



A Message From Our Principal



Dia dhaoibh a cháirde,
As our first term comes to an end, can I say a big congratulations and well done to the whole school community here in St. Anthony's BNS. It has been a really busy but thoroughly enjoyable first term.

Our new Junior Infants are doing wonderfully well and have really settled into school life here in St. Anthony's, bringing fantastic energy, enthusiasm, happiness and fun to our school.

I hope that you all enjoy reading our Halloween edition of 'Scoil AntoNews', as it gives you a glimpse of some of the beautiful activities and amazing teaching & learning opportunities taking place each day in our school.

Thank you to all of the pupils who contributed to this edition and to Ms. Crean for putting it all together.

A sincere 'Míle buiochas' to all of the staff, pupils and parents for all of your wonderful support, dedication and cooperation. It is greatly appreciated and valued.

I wish the whole school community a very happy, enjoyable, safe and 'Spooktacular' Halloween break.

Le gach dea-ghuí,
Seán.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- New Kids on the Block
- Paw-some Birthday!
- Petrifying Pumpkins
- Conker Kings



Congratulations to Oisín and Seán in Mrs. Wickham's 4th Class, and to Emrys in Mrs. Donovan's 5th Class — the talented winners of our Homework Journal Art Competition! Their fantastic designs now feature on the covers of our new school journals for the year ahead. What a wonderful achievement — well done, boys!

New Kids on the Block

We were thrilled to welcome our four new Junior Infant classes to the school this year! The boys have settled in wonderfully — making new friends, exploring their classrooms, and already showing great enthusiasm for learning. From singing songs to practising their letters and numbers, our youngest pupils have brought lots of energy, smiles, and laughter to the corridors. We're so excited to watch them grow and thrive in the months and years ahead!



Ms Griffin's Class



Reading buddies



Sensory Garden



Mrs Hurley's Class



Ms Holland's Class



Ms MacCurtain's Class



Reading buddies



Fine motor activities

Space: The Final Frontier



Halloween Dress Up

St Anthony's was full of ghosts & ghouls, alien abductions & inflatable animals for our annual Halloween Dress Up Day. The Parents Association's Zombie Walk fundraiser was a spook-tacular success! Head to page 21 for even more frightful fun!



Conker Kings



Things got nutty in Ms. Fahy's 6th Class this term as pupils battled it out in their annual Conker Competition! After some cracking contests, Conor and Adam made it all the way to the grand final — but it was Adam who proved to have the toughest conker of them all! The boys are pictured here, with Adam proudly showing off his champion conker.

*Conkers are actually seeds of the Horse Chestnut Tree and not technically nuts!

Road Safety Awareness Week

We celebrated Road Safety Awareness Week 6th - 10th October with a range of engaging activities and lessons to help our students learn how to stay safe on the roads.

Classes explored the Safe Cross Code and RSA resources, while younger pupils enjoyed learning with Seatbelt Sheriff and Hi-Glo Silver. Teachers led lessons using materials from the BE SAFE programme, and families were encouraged to sign the St. Anthony's Road Safety Pledge to support our voluntary one-way system.



A big thank you to Ms McCarthy and everyone who volunteered to wear high-vis jackets at drop-off and collection times—your presence made a real difference! Together, we're helping to make our school community safer for everyone.

Creative Writing

Abdullah



Rory McIlroy

Career
 Rory McIlroy is a professional golfer from Northern Ireland. He went professional in 2007. He has 31 trophies including 6 Ryder cups in 2010, 2012, 2014, 2018, 2023 and 2025. He has twice been named RTE Sports Person of the Year in 2011 and 2014.

Information

Full name	Rory Daniel McIlroy
Born	4th May 1989 (age 36)
Born place	Holywood County Down, Northern Ireland



Harvard Law School

MICHAEL D. HIGGINS

Early life
 Michael D. Higgins was born on 15 April 1941 in Limerick. His father, Thom Higgins, was from Ballycotton, County Cork.

