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02nd March 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Maths Curriculum Evaluation: Following on from our Curriculum Evaluation carried out in our school in November 2025 you can now view the report online here.

World Book Day: We will celebrate World Book Day at the school this **Thursday the 5th of March** 2026. Students can dress up as their favourite character from their books on the day. World Book Day vouchers will be given out on the day.

Seachtain na Gaeilge: As part of our celebrations for Seachtain na Gaeilge in the school Ms Cregg has organised some activities and competitions as Gaeilge to celebrate and promote Gaeilge in the school.

School Closed: Reminder that the school will **be closed on Monday 16th March and Tuesday 17th March** for St. Patricks Day. We will celebrate Lá Glas on Friday 13th of March – all students are welcome to wear green on the day.

Easter Holidays – end of term two: The school will close for the Easter Holidays on Friday 27th of March at 12.30pm and reopen on Monday 13th of April at 9.15am.

In-service Day: Reminder that the school will be **closed** on **Wednesday 22nd of April** in order for school teaching staff to attend the Primary Curriculum Framework In- Service Training Day

Lots of Socks 2026: Lots of Socks Day for Down Syndrome Ireland is the 21st March 2026. To celebrate this day in the school we encourage everybody to wear their odd socks on Friday 20th March.

New School Crest: We are delighted to announce that the winning design for the New School Crest is Nilaa Naveen in 5th Class and 2nd place went to Ellen Ring in 6th Class. Congratulations and thank you to everyone who took the time to enter their design. Thank you to our student council and Ms Brennan for all their work in getting this project across the line.

Music Generation: Padraic Collins from Music Generation is a valuable addition to our school. All classes get a chance to work with Padraic each week. We are asking parents for a contribution of €15 per child towards the cost of these lessons. The school covers the remaining costs of these lessons. A payment link will be sent out today via Way2Pay. Thank you for your cooperation.

Basketball: The girls and boys from 6th class will be attending a Basketball Blitz in Castlerea on Tuesday the 10th of March 2026. Wishing everyone all the best of luck.

Chess: Students from 5th & 6th class will be attending a chess tournament in Gaelscoil Liatroma on Wednesday 11th March 2026. Best of luck to all our school representatives.

FAI Schools Primary 5s Competition: Students from 5th and 6th classes will be participating in the upcoming FAI Schools Primary 5s Competition on Friday the 13th of March. Best of Luck to everyone.

Creative Schools: The students from 6th class will be visiting the Leitrim School of Art in Drumshanbo on Thursday 12th of March as part of the Creative School project in the school. We look forward to seeing their creations.

Parents Association: The Parents Association AGM will be held in the next month. We hope as many parents as possible will be able to attend to show their continued support. A big thank you as always to the Parents Association for all they do for our school – it is greatly appreciated.

Soccer: Soccer training with Cathal will continue every **Wednesday** for 4th, 5th and 6th Class for this term.

GAA: GAA coaching will recommence for all classes this Wednesday with David Wynne.

First Holy Communion: First Holy Communion will take place on **Saturday 9th May at 12noon in Cootehall Church.**

Confirmation will be held on **Wednesday 15th April at 11.00 a.m. in Croghan Church.**

School Tour: Our annual School Tour will be held on **Friday 22nd of May 2026** at Westport House in Co. Mayo. The total price for the trip will be €40 per child with the school covering the remaining costs. The tour can be paid through the online system Way2Pay – a link will be sent out this month. Alternatively, this amount can be paid in instalments on the Way2Pay system, if it is more convenient for you.

Stay Safe Programme & RSE Programme: As part of the SPHE curriculum the Stay Safe Programme is being taught to all classes this term and into next term. Aspects from the RSE Programme in SPHE will also be taught next term. If you have any queries on this matter, please contact your class teacher.

School Nurse: The school nurse will be visiting the school on Wednesday the 4th & Wednesday the 11th of March 2026

Hot School Lunches: The Hot School Lunches have been in the school for past number of weeks. The children are enjoying the meals that have been selected for them. Please remember to place your order before Friday at 12noon each week for delivery the following week. All queries regarding school lunches should be directed to bellzcafeleitrim@gmail.com.

Safe routes to School: Now that the work has been completed at the front of the school, we encourage students and parents to please use the new gates when entering and exiting the school grounds. Please refrain from crossing the wall when entering and exiting the school. Once again thank you for all your patience while the works were ongoing.

Supervision: Please do not park in front of the school gates for the safety of the children accessing the school. This space is reserved for the school buses only. To ensure the smooth running of this, supervision starts at 9:15 a.m., and finishes at 3:20 p.m. The Board of Management accepts no

responsibility for any pupils on the school premises outside of these hours. We ask that all students remain in their cars until a member of staff opens the gate at 9:15 a.m.

Absence Form: If your child is absent from school for any reason all parents/guardians must complete an Absence Form. Click here for the online Absence Form.

Contacting the School and Contact Details: Communication between home and school is done by e mail, text, Aladdin and through our school website. If there is any recent change in your contact details, please let the school know so we can update our data base.

If you wish to contact your child's teacher, please email the teacher (or cootehallns@gmail.com), or leave a message on the school phone (071-9667264). We will endeavour to return your email or call as soon as possible.

Thank you for all your continued support.

Kind Regards,

Cian Duffy
Principal.