



St. Caillin's N.S, Rashina, Ballinahown, Athlone, Co. Westmeath, N37DD59
Tel: 09064-54336 Roll No: 16990G

April Newsletter 2025

A short month in school with the Easter break. Here is some of the main news in Rashina.

- Well done to the boys and girls in our Communion class who received their **First Confession** on Sunday 6th April with Fr. Brendan. **First Holy Communion** takes place on Saturday 17th May at 3pm in St. Colmcille's Church, Ballinahown.
- We played our first **Cumann na mBunscol hurling match** versus Kilcormac/ Broughal on Monday 7th April. We lost narrowly on a score line of 4-5 to 4-4. This fantastic display is testament to the great work being done by GPO John Murray and the support of Doon GAA and Brosna Gaels.



- Water was the theme throughout the school in April and children were writing, discussing and reading about water. The narrative writing genre was also explored in classrooms.
- Pupils from 2nd to 6th classes thoroughly enjoyed swimming/ library before Easter. The day we missed has been rescheduled for **Monday 26th May at 12pm**.
- Design L and Lucy's Crafts represented the school in Tullamore on Thursday 3rd April at the **Most Enterprising Pupils Awards**. Well done to the girls!

- As part of **Engineering Week**, 4th – 6th classes visited **Ericsson**, Athlone on Friday 4th April for a day of coding.



- Both our boys' and girls' soccer teams did brilliantly at the **FAI 5-side Finals** in Tullamore on Thursday 10th April. The boys took home runners up medals having just missed out on progressing to the Leinster competition.



- As part of our **School Self Evaluation**, there continues to be an emphasis on *Gaeilge neamhfoirmiúl* through *Frása na Seachtaine*, student voice via Student Council and presentation of work.
- **Wellbeing Week** takes place from April 28th – May 2nd. Lots of activities for the pupils. More information on this below from the children in the *Student Council Corner*!



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- We are delighted to have welcomed a new **Climbing Wall** to our play area. Thanks to our Parents' Association for helping to put this in place. The children are having fun climbing while also developing their movement skills.



- Our **in-school Gaelic Football tournaments** for Senior Infants to 6th class will now take place in the last term. Looking forward to exciting games. This will coincide with our GAA coach John moving his focus to Gaelic football.
- **Literacy Lift-Off** has started in the Junior Room. The children will work in stations each day and read at home each night.

- The planned debate for our 5th and 6th class pupils with Ballinahown could not take place before Easter but will be rescheduled for here in the Halla soon.
- The school has been approved **Hot School Meals** and the plan is that this will commence in the coming weeks. These will be provided free of charge to all pupils.
- The school has appointed Anne Marie Larkin to cover our SNA Louise Bennett's maternity leave.
- Two DES Inspectors carried out a pilot **Child Protection and Safeguarding Inspection** (CPSI) under the proposed new inspection model on Thursday 3rd April. The school was compliant in all areas.
- The **Parents' Association** continue to run the bin for Re-turn bottles and cans inside front wall of school. Thanks to the PA for the Easter treats for all before the holidays!
- Yard supervision each morning from 8.50am and school starts for all pupils at **9am**.

Student Council Corner

- Wellbeing Week –
Movement Monday – The whole school went on a scenic walk.
Talent Tuesday – Everybody had a chance to showcase their talent.
Wacky Wednesday – Everyone got to express their wacky selves and show individuality!
Try it Thursday – Guided Yoga and Digital Detox. Plan to use absolutely no screens.
Fruity Friday – We will make smoothies for everyone in the school. Kitty Egan will play bocce with all classes.