Professional life
 He was a factory worker and a bank clerk before studying in UCC, University of Manchester and Indiana University. He lectured in political science and sociology. He entered public life in 1967 and in 1993 he became Ireland's first minister for arts, heritage and the gaeltachts. In 2011 he was elected President of Ireland.

HIGGINS family life
 He is married to Sabina and they have 4 children: Pádraig, Michael, and Séamus. His dog is called a beagle, a mouse named Mafreac. He lives in Glas na hEithne in the Phoenix Park, Dublin.

fun fact
 If you see this flag being used it means the president is at home. The flag is called Presidential Standard flag.



PRESIDENT FOR US ALL



ARTIST IN RESIDENCE!

Huge congratulations to the St. Anthony's boys Cian, Caolán and Eoin who proudly represented Ballinlough at the All-Ireland Community Games Art Competition in Carlow!

All three boys were absolutely amazing and did themselves and their school proud. A special shoutout to Caolán, who took home 1st place and a gold medal in the U14 All-Ireland category



One World, Many Languages

SAY YES TO LANGUAGES

Ooh la la! The boys in 5th and 6th Classes are saying bonjour to a brand-new adventure in language learning! Thanks to the initiative 'Say Yes to Languages' initiative, they're getting the chance to learn French with Ms. Hennessy. From greetings to counting and maybe even ordering a croissant or two, the boys are discovering just how magnifique French can be and having fun along the way.



CÚPLA FOCAIL

Check out our newest notice board, designed to help everyone in the school practise a few common Irish phrases! Whether you're greeting a friend with a cheerful "Dia dhuit", saying "Go raibh maith agat" to your teacher, or wishing someone "Slán!" at home time, there's a phrase for every occasion. The board is full of helpful examples to make using Irish part of our everyday school life. Pop by, have a look, and see how many phrases you can try out this week — Bain triail as!

Dia duit	Hello
Dia 's Muire duit	Hello <small>(response)</small>
Slán leat	Goodbye
Feicfidh mé thú amárach	See you tomorrow
Bíodh deireadh seachtaine deas agat	Have a nice weekend
Go raibh maith agat	Thank you
Fáilte romhat	You're welcome



Our new EAL (English as an Additional Language) notice board celebrates the wonderful diversity within our school community. It proudly displays the countries our pupils come from and the many languages spoken by our families. Why not stop by the board and see how many countries you can spot?

Sporting Prowess



SCIATH NA SCOL FOOTBALL

Our Sciath na Scol Gaelic Football team have had a fantastic campaign, recording impressive wins over Gaelscoil Carrigaline, Beaumont BNS, Gaelscoil na Dúglaise, St. Joseph's Mardyke and Crosshaven BNS.

The boys now look forward to the Sciath na Scol Final against Gaelscoil Uí Ríordáin, Ballincollig, which will take place in Páirc Uí Chaoimh on Wednesday, 12th November at 11:30 a.m.

Best of luck to the team and their coaches — the whole school is behind you!



CLEARLY AMAZING

Congratulations to our very own Ms. Laura Cleary, who played a key role in Éire Óg's victory over Aghada in the Cork County Senior A Ladies Football Final!

The newly crowned county champions visited St. Anthony's to celebrate their success with the boys and share their story.

We're so proud of Ms. Cleary and delighted to have welcomed such an outstanding team to our school!

Friendship Week

Friendship Week was filled with creativity, kindness, and fun across all classes. Junior and Senior Infants worked together on colourful friendship-themed art activities, while First Class mixed up their own “Friendship Potions” filled with caring and thoughtful ingredients.

Second Class designed “Wanted: A Good Friend” posters, and Third Class created inspiring acrostic poems about what friendship means to them.

Older classes explored friendship through cinquain poetry and writing reflections on how to be a good friend. Throughout the week, our school’s Kindness Tree bloomed with hearts and messages celebrating acts of kindness big and small — a lovely reminder of the caring community we share at St. Anthony’s.



