



Scoil Bhríde
Nurney, Co. Kildare
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www.nurneyns.com
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17th December 2025
Dear Parents/Guardians

Principals Christmas Message

Please find the Principal's Christmas message on the reverse of this note

Christmas Jumper Day!

Thursday, December 18th we invite all pupils, if they so wish, to wear a Christmas jumper in our school



3rd class Swimming payment due!



A six-week course of swimming classes in K-Leisure Athy for 3rd class started on November 5th.

Payment of 80 Euro from each 3rd class pupil is now due. So we can pay the bus, pool and instructors

Thank you to all who have paid in full to date.

A six-week course of swimming in K-Leisure Athy for all other senior classes will start as follows:

6th class – January 7th 2026

4th class – April 15th 2026



Drum lessons payment due – all pupils



A 4-week course of drumming classes for all pupils with a specialist instructor started on November 7th.

Payment of 8 Euro from each class pupil is now due. So we can pay the instructor.

Thank you to all who have paid in full to date.

Parents Association Bun sale

A massive thank you to all the children and their parents for supporting last week's bun sale which raised €840 for the Parents Association.

Home Learning page on our school website

If your child has to isolate and stay out of school due to sickness, please go to the following link on our school website to access the school work they would be doing at that time in class <https://www.nurneyns.com/home-learning>



Dates for your diary

- End of Term School Mass – Tuesday December 16th @ 11:30am in School Hall.
- School will close for Christmas on Friday December 19th for all pupils at 12.30pm. Buses have been told. The school will re-open on Monday January 5th 2026 for all pupils at 9.20am
- Annual School Book Fair – March 5th and 6th 2026
- The Parish office wishes to inform you that Confirmation for families with children in 6th class will be April 25th 2026 @ 11:30am in Nurney Church
- The Parish office wishes to inform you that Communion for families with children in 2nd class will be May 23rd 2026 @ 11am in Nurney Church

Wednesday Note and school information also available

on www.nurneyns.com

Thank you for your co-operation with the above.

Dr. Vinny Thorpe – Principal

*Ed.D (SL) M.Ed (SL), MA.Comp.Mus, H.Dip.Prim.Ed,
H.Dip.Mus.Tech, P.Grad.Dip.Ed.St(SEN),
B.Mus.Ed(H.Dip.Ed), Dip.Mus.Ed, T.Dip.ICT*



Principal's Christmas Message

I wish all our Scoil Bhríde Nurney parents, pupils, staff, Board of Management and friends a safe, happy and holy Christmas. I would like to acknowledge the contribution of staff, parents, pupils and the wider Nurney community to Scoil Bhríde in 2025. Walt Disney once said *'You can dream, create, design and build the most wonderful ideas in the world, but it requires people to make the dream a reality'*. This is certainly the case as a principal. The reality is that the learning experiences and projects that have taken place this year could not have happened without the commitment and support of school staff, parents, pupils and wider Nurney Community. Thank you to everyone for following ALL Public Health advice to help keep us safe in our school. We look forward to your continued help in this regard in the New Year ahead.

I wish to applaud the staff for the way in which they have carried out our **core function** of implementing the Primary School Curriculum with positivity and enthusiasm. I feel very privileged to be a part of a school with such highly capable and committed teachers, SNAs and support staff. I cannot thank the staff enough for supporting each other and keeping our school operational in the midst of a teacher recruitment crisis. One of the critical factors of any successful school of course is its staff. There has never been a time when working in a school has been more demanding and challenging. To our teachers, SNAs and support staff, thank-you for your energy, passion, enthusiasm and commitment to the teaching and learning of our pupils and to keep each other going.

Well done one and all!

What a privilege it has been to be able to witness the joy on our pupil's faces with the understanding or satisfaction of a problem solved, or the wonder of living new adventures through the world of literature. Our staff members recognise and applaud just how hard their pupils have worked this year. We celebrate our pupil's achievements, be they great or small and we share with pride, the progress our pupils have made with their learning. