

Internet Safety Week 2026

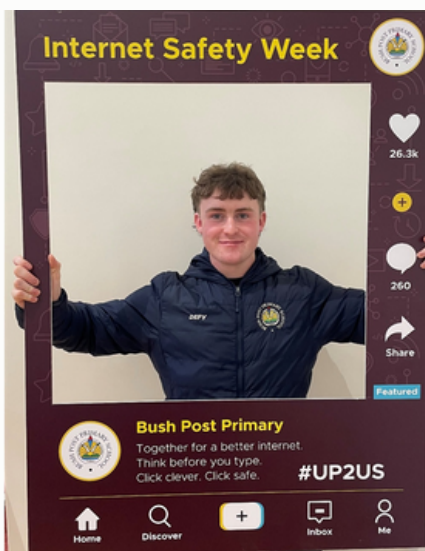
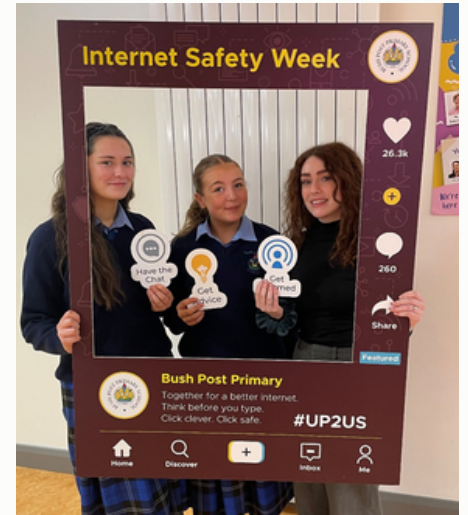
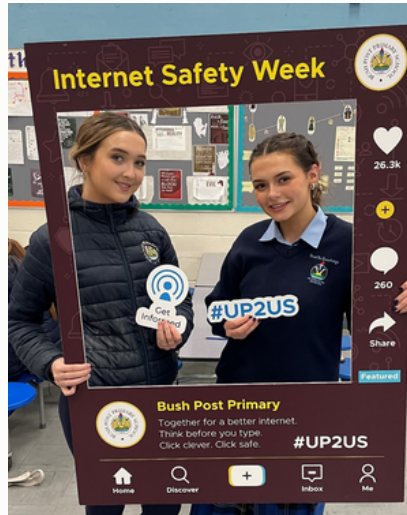
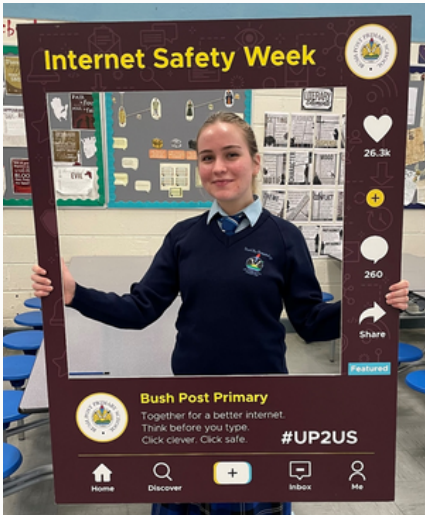
As part of Internet Safety Week 2026, our school marked Internet Safety Day on Tuesday 10th February, with a particular focus on the growing role of AI chatbots in young people's lives. Students explored the benefits, risks, and limitations of artificial intelligence, with important discussions around digital responsibility, critical thinking, and the continued importance of human interaction in learning and communication.

To further support this message, An Garda Síochána delivered an excellent online safety workshop to our 3rd Year students on Monday 16th February. Garda Eve McCrystal and Garda Kevin Cleary engaged students through an interactive, informative, and highly relatable session, covering key topics such as online behaviour, personal safety, digital footprints, and the legal implications of online activity.

The session was very well received by students and reinforced the importance of making safe, informed, and responsible choices online. We sincerely thank Garda Eve McCrystal and Garda Kevin Cleary for their time, expertise, and commitment to supporting young people in navigating the online world safely.



Internet Safety Week 2026



Online Safety Workshop for 2nd and 5th year Students

“Don’t Be Mean, Behind the Screen”

In February, all 2nd and 5th year students in Bush Post Primary School took part in an engaging and informative online safety talk delivered by Paula O’Connor, entitled “Don’t Be Mean, Behind the Screen.” The session focused on promoting responsible, respectful and safe behaviour when using digital technologies and social media.

Paula spoke to students about the realities of life online and the importance of understanding that real people exist behind every screen. She highlighted how words and actions online can have lasting consequences, just as they do in face-to-face interactions. Through age-appropriate examples and discussion, students were encouraged to reflect on how their online behaviour can impact others.

The talk reinforced many of the messages delivered through the school’s SPHE and Wellbeing programmes, while also supporting our wider commitment to creating a safe and positive digital learning environment for all students.

Bush Post Primary School would like to thank Paula O’Connor for delivering such a powerful and relevant talk. Sessions like this play an important role in helping students develop the skills and awareness needed to navigate the online world safely, responsibly and with empathy.





Bush Post Primary School Newsletter



February 2026

www.bpps.ie

Online Safety Webinar for Parents/Guardians

“Don’t Be Mean, Behind the Screen”

Online Safety Webinar for Parents & Guardians

On Tuesday 3rd February, Bush Post Primary School hosted an online safety webinar for parents and guardians titled “Don’t Be Mean Behind Your Screen.” The session focused on promoting positive online behaviour, digital wellbeing, and practical ways families can support young people in navigating the online world safely and responsibly.

The webinar explored important topics including cyberbullying, online gaming, respectful communication, social media awareness, and strategies for encouraging healthy digital habits at home. We were delighted with the strong engagement and support from our parent community. As part of our ongoing commitment to student wellbeing and digital safety, we value working in partnership with parents and guardians to ensure every learner feels safe, supported, and informed — both online and offline.

Thank you to all who attended and shared their feedback.

Link to view webinar:

<https://youtu.be/tLXbHA9e-GM>

Link to parents/guardians question and feedback form:





Parents/Guardians - Online Safety Webinar – Feedback & Questions – Fill out form

'DON'T BE MEAN BEHIND YOUR SCREEN'

2ND & 5TH YEAR ONLINE SAFETY WORKSHOP
TEACHERS PLEASE GO TO ROOM 34 & 36 DURING THESE LESSON TIMES IF YOU HAVE 2ND OR 5TH YEARS

- Phone apps
- Social media sites
- Dangers of gaming online
- Cyberbullying
- Being connected 24/7
- How to best deal with online behaviour
- Peer pressure
- Sharing inappropriate content
- The legal framework
- Digital Footprint

<http://>

5G **Tuesday 3rd February 2026**
2nd year (P1 & P2)
5th year (P3 & P4)
Guest speaker: Paula O'Connor
BA Ed., BSc (Hons), MSc., MIACP

'DON'T BE MEAN BEHIND YOUR SCREEN'

PARENTS/GUARDIANS INFORMATION WEBINAR
JOIN US ONLINE
LINK TO JOIN WILL BE SENT THROUGH COMPASS TO ALL PARENTS/GUARDIANS EMAIL

- Phone apps
- Social media sites
- Dangers of gaming online
- Cyberbullying
- Being connected 24/7
- How to best deal with online behaviour
- Peer pressure
- Sharing inappropriate content
- The legal framework
- Digital Footprint

<http://>






5G **Bush Post Primary School**
Tuesday 3rd February 2026
Online webinar: 7.00pm
Guest speaker: Paula O'Connor
BA Ed., BSc (Hons), MSc., MIACP

SAVE THE DATE



Bush Post Primary School Newsletter

February 2026

www.bpps.ie

Welcome to our New Deputy Principal

Louth & Meath Education and Training Board is delighted to announce the transfer of Mr. Richard Melaniphy as Deputy Principal to Bush Post Primary School.

Richard is part of the LMETB senior leadership team and brings a wealth of experience to the post and recognises the link between high quality teaching, learning and assessment methods and student attendance, motivation, retention, achievement and attainment. Richard is committed to supporting and promoting student attendance, student progression, student voice, wellbeing and student supports at the school and has a specific interest and experience in the Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools (DEIS) Programme during his time working in Coláiste Chú Chulainn and Scoil Uí Mhuirí.



Trade Union Talk to 6 Riverstown



A huge thank you to Kim Lynch for speaking to 6 Riverstown on February 10th about the benefits of joining a union! 🙌

Kim also shared important information about the rights of 17-year-olds in the workplace, including working hours and pay. The talk was a huge success, and our students completed a key assignment in a fun and engaging way. 🙌

**NCSE ASD Whole Staff CPD
Day on February 24th
facilitated by Margaret
Norris.**



Pancake Tuesday



Mr. Murphy and his horticulture club were busy in the hub this week, carefully transplanting the daffodils that were originally planted in September into new trays. The students then placed them in our beautiful Green Schools garden, where they will continue to grow and bloom. It was a thoughtful way to honour the memory of our friend and colleague, Niki, with the daffodils planted beside her plaque in the garden.



