



Easter Newsletter #27 2026

Tuesday 24th of March 2026

School Information



School email : info@scoiliosaoranmore.ie

School phone number campus 1 or campus 2: 091790312

Principal: Maeve Meenaghan

Deputy Principal: Ber Keane

Child safeguarding DLP : Maeve Meenaghan

Easter Greetings

As we come to the end of a wonderfully busy second term, we want to wish you and your families a very happy and restful Easter.

This term has been filled with energy, pride, and achievement. From Literacy Week and Féile Drámaíocht, to Confirmation, Credit Union Quizzes, Debating Competitions, and a fantastic array of sporting and music events – our students have embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm and heart. We are so proud of the rich and varied learning experiences they enjoy and it is a joy to see them thrive.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of our incredible staff, who consistently go above and beyond in everything they do. Their commitment to our students is truly remarkable, and we are deeply grateful for them.

Thank you, too, to each of you – our parents and guardians – for your continued support and engagement. Your partnership with us makes all the difference.

We wish everyone a peaceful and happy Easter break. We look forward to welcoming our students back refreshed and ready for what promises to be an equally exciting third term.

Easter Holidays

The school will close for Easter Holidays on Friday the 27th of March and will reopen on Monday the 13th of April 2026.

We will be staggering home times on Friday the 27th of March: Special classes will finish at 11:45 a.m.

Junior and Senior Infants will finish at 11:50 a.m. and should be collected as usual from designated pick-up areas.

All other classes finish at 12 o'clock.



School Uniform -Shorts



We would like to remind everyone that it is important for all children to be dressed in full school uniform at all times while in school. As part of our uniform policy, only the approved school shorts are permitted. These are navy shorts that come just above the knee and can be purchased from the School Wear Centre in Liosban or GM Schoolwear in Claregalway. They may also be purchased in Dunnes etc.

Thank you for your cooperation in ensuring that our students maintain a consistent and appropriate school uniform.

School Calendar 2026/2027

School Calendar
2026 – 2027



Term 1

School re-opens: Thursday 27th of August 2026

Mid-term Break: Monday 26th - Friday 30th October 2026

Christmas Holidays: Wednesday the 23rd of December 2026

Term 2

School re-opens: Wednesday the 6th of January 2027

Bank Holiday: Monday 1st of February 2027

Mid-term Break: Thursday 18th & Friday 19th of February 2027

Bank Holiday: Tuesday 17th March 2027

Easter Holidays: Closing Friday 19th of March 2027

Term 3

School re-opens: Monday 5th of April 2027

Bank Holiday: Monday 3rd of May 2027

School closes: Tuesday 4th - Friday 7th of May 2027

Bank Holiday: Monday 7th of June 2027

Summer Holidays: Friday 25th of June 2027

**Staff Meeting in Term 1, Term 2 & Term 3 - to be scheduled. Parents will receive advance notice.
First Holy Communion & Confirmation - Dates to be confirmed.**

The Department of Education discourages the practice of withdrawing children from school to go on holidays or any other unnecessary absences.

Please schedule regular appointments outside of school hours to avoid distraction.

Lego

If you have any unused LEGO pieces at home, we would be delighted to give them a new life here at the school.

These items will be used during indoor playtimes and in classrooms to support creativity, teamwork and problem-solving skills among the children in all classes, from Infants to 6th.



If you are able to donate, please ensure that items are clean and in good condition. We don't need complete sets as the children will use whatever we receive in creative ways to make their own designs. Donations can be dropped to either campus at your convenience over the coming weeks.

We truly appreciate your generosity and support in helping us create a fun and engaging environment for all our pupils.

Thank You!

A sincere thank you for your wonderful support in celebrating World Down Syndrome Day in our school.

Thanks to your generosity, we raised an incredible **€819 for Down Syndrome Galway**. We truly appreciate the effort made by families in supporting the day, from wearing bright and odd socks to helping raise awareness around this year's theme.



Your continued support makes a real and meaningful difference to our school community and beyond.

Chess Tournament

Well Done to the pupils who represented the school at a chess tournament last week.



The Convention on Education

The Convention on Education is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to look at what is working in education, what needs to change, and what should be prioritised for the future.

Its recommendations will help inform a new long-term strategy for education in Ireland: **Our Schools, Our Future**.

Dearbhla Burke, a third class pupil had the opportunity to attend the Convention on Education last weekend in Athlone

CONVENTION ON EDUCATION

THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION IS NOW UNDER DISCUSSION

Parents, children, educators & stakeholders are helping shape what education in Ireland could look like for the next generation.

WHAT IS IT?

A major new process to decide the future of education in Ireland.

WHAT HAPPENED SO FAR?

- First meeting held 21–22 March 2026.
- More meetings through the year.

WHY IT MATTERS FOR PARENTS

Decisions made here could influence education for **YEARS TO COME**.

KEY ISSUES BEING DISCUSSED



Wellbeing & Mental Health



Curriculum & Assessment



Inclusion & Additional Needs



Technology & AI



Early Years to Post-Primary



Transitions to Further & Higher Ed.

NPC'S ROLE

Our survey represented parents. NPC CEO Áine Lynch is at the table.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

9–10 MAY 2026

26–27 SEPT 2026

14–15 NOV 2026

WHAT KIND OF EDUCATION DO WE WANT FOR THE NEXT 10, 20, 30 YEARS?

Parents have a voice in shaping that future.



Dearbhla Burke

Chosen as one of the 150 people - she is part of the students group age 8-24 years old.



Dearbhla had the opportunity on stage to present with Professor Anne Looney, Chairperson of the Convention - on the principles that will be embedded throughout the convention dates.

Starcamp

Link to information on the Starcamp taking place in Oranmore in July and August.



Scoil Íosa