



**Abbeyleix South
National School**
Scoil Náisiúnta Mainistir Laoise Theas

Newsletter

Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

As we move into December, there is a wonderful Christmas atmosphere throughout the school. Classrooms are filled with creativity, music and excitement as pupils prepare for the festive season. We are especially looking forward to our upcoming Nativity Play. Just before we head off on our holidays we will celebrate Christmas Spirit Week, with fun themed days to bring extra joy to our school community.

Regards, Geraldine Whiteford.



- **Child Protection Training (School Closed)**

Tuesday 9th December 2025

- **Nativity Play Dress Rehearsal**

Wednesday 10th December 2025

- **School Nativity Play at St. Michael and All Angels' Church**

Thursday 11th December 2025 6.30pm

- **Christmas Spirit Week in School**

15th – 19th December 2025

- **Christmas Holidays**

Friday 19th December 2025 closing at 12 noon.



Our newly formed Student Council has been working diligently over the past number of weeks. At a recent meeting, members elected a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.

Chairperson: Ella

Secretary: Annie

Treasurer: Hugh

These positions will be held for a number of months to allow other council members the opportunity to gain experience in these leadership roles later in the year.

The council has already held several productive meetings. Students have discussed a wide range of topics related to school life, and it is wonderful to see classes engaging so positively with their representatives. Council members have shown great respect and maturity in expressing the views and concerns of their peers.

As part of our work, the council also reviewed the **RSE and SPHE policies**, offering feedback from the student body as these important policies undergo review.

We were delighted to link up with the School Wellbeing Committee, and together we have organised a **Christmas-Themed School Spirit Week**. The Student Council is very excited for the upcoming celebrations and the festive atmosphere it will bring to the school.

Child Protection Information:

Designated Liaison Person:

Geraldine Whiteford

Deputy Liaison Person:

Orla Mythen



Congratulations to Olly on his success in the annual Credit Union Art Competition.



Visit Our **WEBSITE**

We encourage all parents to take some time to become familiar with our school website. abbeyleixsouthns.ie We have a dedicated **Parents' Corner**, where you can easily access helpful curricular information and other useful resources.

This section is designed to keep you informed and support you in staying connected with your child's learning.

Why not take a look and explore what's new?

Our Wellbeing

Months

September	October	November	December
Friendship 	Empathy 	Kindness 	Gratitude
January Healthy Body / Healthy Mind (Mindfulness) 	February In My Heart - (Love) 	March Assertiveness 	April Our Emotions - Inside Out
May Out and About (appreciating our environment) 	June Summer Self Care 		

Our Wellbeing Committee continues to work hard to promote a positive, supportive atmosphere throughout the school. At a recent meeting, members elected a **Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer**.

Chairperson: Marie

Secretary: Ana Sophia/Eve

Treasurer: Amelia

These roles will be held for a number of months, similar to the Student Council, ensuring that other members will also have the opportunity to gain valuable leadership experience later in the year.

As part of our work this term, the committee also reviewed the **SPHE and RSE policies**, providing feedback and student perspectives as these important policies undergo review.

We have returned to our school **monthly wellbeing focus**, with a specific goal highlighted each month to encourage whole-school engagement and reflection.

Our Wellbeing Committee will play a key role in promoting each wellbeing theme. They will help share our monthly focus through whole-school announcements, classroom visits and by encouraging students to take small, meaningful actions that support their own wellbeing and the wellbeing of others.

We are also **delighted to be working closely with the Student Council** as we prepare for our upcoming **Christmas Spirit Week**. This collaboration ensures that both committees are united in promoting positivity, inclusiveness, and festive fun throughout the school. Together, we aim to create a warm and joyful atmosphere for all students and staff.

For the month of **December**, our wellbeing focus is **"Gratitude."** As the Christmas season approaches, it is a fitting time to pause and appreciate the people, moments, and opportunities that bring joy to our lives. Classes will be invited to take part in simple gratitude activities and to notice the positive things happening around them each day.

We look forward to a warm and thoughtful month ahead as we celebrate the spirit of gratitude in our school community.



GAA Coaching – Mondays with Seán

We are delighted to welcome **Seán from GAA School Training**, who will be working with our pupils over the coming weeks. Seán will be teaching and developing football skills through fun, engaging activities that support teamwork, fitness and confidence.

Our classes are already looking forward to their Monday coaching sessions with Seán, and we are excited to see the children enjoy and progress in their football skills.

Here's to many active and enjoyable Mondays ahead!



in Mrs. Mythen's Classroom



ABBEYLEIX SOUTH NATIONAL SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT WEEK



organised by our
student council and Wellbeing Committee



15th DEC- 19th DEC

MONDAY



CHRISTMAS PYJAMA DAY

**Wear your favourite
Christmas pyjamas to school.**

TUESDAY



HOT CHOCOLATE AND BAKE SALE DAY

Let's raise funds for PATH (Portlaoise Action to Homelessness)
and also for SPRING GARDENING SEEDS AND EQUIPMENT FOR SCHOOL.
All baked goods made in school by our council and committee members.



WEDNESDAY



CHRISTMAS JUMPER AND

**DROP EVERYTHING AND DANCE DAY
WEAR YOUR FAVOURITE CHRISTMAS JUMPER
TO SCHOOL AND LET'S DANCE.**

THURSDAY



**SANTA PUZZLES AND
TREASURE HUNT DAY**

Get into the Christmas Spirit today.



FRIDAY



SANTA HAT AND MOVIE DAY

Let's chill out and enjoy a Christmas Movie today.