



LISNAGRY SCHOOL NEWS

Easter 2025



Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Easter edition of our newsletter! It has been a very busy and exciting time here at Lisnagry NS since the Midterm, with lots of activities taking place throughout the school. We are, as always, extremely grateful for your continued support. Wishing you all a safe, enjoyable, and hopefully sunny Easter break. Beannachtaí na Cásca oraibh go léir!

School Highlights

Sacraments We extend our warmest congratulations to the pupils of 6th Class who made their Confirmation on Friday, April 4th. It was a truly beautiful and special ceremony – a significant milestone on the pupils' faith journey. We are deeply grateful to all who supported and guided them along the way. The sun shone brightly for the occasion, adding to the joy of the day. We are incredibly proud of the boys and girls who put so much effort into making it such a memorable celebration. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make the day so special.

Meanwhile, our 2nd Class pupils are busy preparing for their First Holy Communion, which will take place on May 10th. First Confession takes place tonight 9th April. We wish them well as they continue their preparations for their special day.

Sporting Round-Up This term has been incredibly busy, with an exceptional level of participation across all our sporting disciplines. We've had fantastic numbers representing the school, and we're so proud of all our pupils' efforts.

A huge congratulations to our 5th class girls who won the **County Indoor Camogie**—a fantastic achievement and a testament to their hard work and teamwork. A special mention also goes to our boys' team, who represented the school so well in the divisional stages.

Our 4th and 5th class boys and girls took part in the **INTO Mini Sevens hurling and camogie**, showing great skill and enthusiasm throughout the competitions.

Our 5th and 6th class pupils had a brilliant day at the **FAI 5-a-side soccer competition** in Corbally. They represented the school with pride and really enjoyed the experience. We wish our boys' team the very best of luck as they head into the **County Finals** this week.

Meanwhile, our 6th class pupils have been thoroughly enjoying their **basketball** games, which have recently gotten underway.

Well done to our swimmers also who participated in the Primary Schools Nationals Competition.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to all the staff involved in sport here at Lisnagry. Your dedication and expertise make it all possible, and we truly appreciate the opportunities you provide for our pupils to learn, play, and grow through sport.



Féile Fichille Chess Tournament Our 6th class pupils had a brilliant time at the Féile Fichille in Scoil Íde. They represented Lisnagry in a fun-filled day of concentration at the boards while getting to meet and socialise with children from other schools. Our chess enthusiasts showed great respect and gamesmanship throughout the tournament and there was no shortage of skill and strategy on display too. Maith sibh!

A Marathon Day to Remember! What an incredible day we had for our Whole School Relay Marathon! The energy, excitement, and sense of community were simply unforgettable. From the very first steps to the final lap, our pupils showed determination, teamwork, and pure joy as they completed a full marathon—yes, 42.2 kilometres!—in an impressive 2 hours and 37 minutes.

It was a truly special occasion, and one that will be remembered for years to come. The smiles on the children's faces said it all—they absolutely loved every moment. The event was a celebration of not only physical achievement, but of our wonderful school spirit, and it wouldn't have been possible without the incredible support of the entire school community.

A huge thank you goes to our amazing Parents' Association, who generously gave their time to provide a well-stocked drinks and fruit station that kept our runners refreshed and energised throughout the morning. Your support and encouragement were so appreciated by everyone involved.

We were also honoured to welcome back one of our most distinguished past pupils—Olympian and world-class athlete Sarah Lavin—who officially opened our running track on the day. Having Sarah return to her primary school was both inspiring and heartwarming. She is an outstanding role model for our pupils, demonstrating where passion, commitment, and perseverance can lead. We are so grateful to Sarah for her time, her generosity, and her continued pride in where her journey began.

Since the installation of our running track, it has become a truly transformative feature of our school. Physical activity levels among pupils have soared, with children making use of the track before, during, and after school. It has had an incredibly positive impact on both physical and mental wellbeing—not just for the children, but for the entire school community. The buzz around being active has never been stronger.

As we celebrate the success of our marathon day and our running track, we are also looking ahead with excitement. We can't wait to unveil our new sensory play space—another fantastic addition that will further enhance the inclusive, vibrant, and supportive environment we are so proud of.

