

**Academic year target: 93%****Year to date: 93.8%****October 2023: 93.2%**

### Parent Teacher Meetings

Parent Teacher meetings will take place this Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The Final day to book appointments is today, Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November via Aladdin Connect.



Parents should note the following arrangements:

- Access to the school is through the main door – this will be open on both days
- Each meeting lasts for 10-minutes. Teachers will make efforts to stick to the schedule, parents' cooperation on this is appreciated
- Phones should be switched off for meetings
- There is no consent given for audio or video recording of parent-teacher meetings
- The astro pitch, outdoor classroom and yard are out of bounds during the meetings
- Teacher organised after school activities will not take place on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>
- There is no parking on school grounds for the meetings. Parking is permitted for after school and community activities using the school building

**Important:** The school will close early, at **2:45pm on both 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> November** for pupils in 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Class. Pupils in Junior and Senior Infants will finish at the regular time of 2pm on both days.

### Enrolments



The school will begin accepting applications for Junior Infants and Croí na Coille on Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> December. The deadline for applications is Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

The school's Annual Admissions Notice, Admissions Policy and Enrolment Form can be found here:

<http://maynoothbns.ie/enrolment>

Applications must be completed in full and be returned by post, email ([schooloffice@maynoothbns.ie](mailto:schooloffice@maynoothbns.ie)) or in person to the office with supporting documentation.

### Contacting your son's teacher

If you wish to contact your son's teacher you can phone or email the school office to leave a message and the teacher will contact you. Alternatively, parents can write a note in the child's homework journal or pop a note into your son's homework folder (infant classes).



### News

It has been a busy few weeks for the PTA working on the Christmas cards - what wonderful artwork by the boys! We hope to have the cards going home towards the end of this week. Thank you to all the parents for supporting this fundraiser. Next, we are organising a visit from the big man himself before the Christmas holidays.



Many thanks for those who attended our AGM on the 13th November. We would love to get some feedback on when is the best time to hold our AGM to increase numbers in attendance. It is a great opportunity for the school community to hear about the work of the PTA and how we add to the boys' experience in St Marys. If you have any thoughts on this or anything else, please drop us an email on [bnspta614@gmail.com](mailto:bnspta614@gmail.com).

### **Board of Management 2023 – 2027**

A new board of management will take up office on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023. The members of the board are:

Manus McCarron – Patron's Nominee (Chairperson)

Hilary Qualter – Patron's Nominee (Treasurer)

Daniel Kirwan – Principal (Secretary)

Cathal McGeady – Teacher Nominee

Edwina Steele – Parent Nominee

Niall Mulhare – Parent Nominee

Triona Stokes – Community Nominee

Barry Stoneham – Community Nominee

Outgoing members, Claire Minnock, Leanne Meehan, Jim Hoare and Moss Garde are thanked for their contribution to the school while serving on the board of management.

### **Early Collections from School**

The Board of Management has amended the policy on early collections from the school. Collections of pupils must be by an adult (over the age of 18).

### **Maynooth BNS on Instagram**

We are making the move from X (previously Twitter) to Instagram. Follow us here

<https://www.instagram.com/maynoothbns/>. We are still finding our way around the new platform but we'll keep you up-to-date with all that is happening at the school.

### **Per Cent for Art**

Following visits to the school and work with the boys during a residency, artists Maree Hensey and Mark Ryan have designed and built a beautiful sculpture for the school. The sculpture will be installed at the front of the school in the coming weeks.

### **Christmas Dates**

The annual **Christmas Jumper Day** is on **18<sup>th</sup> December 2023**. Pupils are encouraged to wear something festive on the day. We will be collecting donations for the Children's Health Foundation Christmas Appeal (<https://www.childrenshealth.ie/>). We suggest a donation of €2 per pupil. Donations are on a voluntary basis.