Inter School Links

Our school is taking part in a new NCSE pilot scheme called 'Towards Inclusion'. During the year students from our class will travel to special school Scoil Triest and will partake in various activities. The boys from Scoil Triest will also visit St. Anthony's. On Wednesday the 15th of October the first of these visits took place. Six boys from 6th class went to Scoil Triest. There were 3 activities they set up for us. First there was pumpkin bowling, Halloween themed connections and also there was a challenge where you had to reach your hand in a box of creepy crawlies and if you got a skull there was 5 points and a spider was worth 1 point. Here's an interview from 3 boys who went there[



In my trip to Scoil Triest, I found that the boys were very kind to me and very including. During my visit I liked loads of activities I did there. I liked the spider catching and I also loved the Halloween connections. My favourite activity by far was the pumpkin bowling and I got 15 pins knocked down overall! In the end, I really enjoyed the visit (also the sweets in the end were delicious!).

Written by Robert, Ms Fahy, 6th Class

On my trip to Scoil Triest I felt the boys were very kind and they seemed to really like the school. The boys interested me in some activities to play with them. My favourite activity was also pumpkin bowling. I got 2 strikes and 8 pins, so in total I got 28 pins knocked down. I felt the teachers were very caring towards their students. Overall, I really enjoyed the trip.

Written by Liam, Ms Fahy, 6th Class

When I went to Scoil Triest I really enjoyed it. There were numerous events set up for the students and us, and I really thought they were unique and fun. My favourite activity was probably (you guessed it) pumpkin bowling. Also I found that the teachers were very pleasant and caring to the students as well as us. The students were very kind to all six of us and I think they really liked us I thought it was a nice trip as it's something different to do. I really enjoyed and I'd definitely visit again sometime.

To conclude, we all enjoyed our visit a lot and we would definitely all go back another time.

Written by Harry, Ms Fahy, 6th Class

GAA Blitz

Our 4th Class boys had a fantastic day at the GAA Blitz in Páirc Uí Chaoimh! They played brilliantly against schools including Crab Lane, Bishopstown and Scoil Íosagáin, showing great teamwork and sportsmanship throughout.

A big thank you to Cork GAA and Brendan Delaney, Games Development Coordinator, for organising such a memorable event. And a special mention to the unexpected “star player” of the day — a swan who joined in the fun and stole the show!



Autumn Art



Home and Away



FUN IN KERRY PIKE

Some of our students enjoyed a wonderful outing to Ballycannon Playground in Kerry Pike, where they had great fun in the fresh air! They also visited Ravens Court Garden Centre and chose some beautiful heathers to add colour to our sensory garden.

A huge thank you to Garda Aoife for providing the bus and ensuring everyone travelled safely — it was a fantastic day out for all!



NEW STAFFROOM

We are delighted to celebrate the opening of our beautiful new staffroom — a warm, welcoming space for our staff to relax and connect. A huge thank you to Mr. Lyon, Ms. Angland, Mr. Hoc, Ms. Barrett, Ms. Donovan, and Kevin, our caretaker, for their hard work in bringing this project to life.

We are also very grateful to Kara Spratt, one of our wonderful parents, for her generous help and support, and to Msgr. Dullea for gifting us a lovely St. Anthony's plaque, which now has pride of place in our new space.



FOR THE LAND THEY CALL KILLEAGH

Ms. Lynch's 1st Class enjoyed a special visit from Our Lady of Good Counsel, Ballincollig, who taught them the song "Killeagh" using Lámh signs.



Stars & Starfish



REBEL RÉALTA

Huge congratulations to Robert from St. Anthony's, who took part in the first-ever Rebel Réalta Sports and Activity Day at SuperValu Páirc Uí Chaoimh! Organised by Sciath na Scol, this wonderful event celebrates inclusion and participation in the GAA for children with additional needs. Robert represented our school with fantastic spirit and enthusiasm — we're so proud of him! Well done, Robert, and thank you to everyone involved for a truly inspiring day!

ADVENTURES UNDER THE SEA

Our 3rd Class boys made a real splash this week when Dave from Oceans of Discovery (UCC) brought his Marine Roadshow to St. Anthony's! The boys explored Ireland's underwater world up close, meeting crabs, starfish, prawns and more in the Mobile Native Species Aquarium. They also got hands-on with whale bones and fascinating marine specimens while learning all about life beneath the waves.