Thank you once again to everyone who made this day so memorable. We are proud of our pupils, proud of our school, and proud of the wonderful community that makes it all possible.



Primary Schools Robotics Fifth class B took part in the Analog Devices Primary Schools Robotics competition. Following a 90 minute workshop delivered to the class, they had to construct and program their robotic creations. Well done to the winning team from the day that represented Lisnagry in the semi-finals against teams from across Limerick City and County.

Junior Entrepreneur Programme Over the past few months, 5th Class A have been taking part in the Junior Entrepreneur Programme. This exciting initiative gives 5th class students the opportunity to experience real-life business in a fun and engaging way. Running over a 12 to 16 week period during the school year, the programme encourages creativity, independence, and problem-solving skills, all while seamlessly integrating with the primary school curriculum. 5th Class A have created their very own product- Mystery Sweet Bags. They've brought their product from the idea stage through market research and design to near completion. These hand-designed lucky bags, featuring a mixture of sweets and a collectible character, will be on sale in the school in Term 3, first come first served.

Cycle Safety Training Our 6th class pupils recently completed a fun and informative cycling safety course delivered by ***Like Bikes*** over four, two-hour sessions. This programme follows CYCLE RIGHT, the official National Standard for Cycle Safety Training in Ireland, and was taught by experienced, qualified instructors. The focus throughout the course was on building confidence, control, and awareness, helping our pupils become safer, more independent cyclists. This training supports our school's ongoing commitment to encouraging healthy habits, road safety, and daily physical activity.

Student Council Congratulations to our newly appointed student council in Lisnagry. They are looking forward to representing their classes and working together to help with activities and contributing to important decisions for our school. Well done to all!

No Smartphone Voluntary Code – A Community Effort! We're delighted to have launched our No Smartphone Voluntary Code across our community. This initiative is supported by the three local schools and three local clubs, and we encourage all families to take some time to sit down together, review the code, and consider signing the charter. Although voluntary, we truly hope you will give it thoughtful consideration. Every child has received a copy of the code—please keep it at home and pop it on the fridge as a daily reminder of our shared values. The code is built around three key pillars:

- No smartphones for primary school-age children
- No social media for primary school-age children
- Respect the age ratings on video games

A huge thank you to all the community groups for their support in making this possible.

We believe this voluntary code is a valuable support tool for parents and guardians who may be unsure about when—and if—to introduce personal smartphones and social media to their children. It also opens the door for meaningful conversations at home about digital boundaries and age-appropriate content.

By agreeing collectively to delay the use of smartphones and social media, we can reduce peer pressure, support one another, and create a more balanced digital environment for our children.

Together, we can make a positive difference!



Field Trips Each year, our senior pupils eagerly anticipate engaging field trips and excursions that take them outside the classroom, offering them invaluable real-world experiences. These outings not only bring learning to life but also foster independence, curiosity, and social development.

- 4th Class: The pupils had a fantastic day at King John's Castle. They loved exploring the historic site, learning about its rich past, and even stepping back in time as they uncovered the castle's secrets. Such experiences help students connect historical knowledge with tangible places and events.
- 6th Class: They enjoyed an engaging STEM workshop at MIC, where meeting a robot and experimenting with circuits provided a hands-on approach to learning. This practical exposure reinforces classroom theories and ignites an interest in future technological pursuits.
- 5th Class A&B delved into STEM through Gaeilge in a session at the Craft Maker Space in MIC, where they combined creativity with language skills using Lego and StopMotion. These creative projects are a powerful way to see the direct application of classroom learning in fun, interactive ways.



Cúinne na Gaeilge

A Chairde,

Beatha is sláinte chugaibh! Beannachtaí na féile oraibh ar fad. Friends, greetings to you all, the blessings of the season to everyone.

Bhí cúpla mí gnóthach ag Coiste na Gaeilge. Coiste na Gaeilge had a busy few months. Labhraíomar ag Tionól na Scoile i rith Mhí Eanáir. We spoke at the school assembly during the month of January. Chomh maith leis sin, chaitheamar am ag labhairt as Gaeilge le seantuismitheoirí éagsúla ag Lá na Seantuismitheoirí. As well as that we spent time speaking Gaeilge to various Grandparents at this year's Grandparents Day. Labhraíomar thar an ngléas idirchumarsáide chun tús a chur le himeachtaí Sheachtain na Gaeilge. We spoke over the intercom to start the Seachtain na Gaeilge festivities. Agus bhí lámh lárnach againn in eagrú Sheachtain na Gaeilge i mbliana. And we played a central part in the organising of Seachtain na Gaeilge this year.