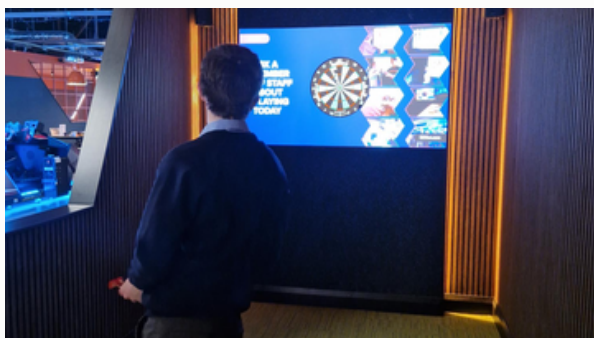
Valentine's Day

There was love in the air in the hub this Valentine's Day. The boys were busy baking jammy puff pastry treats and sharing them with pride. They also created stained glass hearts, which are now brightening up the classroom and adding a simple, cheerful touch to the space.



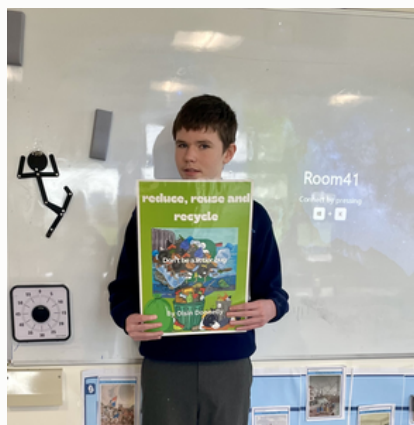
Maths trip to GR8 Social

The 3rd year JCSP maths class enjoyed a trip to Gr8 Social in Dundalk where they took part in an action-packed afternoon of bowling, golf simulation and darts.



Green schools' anti-litter campaign

Hub 2 students were busy making posters for the Green Schools' anti-litter campaign. Well done to the boys. Well done Oisín Donnelly who designed his poster on Canva!



Transition Year News

Trip to Barcelona



February 2026

On Thursday, 26th February, 114 very excited Transition Year students, accompanied by their teachers, set off at 2am from Bush PP on their trip to Barcelona.

Students had a fantastic time, enjoying visits to the Cosmo Caixa Museum of Science, cycling around Salou and Cambrils, playing football on the beach, and experiencing the thrills of Port Aventura.

The students were excellent ambassadors for the school and made memories that will last a lifetime.

A sincere thank you to Ms Walsh, Ms Gartland, Ms Magennis, Ms Mulholland, Ms Hand, Ms Donnelly, Ms Begley, Mr Mc Cann and Mr Treanor for accompanying the students and making the trip such a success.





Féile na Tána Workshop

As part of Féile na Tána, we were delighted to welcome Luke Webb from Harp Ireland who spoke to 2nd year Music students about harping in traditional Irish music and continuing the tradition of harp playing. Some students even got to have a go on the harp.



Harp ensemble

Congratulations to 3rd year harpists, Fiona McIntyre and Joy Mulligan who performed in the National Concert Hall Dublin as members of the Music Generation Harp Collective, on Saturday February 7th. What an amazing experience to perform on a national stage. Well done girls!

Transition Year Key Dates 2026

March 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.



We would love to know about any achievements and hobbies outside school! Send us a photo (bushpp@lmetb.ie) and let us know about your son/daughter's interests and achievements and we can publish in our monthly newsletter and social media!

Important Dates coming up.....

- Seachtain na Gaeilge - Week beginning 9th March
- 5th Year PTM - 10th March
- JC Music Practical's - Thursday, March 12th and Friday, March 13th all day
- School closed Monday 16th and 17th March for St Patrick's Day
- Neurodiversity Week is the week beginning Wednesday 18th March
- Parents Association Meeting - Wednesday 18th March
- JCSP Profiles Wednesday 18th - 20th March
- Careers Fair - Thursday 26th March
- 27th, 28th & 29th April - TY English trip to Kavanagh Centre (classes will visit on their scheduled day)
- ETB Core Values Week - Week beginning 23rd March
- Easter break - 27th March

After school study

continues

- every Monday,

Tuesday

& Wednesday.

Snack provided!

15.50 - 17.45.

HSCL - Build Bonds Parents' Programme

We are excited to share details of our new Building Bonds course for parents and carers that we run twice a year in school. Building Bonds is a practical, research-based 6-week programme designed to help parents and guardians strengthen their relationships with their teenagers. The course focuses on building positive connections at home, establishing healthy routines and boundaries, and developing skills to de-escalate conflict. It also offers guidance and support around challenges such as school avoidance.

Each session provides clear, practical strategies that parents can begin using straight away. The programme is grounded in evidence-based approaches and is designed to empower parents with practical tools that are both realistic and effective.