A big thank you to marine scientist David Quinlan for an unforgettable, fin-tastic day of ocean discovery!

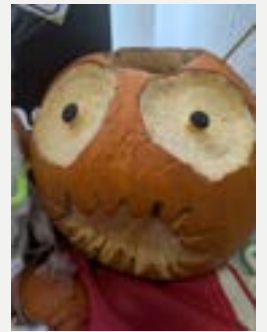


Petrifying Pumpkins

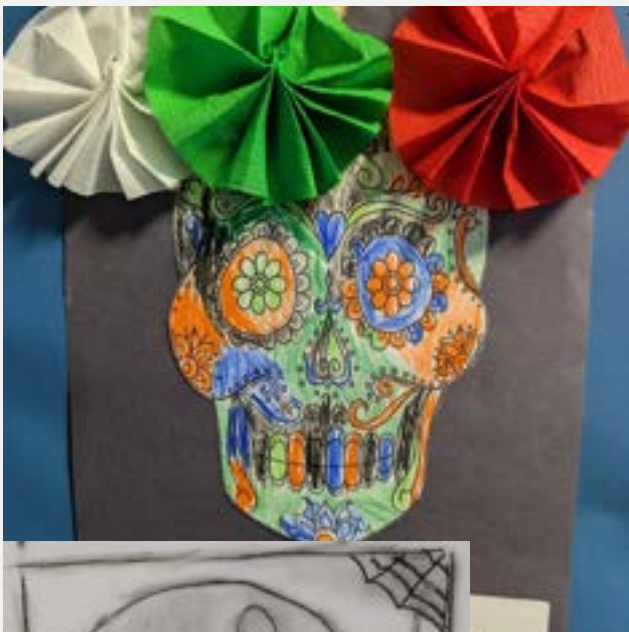
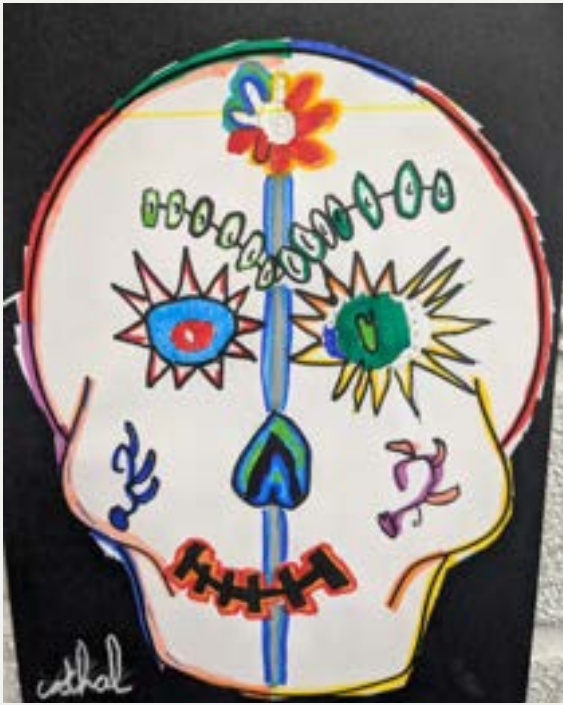


PUMPKIN CARVING COMPETITION

Thanks to Ms Barrett for organising the annual Pumpkin Carving Competition. The main corridor was awash with spooktacular squash! Here are a few of the spooky creations. There was stiff competition this year. Check out our Facebook page for this year's winners.



Halloween Art



Spooktacular Fun in the Japanese Gardens!

Boys from all classes had a frightfully good time in the Japanese Gardens during our annual Spooky Trail and Scavenger Hunt!

Each spooky decoration came with a Halloween joke and a themed challenge for the boys to try — from monster moves to ghostly giggles. It was a boo-tiful day full of laughter and fun.