Thaitin Seachtain na Gaeilge go mór linn i mbliana. Idir Rás na Stampaí, Craic the Seanfhocal, Glaoch na Gaeilge, Lá na gCluichí Clóis, Paráid na Naíonán, Lá na gCluichí Teangan, Céilí na bPáistí agus Céilí na dTuismitheoirí, bhí am den chéad scoth againn. We really enjoyed Seachtain na Gaeilge this year. Between, Rás na Stampaí, Craic the Seanfhocal, The Irish Phonecall, Our Yard Games Day, The Infants Parade, The Irish Language Games Day, The Children's Céilí agus The Parents Céilí, we had a great time. Táimid ag súil leis an mbliain seo chugainn cheana féin. We are looking forward to next year already.

Bíodh briseadh deas agaibh do bhriseadh na Cásca. Have a lovely break for Easter. Seo cúpla frása deas as Gaeilge daoibh. Here's some phrases as Gaeilge for you all.

- Tá fad breá leis an lá – There's a grand stretch in the evenings
- Tá an aimsir go hálainn faoi láthair. – The weather is lovely at the moment.
- Beannachtaí na Cásca ort. – Happy Easter to you.

Sin a bhfuil go fóill, go dtí an chéad nuacht litir eile. Slán go fóill. That's it for now, until the next newsletter. Bye.



Looking Ahead

New Autism Class Opening in September We are looking forward to opening a new special class for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) this September. Since receiving sanction for the class, our team has been actively planning and preparing to ensure everything is in place to give our new pupils the best possible start. This is a wonderful and important development for our school, and for families in the local and the surrounding areas. Supporting children with autism in a local setting is something we're deeply committed to, and we see this as a positive step toward greater inclusion. We're especially excited to further develop an autism-friendly culture within Lisnagry—one where every child feels understood, accepted, and supported. Our staff are looking forward to this new beginning, and to working closely with parents and the wider community as we embark on this journey together.

Bí Cineálta At Lisnagry, we are committed to fostering a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment for all our students. We are proud of the progress we have made over the years in promoting anti-bullying initiatives and are eager to continue building on this strong foundation. In line with Cineáltas: Action Plan on Bullying—which calls for a whole-education approach to preventing and addressing bullying in all schools across Ireland by September 2025—we are pleased to share that our Bí Cineálta plan is well underway and on track for implementation by that date. We are now at an advanced stage in this process, having actively listened to the voices of our pupils and engaged all staff throughout this term. We plan to publish a draft of our Bí Cineálta policy after the Easter break, giving parents the opportunity to review and provide feedback. The insights and input of our entire school community are vital as we work together to strengthen our anti-bullying strategies and bring the Bí Cineálta vision to life.

Term 3

School Calendar 2025/26

We will return to school on Thursday 28th August. The school calendar will be available to view on our website shortly.

School Closures next term

Monday 5th May Bank Holiday

Friday 30th May and Monday 2nd June Bank Hol.

Tuesday 24th June School Closes Summer hols.

School Tours

Junior and Senior Infants are going to Free Range Kids on Thursday 29th May.

1st & 2nd Class are going to Fun Academy in Roscrea on Wednesday 4th June.

3rd & 4th Class are going to the Aquadome/Wetlands in Tralee on Thursday 22nd May.

5th & 6th Class are going to ULAC Adventure Centre in Killaloe on Thursday 22nd May.

Further details including costs to follow.

Best wishes,
Michael Feeney



No Smartphone Voluntary Code

"Free from smartphones, free from social media and free to be kids."

The three local schools in the parish (Lisnagry, Abnagga and Carrigrohane) N.S.s with the support of their Parents Associations and Abnagga GAA, Lisnagry FC and UL Bohu are launching the "No Smartphone Voluntary Code" for the children in these three schools.

The charter has three pillars:

- 1) No smartphones for primary school-age children.
- 2) No social media for primary school-age children.
- 3) Respect the age ratings on video games.

