



Scoil Áine Naofa, Loch Cútra

Gort Inse Guaire, Co na Gaillimhe

Uimhir Scoile 17475S

Charities Regulator Reg. 20121815

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Príomhoide: Amy Mulherrins

NOVEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

There was great excitement after Mid-Term with the opening of our new all weather pitch. This has made huge improvements to our yard space with all pupils using a rotation system to have their time on the pitch. The school has also purchased more outdoor playtime games that the children can bring up and enjoy! We will have an official opening in the Spring when the weather improves!

Please see below important dates/ closures and upcoming events:

All Weather Pitch Fundraiser – Table Quiz:

Thank you to all the parents and the wider school community for taking part in our fundraising night in Whelan's. An enjoyable night was had by all and the total raised is €2,265.00. Special thanks to our fundraising committee for all their hard work and to all donations towards the night.

Fundraiser in Aid of Lough Cutra NS and Lurga NS:

A Christmas Craft Fair fundraiser will take place in Whelan's Bar and the Forge Shanaglish on Sunday 1st December from 12 to 3pm.

Junior and Senior Infants are requested to attend 11am Mass as they will perform the Christmas Hymn 'Away in a Manger'. Children from both schools will be selling their homemade crafts that will be made in school and the fair will also include a visit to Santa, face painting, games, second hand book sale, cake sale and lots of fun! Our fundraising committee are busy planning the event and there will be an information letter to follow this week. See our facebook for updates!

The Total amount received from April 2024 for Buy a Brick Donations = €10,500.00, and Scrap Metal = €4,500.00 with another load to come. Sincere thanks to every family for your support. The all weather pitch has been a huge addition to our playground and P.E space.

Parent/Teacher Meetings:

Meetings will take place next **Tuesday 19th, Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st** November. You should have received your child/children's timeslot via Aladdin. Please check your email and spam if you haven't received your slot.

School will finish as usual at 2pm for Infants, 2:45pm for all other classes on Wednesday and Thursday only. Buses have been informed about the change in times.

Cycle Right Programme for 5th & 6th class pupils:

5th and 6th class are on their last day of their cycling safety course this week.

Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal:

Thank you to the parents who delivered shoeboxes to the school for children in need. The total number of boxes collected was 40- a very generous effort.

Final Swimming lessons for 1st to 6th class pupils will take place on **Wednesday 26th November**. Please pay via Aladdin for any outstanding monies owed if you have not already done so.

Non uniform day will take place on Thursday 28th November. €2.00 per/€5.00 per family.

School Closure – General Election

School will close on **Friday 29th November** for all pupils to facilitate voting in the school.

Gort Resource Centre–Annual Christmas Food Appeal:

Any food purchases you wish to donate to the resource centre in Gort can be dropped into the school by Tuesday 3rd December. Food is distributed locally to those in need.

Enrolment 2025: Enrolment is now open for the school year 2025/2026. If you wish to enroll your child in our school, or if you know of any child who wishes to attend, please let the school know on our mobile number 083 0246258 or email loughcutrans@gmail.com.

Frása na Seachtaine: Well done to our Gaelgeoir na Míosa winners last month: Our new Gaelge phrase this week for home is:

Cá bhfuil do chóta? Cuir ort do chóta, tá sé fuar!

Pronounced: Caw will doh coh-ta? C'wear ort doh coh-ta. Taw shay fu-or!

Google translate is excellent for listening to translations!

Anti-Bullying and Cineáltas:

We are beginning to look at our new anti-bullying policy using the new Department of Education guidelines- Cineáltas. Parents will have a chance to review the policy and give feedback in the coming months.

Green Schools flag:

We are working towards gaining our Green Schools Flag this year on the theme Recycling. This aims at promoting the reduction of waste in bins at school. We would ask parents to use as many reusable containers in your child's lunch and limit the use of foils, paper and non reusable drink containers. Thank you.

Literacy Lift Off:

Our station teaching literacy initiative has commenced in 1st-3rd class. This places a large emphasis on reading, reading fluency, phonics, independent and procedural writing skills in small focussed groups. This will continue for another 5 weeks for 1 hour per day.

Curl up and read!

As the evenings get shorter, it's a great opportunity for all children to do some paired reading with an adult or older sibling at home. Reading extends into every curricular area and is so important in your child's learning. Even 15 minutes a night makes a huge difference!

Lastly, I wish to thank everyone for their co-operation in the car park. Please use the drop off system as quickly as possible and ensure you move around to the next available space in order to free up space for other cars. Please continue to keep bus spaces at the front of the school free. Thank you for your continued efforts.

Kind regards

Amy Mulkerrins

Principal