How do you make a skeleton laugh?
Tickle her funnybone



Spider Crawl

How to do it: Get into a crab walk position (belly up) and crawl like a spider



Ms Lynch's enthusiastic scavenger hunters.



Lord Mayor Visit



We were honoured to welcome the Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr. Fergal Dennehy P.C., to St. Anthony's this week. The Lord Mayor spoke to the boys about his role and shared the fascinating 500-year-old Cork tradition of Throwing the Dart, symbolising the city's authority over the harbour.

He encouraged the boys to read, learn and always be kind — a message echoed in the thoughtful bookmarks he gifted to each class.

A big thank you to Darragh (6th Class) for his warm welcome, and to George (5th) and David (3rd) for their lovely presentation. The visit ended with smiles all around, especially from Peter (1st Class), who even got to sit in the Lord Mayor's car!

Future Voters in Action

St. Anthony's Presidential Election. On Wednesday, the boys from 4th, 5th and 6th Class had the opportunity to vote in our own Presidential Election organised by 6th Class pupil Sam O'Herlihy. Each boy received his voting paper with the 3 candidates. After tallying the votes, Catherine Connolly was voted as the next President of Ireland, with Jim Gavin receiving the 2nd highest vote and Heather Humphreys in 3rd. Will the boys of St. Anthony's be right?



Kali's Corner



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ME!

Written by My Canine Companion Kali

Woof! I can't believe it's been three wonderful years since I joined the St. Anthony's family.

I've loved every cuddle, story time, and wag-filled day at school.

A big thank you to all the boys who made me lovely cards and took me on special birthday walks—you made my tail wag even more!

Here's to more happy paws and smiles ahead!



HALLOWEEN PA NEWSLETTER

It's been a fantastic couple of months for the Parent's association, with wonderful events, Our Junior Infants Coffee Morning, Preloved Uniform Sale, AGM and the Zombie Walk Fundraiser!

A huge thank you to all the amazing parents who've helped so far-whether you've been welcoming families, sorting and selling uniforms, supporting Road Safety Week, serving tea and coffee, or buying sweets, treats and prizes for the boys.

Your support not only strengthens our school community but also creates such special memories for our boys. The success of the Zombie Walk Fundraiser will help fund all our PA events for the 2025/26 school year-we' are so grateful for your generosity and enthusiasm!

There's lots more fun ahead as we begin planning our Christmas events after Midterm. We'd love for more parents to get involved, every bit of help makes a huge difference

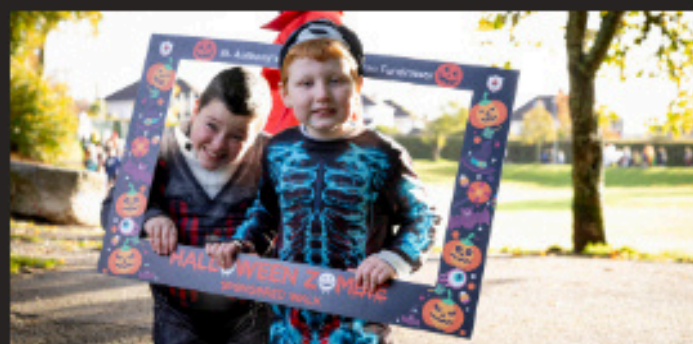
Warm thanks from your 2025/26 PA Committee
Dawn, Máire, Kate, Mary, Paula, Sinead & Davinia



Interested in joining the PA? Chat to your class rep, keep an eye on class messages for events signups or email us at stanthonypa@gmail.com



ZOMBIE WALK



Sláir agus beannacht!



GO RAIBH MÍLE
MAITH AGAT!

Sincere thanks to all who contributed to this issue. We wouldn't have a newsletter without you!

CALLING ALL BUDDING
JOURNALISTS!

Do you have a story idea you think parents and students would like to read? Why not write a draft, hand it up to your teacher and you too could be in the next issue!



For more news..

Keep up to date on latest news in St Anthony's by following us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/StAnthonysBoysSchoolCork/>

and checking out our website
www.stanthonys.ie