



Corridor Echoes

The Official Newsletter of St. Mary's Boys' National School Ferrybank

Volume 19 Issue 4

June 2025

Slán agus Beannacht Libh go Léir!

We were delighted to celebrate our 6th Class Graduation last week with our pupils, parents and teachers. We would like to say a sincere thank you to all our 6th class parents for your support during your son's time in St. Mary's. It is very much appreciated by the school. Such a talented group of young men, we wish you all the very best in the years to come and look forward to hearing about your many achievements. Thanks to all the staff in the school that have worked so closely with you throughout the last 8 years and helped you reach your full potential!



School Calendar and Stationary Lists for each class for 2025/26

Our school calendar for 2025/26 is available on our website www.ferrybankbns.ie or can be accessed by [clicking here](#).

Stationary lists were sent out to parents via Aladdin Connect but can also be accessed on our school website under the parents tab or by [clicking here](#).

Staff for 2025/26

Juniors—Ms. Bulman

Seniors—Ms. Heffernan

1st class—Ms. Walsh

2nd class—Ms. Wemyss

3rd class—Ms. Cummins

4th class—Mrs. Donoghue

5th class—Ms. Power

5th class—Mr. Rynne

6th class—Mr. Fitzgerald

Our Special Education Teaching team includes Ms. Quillinan, Ms. Grant, Ms. Duggan, Ms. Whelan/Ms. Dooley, Ms. Kelly and Ms. Tuohy.

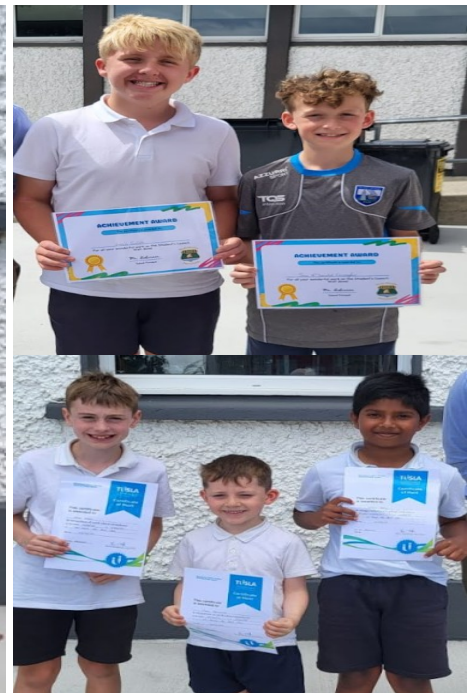
We have two SNAs for the coming year—Mrs. Power and Mr. Murphy.

Walking Tours

Pupils from 4th, 5th and 6th classes went on local walking tours in recent weeks to learn about the history of Ferrybank and Waterford. As always, it was very informative and pupils learned a great deal about their locality.



Pictured above: Funding raised by our Parents' Association was used to update some of our PE equipment in school. A total of €1,333 was spent on the equipment. We are delighted to see it being used so frequently in recent weeks! The Parents' Association also organised a jersey day where €407 was raised. This was used to hire equipment for the sports day and cover costs associated with the 6th class graduation.



End of Year Awards

We had our awards ceremony the last week of June to recognise and celebrate pupils achievement in hurling, Gaelic football, soccer, basketball, attendance and more. We also recognised contributions made by members of our student council and thanked 6th class pupils on the student council. Thanks to all the teachers involved in organising the above committees and to those who are involved with the various sporting events throughout the year. A special mention to Sam McDonald Farragher who won our "Star of the Year award." Comhghairdeas Sam agus maith thú!



World Culture Day: In June, we celebrated all of the different cultures in our school. Pupils wore in traditional clothing, brought in traditional food items which were delicious and we had a cricket match v Mt. Sion. Thanks to all our families for supporting this event and to Ms Tuohy for organising the event!



Bí Cineálta Policy

The Board of Management reviewed and ratified a number of policies at our most recent Board meeting. The Bí Cineálta policy was approved and we would like to thank parents, pupils and staff for their input into the development of this policy and for completing a number of surveys during the year. Our Bí Cineálta Policy can be accessed on our school website under the downloads tab or by [clicking here](#). The policy gives a clear definition of what is considered bullying behaviour and what is not.

When it comes to bullying behaviour occurring online, I'd like to draw parents attention to the following information which can be viewed on page 39 of the Bí Cineálta Procedures. It states:

The digital age of consent is the minimum age a user must be before a social media or internet company can collect, process and store their data. In Ireland the digital age of consent is 16. For the purposes of data collection, students between the age of 13 and 16 years old must have parental permission to sign-up to social media services where companies use the legal basis of consent to collect, process and store users' data. Most social media platforms and services have a minimum age requirement and for the majority of these services it is 13 years' old. Therefore technically, children under the age of 13 should not have a social media account.

We would encourage all parents to read our Bí Cineálta Policy and make themselves familiar with the Bí Cineálta Procedures. These documents make clear what is/is not considered bullying behaviour and they also highlight situations where schools are expected to investigate bullying behaviour (ie when it occurs in school) and when schools do not investigate bullying behaviour (ie bullying behaviour that occurs online or outside of school hours).

Right: A special thank you to Paul Hearne who provided MMA lessons for our pupils in recent weeks. We appreciate Paul giving so freely of his time to the school and we know how much pupils enjoy these lessons at the end of each school year.



Summer Stars Reading Programme

Summer Stars is the public library national summer reading programme for children that runs from the start of June until the end of August. All children throughout the country are invited to join the adventure and to enjoy the fun and pleasure of reading and writing over the summer. Summer Stars is non-competitive and every child who reads even one book/e-book is regarded as having completed the programme – and it's all completely free!

Summer Stars Events

There are Summer Stars events throughout the Summer. Check them out on the [events pages](#) and download a Summer Stars event brochure below:

[2025-Summer-Stars-Programming.pdf \(size 23 MB\)](#)

*“The more that you read, the more things you will know.
The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.”*

Dr. Seuss



End of Year

We would like to wish all of our school community a very happy and safe summer break. Also a sincere thank you to parents, pupils and staff for all of their hard work and support throughout this school year! We look forward to another busy year ahead!



School Uniform and Tracksuit

All pupils, from 2nd—6th class must have a full school uniform and a school tracksuit in September.

Junior Infants, Senior Infants and 1st class only require a school tracksuit. They are not required to wear the school uniform in these classes. There is a great deal of active play in these classes and it was found that pupils are more comfortable and find it easier to engage in this form of learning when in their tracksuit.

Details of school tracksuit and uniform are available on the pupil stationary lists which were shared with parents.

Keep in touch!

To learn more about our school please visit our school website www.ferrybankbns.ie. You'll find plenty of pictures and information about the many activities taking place in our school on a daily basis! The school office will reopen the week before we return in August. Any queries, please forward them to admin@ferrybankbns.ie.

Emergency Works Grant

Our school was successful in securing funding under the emergency works grant scheme to replace sections of concrete which had deteriorated over the years and install handrails. The funding approved came to €37,648 and we look forward to the remainder of the project being completed over the summer months.