

ST. LAURENCE'S NATIONAL SCHOOL
Scoil Naomh Lorcán
Phone 045 879119

NEWSLETTER - June 2026

Dear Parents & Guardians,

SUMMER HOLIDAYS: School will re-open on **Friday 28th August 2025**.

A huge **thank you** to every member of our school community for your engagement, hard work, commitment, support and cooperation throughout another incredibly busy and successful school year.

The final weeks of the year were particularly eventful, and a mere taster of how busy the school has been for the whole year! Some of our Second Class pupils celebrated the special milestone of receiving their First Holy Communion, while our sports teams represented the school with great pride, determination and sportsmanship, proving themselves to be wonderful ambassadors for our school.

Our Students' Council organised another successful annual Bake Sale, our Active Schools Committee delivered a fun-filled and action-packed Active School Week, and staff embraced the annual Step Challenge with great enthusiasm—and no small measure of friendly competition!

We were delighted to celebrate the achievement of our Green Schools Committee in earning another Green Flag, this time for Global Citizenship Energy. Throughout the term, pupils also enjoyed learning from a wide range of visitors, including historians, environmental advocates, authors, dance teachers, sports coaches and an internet safety expert, to name just a few.

Our Parents Council has been very busy also. They organised refreshments for our second and sixth classes. They also organised a pre-loved uniform exchange, the Walking Bus, Park and Stride initiative and cycling safety course to name but a few of their endeavours this year.

Every class enjoyed a memorable school tour, and we rounded off the month of June with a well-deserved ice cream treat for everyone.

We were also proud to celebrate the rich diversity of our school community during our biennial Cultural Celebration, a wonderful occasion that highlighted the many cultures, traditions and experiences that make our school such a vibrant and welcoming place.

A special word of thanks to our sixth class pupils as they leave St Laurence's NS after eight wonderful years. Thank you for your engagement, cooperation, enthusiasm, effort and the friendship and companionship you have shared throughout your time in our school. You have each made a valued contribution to school life, and we are very proud of all that you have achieved. We wish you every blessing as you embark on the next stage of your life's journey, may you enjoy good health, happiness and success.

For Next Year:-

Free Schoolbooks: You may be aware that the Government is continuing to operate a free schoolbooks scheme. This will mean that you will not have to pay for any schoolbooks, workbooks or copies. However, the amount of money granted has decreased from the original grant. All of your child's books and copies will be in the school waiting for them in August. For your information the booklists will shortly be visible on the school website.

However you will need to purchase some stationery items, as sent out previously, for your child.

School Uniforms: It was wonderful to see the great effort that pupils and parents made since Easter with regards to the school uniform. The pupils have looked very smart indeed. We will be continuing with the school uniform next year. Children from junior infants to first class will have the option of wearing the more formal uniform or their school tracksuit on a daily basis, all other pupils should wear their uniform daily with the exception of the school tracksuit on PE or swimming days. Please check out the school website for photographs of what is the correct uniform; <https://sallinsns.ie/school-uniform-2/>

Mobile Phones/Smart Device: Increasingly children are coming to school with mobile phones and/or smart watches. Ideally these items should be left at home. If you, as parent/guardian, decide it is VITAL for your child to have this item with them, it should be switched off and left in your child's bag until they have left the school grounds. The school will not take responsibility if these items are lost or broken.

In recent time issues have arisen with the use of mobile phones or smart watches and in a bid to help eliminate that, the staff and Parents Council are hoping to promote and encourage 'No Smart Devices in School' in the school year 2026/2027.

School Office The school office will close on 10th July 2026 and will re-open on 24th August 2026.

Re-opening for the School Year 2026/2027: The school will re-open after the summer break on Friday 28th August 2026.

Parents Council Refreshments: The Parents Council is kindly providing refreshments for the parents/guardians of our incoming junior infants in the PE hall on Friday 28th August at 09.20. In a bid to facilitate parental introductions they are also offering tea/coffee to the parents of our newly restructured first classes (Wednesday 2nd September) and fifth classes (Thursday 3rd September) at 09.20.

As another school year draws to a close, thank you once again to our pupils, parents, guardians, staff, Parents Council, Board of Management and wider school community for your continued partnership and support. I wish everyone a safe, relaxing and enjoyable summer break, and look forward to welcoming you back in the new school year.

Yours sincerely,

Íde Kelly
Principal