



CLONMONEY N.S.

FÉABHRA '26

newsletter



Bunratty, Newmarket-On-Fergus, Co. Clare V95 AH94

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for taking the time to read our *February 2026 Newsletter*, containing all the latest news & updates from the staff and pupils of Clonmoney N.S.

Parent-Teacher Meetings

Thank you to all parents and guardians who attended our Parent-Teacher meetings recently. We greatly value your involvement and partnership in supporting your child's learning and wellbeing, and we hope the meetings were informative and worthwhile. Parents who were unable to attend are very welcome to contact the class teacher to arrange an alternative appointment. Staff email addresses are available on the school website via [this link](#).

[Policy Updates:](#)

Homework Policy

Our updated Homework Policy has recently been reviewed and ratified by the Board of Management. The policy outlines the purpose of homework, realistic expectations at each class level, and the important role of parents in supporting (but not completing) homework. A strong emphasis is placed on balance, wellbeing, and meaningful learning.

Assessment Policy

The revised Assessment Policy sets out how pupil progress is monitored and supported throughout the school year. It explains the range of assessment tools used, how assessment informs teaching and learning, and how information is shared with parents through meetings and school reports. Our *Assessment for Learning* approaches at all class levels have also been reviewed as part of this whole school policy.

Custody & Separation Policy

The updated Custody and Separation Policy provides clear guidance on school procedures where parents/guardians are separated. Its aim is to ensure effective communication, consistency, and—most importantly—the wellbeing of the child, while respecting legal documentation and parental responsibilities. Where there are any changes to family circumstances that may impact on school arrangements or communication, parents are encouraged to contact the school. All matters shared are handled sensitively and in strict confidence.

(All updated policies are available on the [school website](#) and from the office on request.)

Enrolments 2026/27 - Junior Infants Class

A reminder that the closing date for receipt of application forms for our Junior Infant class for the 2026/27 school year is **Friday, 20th February 2026**.

Application forms are available from the school office and on the school website:

<https://clonmoneyns.com/admissions-enrolments/>

GRANDPARENTS DAY 2026



Grandparents' Day - Catholic Schools Week

As part of Catholic Schools Week, our Junior Infant pupils celebrated Grandparents' Day on January 22nd. It was a lovely occasion, filled with smiles, poems, songs and many special moments shared between pupils and their grandparents. Sincere thanks to their class teacher, Mrs Doris Vaughan, to Mrs Ciara McCarthy, who led our musicians, and to Yvonne, our secretary, for her support in organising the celebration. Thank you also to all who joined us and helped make the day such a memorable experience.

Is mise, le fíor mheas,
David McCormack (Príomhoide)



School Closures & Early Closure

A quick reminder that on **Wednesday, 4th February**, our school will be closed for pupils due to a Curriculum Planning Day for staff, organised by Oide in the Clare Education Centre. On **Monday, 23rd February** there will be a half-day closure at **1:30pm** for all pupils to facilitate essential staff training in defibrillator use and manual handling, as part of school health and safety procedures.

Smart Watches & Acceptable Usage

Further to communication issued in January regarding smart watches, we wish to also inform parents that the Dept. of Education has issued guidance requiring all schools to review their Acceptable Usage Policy by the end of February 2026. This follows concerns around emerging technologies, including AI-generated imagery and online safety risks. Our school is currently reviewing the policy in line with this guidance. In addition, the school will be soon moving away from the X (formerly Twitter) platform and migrating to an Instagram account for school communications. We will be in touch with the account details once it is up & running.

Parents' Association Meeting

A Parents' Association meeting will take place on **Thursday, 5th February at 8:00pm** in Room 8 (Ms McCannon's 4th Class). The meeting will focus on events taking place this term, as well as planning for the remainder of the school year. All members are encouraged to attend, and new members are very welcome.

Sports News

Well done to the players of the Cork (1st/2nd boys, 1st -3rd Girls) & Tipperary 3rd/4th boys & 4th 5th girls) teams on winning the lunchtime ground hurling and camogie leagues – a fantastic achievement & such excitement was generated amongst the classes involved. Best of luck to all boys and girls taking part in the indoor camogie and hurling competitions on Wednesday, 11th February in Cratloe & Sixmilebridge halls.

Quiz Teams

Congratulations and well done to Seán Barron, Leighton Quinn, Harry Meehan and Olly Adams, who finished 3rd overall out of 36 schools in the Cumann na mBunscol County Sports Quiz, held in Ennis late last month. The boys narrowly missed out on 2nd place by just one point – a fantastic achievement.

Best of luck also to the members of our U11 (Michael Bon, Molly O'Connor, Luke O'Leary & Eoin Murphy) and U13 (Harry Meehan, Leighton Quinn, Seán Barron & Sophia Moroney) quiz teams, who will compete in the regional Credit Union Quiz on Friday, 6th February at 6:00pm in the Inn at Dromoland.

Daltaí na Seachtaine

Congratulations to all pupils awarded Daltaí na Seachtaine during January. These awards recognise excellent classwork, kindness, and exceptional behaviour. Beau Lynch, Oscar Keane (Juniors); Teddy O'Connor, Aisling Carmody (Seniors); Orla Madden & Harry O'Shea (1st); Charlie Tuffy & Danny O'Rourke (2nd); Oran O'Neill, Isabella Frawley, Mia Farrelly & Joe Heelan (3rd); Grayson Tuohy, Mia Haugh, Katie Woods, Jamie Hartnett, Amy Kelleher & Zeke Clancy (4th); Aoife-Rose Hanley, Tom McHugh, Charlie O'Shea & Annie Tuffy (5th); Paul Moran, Seán Barron, Gearóid Murphy & Róisín Doyle (6th). Well done to all – we are very proud of you.

Local After-School Care

A local home-based childminder has contacted the school regarding availability for childcare and after-school care. If you would like more information or wish to be put in contact with them, please feel free to contact the school office or email us directly

UPCOMING EVENTS, TERM 2 & 3 2026:

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- School Closure for Staff Curricular Training: **Wednesday, February 4th**
 - Parents Association Meeting: **Thur. 5th Feb. @ 8pm in school. (Room 8)**
 - February Mid-Term Break: **Thursday & Friday, 19th & 20th Feb. '26**
 - Early Closure for staff health/safety training: **Mon. 23rd Feb. '26 @ 1:30 pm for all pupils**
 - St. Patrick's Public Holiday Weekend: **Monday, March 16th & Tuesday, March 17th.**
 - First Reconciliation for Communion 2nd Class: **Tuesday, March 24th at 7pm in the Wells.**
 - Ceremony of Light (6th Confirmation Class): **Wed. 25th of March @ 6pm, Newmarket Church**
 - Easter Break: **Fri. 27th March** - closing at **12:00**
 - Easter Holidays: **Monday, March 30th – Friday, April 10th inclusive.**
 - First Holy Communion for 2nd Class: **Saturday, April 25th at 11 am in the Wells.**
 - School Closure for Curricular Staff Training: **Wednesday, May 6th**
 - Confirmation Day for 6th Class: **Friday, May 22nd at 11am in NOF Church**
 - Summer Holidays Begin: **Wednesday, June 24th at 12:00 noon.**
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