Our **Christmas Carol Service** will be held on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 11am** in St Mary's Church. Due to the number of pupils involved, the event is not open to parents or other guests to attend. However, the parish webcam will allow parents, grandparents and other family members to tune into this special event.

The **Junior Infant Nativity Play** will be held in **St Mary's Church on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 11am**.

Parents of pupils in Junior Infants are invited to attend. The teachers will be in contact with parents in due course.

## Christmas Eve Children's Prayer Service at St Mary's Church, Maynooth

This Christmas Eve we will celebrate with a prayer service specifically for children in the church at **4pm**. The children are invited to join us in celebrating the birth of Jesus by bringing along a Happy Birthday Card to the service. They are also welcome to arrive dressed up as angels and shepherds.

The children will take part in a procession of light and the story of the Peace Light from Bethlehem will be told. A Nativity play will also be acted out and a range of festive songs and hymns will be sung by the children's choir.

Everyone is welcome to attend and if you would also like your child to participate in the service please send a message with your details to Gertie O'Brien on 087 742 7463.

Children who will have roles in the Nativity play will need to attend the rehearsals which will be held in the church on **Friday 15th December** at **3.15 pm** and on **Friday 22nd December** at **12.15pm**.

Wishing you a very blessed and joyful Christmas.

*Fr Frank*



### Halloween Best Dressed Prize Winners

Acorns Oaks	Ms O'Regan Ms Toolan	Cillian McKeivitt Reiss McCarthy
Junior Infants (a) Junior Infants (b) Junior Infants (c)	Ms Sims Ms Cullen Ms McLaughlin	Markus O'Connor Robbie Dowling Bobby Carolan
Senior Infants (a) Senior Infants (b) Senior Infants (c)	Ms Nicholl Ms Murphy Ms McGahon	Leon Levins Adam Corcoran Michael Moriarty
1 <sup>st</sup> Class (a) 1 <sup>st</sup> Class (b) 1 <sup>st</sup> Class (c)	Ms Gillen Ms Patten Ms Wemyss	Eirik Brady Daniel Carter Finn O'Toole
2 <sup>nd</sup> Class (a) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class (b) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class (c)	Ms Harkin Ms O'Brien Mr Garvey	Donnacha Healy Charlie Kinsella Joe Lawrence
3 <sup>rd</sup> Class (a) 3 <sup>rd</sup> Class (b) 3 <sup>rd</sup> Class (c)	Ms Knight Ms Mahon Ms Daly	Rian Cotter Fionn Hackett Killian Breen
4 <sup>th</sup> Class (a) 4 <sup>th</sup> Class (b) 4 <sup>th</sup> Class (c)	Ms Griffin Ms Meehan Mr Davis	Daniel O'Toole Ollie Collins Logan McGrath
5 <sup>th</sup> Class (a) 5 <sup>th</sup> Class (b) 5 <sup>th</sup> Class (c)	Mr McGrath Mr McBrearty Ms Lamb	Tymon Malak Dylan McGovern Evan Donlon
6 <sup>th</sup> Class (a) 6 <sup>th</sup> Class (b) 6 <sup>th</sup> Class (c)	Ms McMahan Mr McGeady Ms Lynch	Benjamin Davey Osmic Evan Grant Oliver Crossley



### **Best Pumpkin Prize winners**

Junior Infants	Leo He Xuan Wang
Senior Infants	Ethan Ryan
1 <sup>st</sup> Class	Cormac Briody
2 <sup>nd</sup> Class	Jack Lacey Leonard
3 <sup>rd</sup> Class	Lance Reguine
4 <sup>th</sup> Class	Keelan Cormican
5 <sup>th</sup> Class	Adam McGrane
6 <sup>th</sup> Class	Iarlaith Geraghty

### **Dates for your Diary**

Parent Teacher Meetings	28 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2023
Christmas Jumper Day	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December
Christmas Carol Service	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December
Junior Infants Nativity	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December
Christmas Holidays	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December Closing @ 12 Noon
School re-opening	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024