One of the most valued aspects of the course is the opportunity to connect with other parents. Participants build a supportive network where they can share experiences, feel understood, and realise they are not alone in facing challenges. Many parents say this sense of community is just as powerful as the strategies themselves.

Parents who have completed programmes report that they found it useful because:

- It helped them better understand their teenager's behaviour and emotional needs.
- They felt more confident setting boundaries while maintaining a positive relationship.
- Conflict at home reduced as they learned practical de-escalation techniques.
- They gained reassurance and encouragement from meeting other parents facing similar experiences.
- They felt that they were working closely with school to problem solve

Building Bonds is about strengthening relationships, improving communication, and creating calmer, more connected family life.

If you would like more information or are interested in joining the next group starting 19th march, please contact Ciara Harkin – charkin.bpp@lmetb.ie



TY Work Experience in Department of Nursing and Midwifery

Members of our TY class enjoyed their work experience week in Department of Nursing Midwifery & Early Years, DkIT. There they completed an Irish Heart Foundation Heart saver course. Well done all and thank you to all @dkit



LMETB Highest Achievers Awards



Sean Thornton and Niamh Donnolly who were recognised at the recent LMETB Highest Achievers Awards.

Sean is studying Engineering in Trinity College and Niamh is studying Engineering in Queens University

Transition Year Parent Teacher Meeting



Well attended Transition Year Parent Teacher Meeting.

Thank you to our staff, parents/guardians, TY students and student volunteers on the night. Your support, collaboration, and commitment make all the difference as we guide our students through this school year. We truly value your insights, questions, and encouragement, and we look forward to continuing this journey with you throughout the year.

Careers Fair

Bush PP Careers' Fair will take place on Thursday 26th March from 5.30 - 7.30 pm. Among those who have confirmed attendance are NUI Maynooth, ESB apprenticeships, Cooley Credit Union, Teagasc, DkIT and DCU



Bush Post Primary School Sport News



Congratulations to Ms. Forbes Mulvenna on being chosen to support the GAA national 'make a wish' campaign. Make-A-Wish Ireland has one simple aim – to grant the wishes of children with critical medical conditions, to bring hope, strength and happiness. Since 1992, Make-A-Wish Ireland has granted wishes for more than 3,500 brave children across Ireland, 229 wishes granted in 2025 alone.

Ms Forbes Mulvanna was joined by inter-county players Brenda Bannon (Fermanagh football), Luke O'Loughlin (Westmeath football) and Paddy Deegan (Kilkenny hurling). GPA CEO Tom Parsons was also in attendance along with Make-A-Wish Ireland Head of Fundraising David Burns.



Cross Country and Athletics

- Do you have an interest in running/athletics?
- Would you like to represent your school?
- Would you like to train with your friends?

- Come to training on a Friday after school at 2.35pm on the track
- Be part of the school Cross Country and Athletics team.
- Compete in Leinster and All Ireland Competitions.
- Get fit and stay fit and healthy.



Well done to 1st year students Patrick Duffy, Aaron Finnegan, and Colin Oliver who came 1st in the boys team cross country at Ras Na hEireann, Dunleer on Sunday. Patrick Duffy also came 4th in the individual event.



Well done to Patrick Duffy who represented the school in the Leinster school's Cross Country in Navan on Friday, February 26th. Patrick did amazingly well coming 22nd out of 115. Well done Patrick.

U14 Girls Football



Our under 14 girls played their first game last week against Coliste Ris. The girls had a convincing win with an amazing team performance, with multiple standout performances all over the field! Well Done girls!



U16 Girls Football



Congratulations to the under 16 girls football team and their coaches Miss McCarragher and Miss Donnelly on getting into the Leinster Semi Finals. We wish them the very best of luck!

7 BPP pupils nominated for Lennon cup Allstars!



We are delighted to share some fantastic news with you.

Congratulations to Craig Tuohy, Tiarnan Hanniffy, Joseph Holland, Sean Holland, Jack Long, Oran Mc Anerney and Joseph Hanlon who have all been nominated for a DKIT Lennon Cup GAA All Star Award.

This is a tremendous achievement and a reflection of their dedication, commitment and outstanding performances on the GAA field throughout the season. Bush Post Primary School is extremely proud of each of these students for receiving such prestigious nominations.

We are asking our entire school community to please support our students by casting your vote and helping them secure this honour.

Please click in the following link: <https://www.independent.ie/regionals/louth/sport/gaa/cast-your-vote-for-the-louth-gaa-lennon-cup-all-stars/a1701613538.html>

Voting closes on Friday 6th March at 6pm, so we encourage you to vote as soon as possible.