise further money for the charity Barretstown.





October 2025

# Bush Post Primary Green School's Sustainability Committee

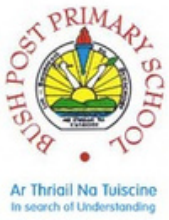


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Members of the Bush PP Green Schools' Sustainability Team visited CSPE classes in October to enhance students' understanding of biodiversity. Prior to their visit, the team conducted a survey to identify what students already knew and what areas needed further explanation. Using this feedback, they planned and delivered an engaging lesson on biodiversity, raising awareness about the threats it faces and the actions we can take to protect it. Well done to all involved — great teamwork for a greener future!





# Bush Post Primary School Awards Term One

October 2025

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3 Donnard



Shay McIntyre 3D



3 Tain



3 Foy



3 Setanta



3 Oriel

*3Táin enjoying their pizza party*

*First year 100% Attendance*





## ATTENDANCE MATTERS



### September Attendance Drive

September kicked off with a fantastic start! Thank you to all the families for supporting our September Attendance Drive. We are proud to share that our students showed great commitment to being at school every day and on time. Thank you parents for your encouragement and hard work.

Below are the names of best class attendance winners. In addition, we have our individual student prize draw winners, all had 100% attendance in September. There will be more prizes for attendance in the coming months so please keep up the hard work!

### ATTENDANCE CAMPAIGN Month of September Attendance Challenge

Well done to the classes with best attendance in September!

Prize - Free class with breakfast/lunch and class quiz

1<sup>st</sup> Year - Táin - 98%

2<sup>nd</sup> Year - Wilville - 91%

3<sup>rd</sup> Year - Táin - 96%

TY - Foy - 88%

5<sup>th</sup> Year - Donnard - 96% LCA1 - 92%

6<sup>th</sup> Year - Sentanta - 92%




**ATTENDANCE CAMPAIGN**  
**Month of September Attendance Challenge**

Well done to all those with excellent attendance in September!

The following students won a €20 voucher:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Year - James Connolly
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Year - Ethan Nichols
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Year - Killian McKee
- TY - Adrian Andghukedze
- 5<sup>th</sup> Year - Ella Rose McMahon
- 6<sup>th</sup> Year Max Loughran



**ATTENDANCE CAMPAIGN**  
**Month of September Attendance Challenge**

Mystery Prize Winner - JBL Noise Cancelling/Bluetooth Headset

Connor Brady - 2<sup>nd</sup> Year

Parents/Guardians' Voucher

Aine Brennan - 5<sup>th</sup> Year

Well done!  
More Prizes in the coming months, keep up the good attendance

Aine Brennan – 5th Year  
Family Voucher - €100 for Fitzpatrick's Restaurant

Conor Brady - 2nd Year  
Mystery Prize Winner



We were delighted to welcome Jonathan Holland from Ulster University to speak with our students on Friday, 24th October. Jonathan discussed the exciting apprenticeship opportunities available from January, introduced students to the different UU campuses, and shared details about a wide range of undergraduate courses.

He also encouraged students to complete their personal statements and submit applications before December.

A huge congratulations to Kate McDonald, who won the Ulster University jersey on the day!



Ciara Branningan from the University of Galway gave a very informative talk to our 6th year students on Friday, October 17th. Students were encouraged to apply early to the cao and research the content of degrees before applying. Ciara also spoke of new accomodation options coming on stream for 2026 entry. There were lots of questions after the talk. Thanks for your time Ciara.



Well done to all our junior and senior players who participated in the first girls rugby blitz of the year on Tuesday. Lovely to see new faces participating along with our seasoned players. The senior team won all of their games and the junior team won 4/5 of their matches, narrowly missing out on a clean sweep.



2nd Year boys football team managed by Mr Rogers and Mr Corcoran.

Played 2 games in October (Nobber Away and Dunshaughlin Home) in North Leinster C competition.

Unfortunately, we lost both games but a huge improvement in performance in second outing. They still have the Moore Cup, a Louth competition to look forward to in the new year.

## Girls' U16 Football:

The 3rd year and TY girls, along with their coaches Miss McCarragher and Miss Donnelly, have had great success over the past few weeks and have won all three of the games in their first league.

Well done girls!



Our senior girls had another convincing win against the Marist on Monday 13th October. It was a great team performance, with lots of skill & determination shown by the girls. With one final group game remaining we are hopeful of another win & a place in the Leinster competition. Well done girls & keep up the good work!



## Irish Post-Primary Schools Championships 2025/2026 Leinster Qualifier.

Students from Bush Post-Primary delivered an impressive showing at the Irish Post-Primary Schools Championships 2025/2026 Leinster Qualifier, held at Royal Tara Golf Club. Best finisher for BPP was Andrew Clarke who finished 9th in difficult course conditions.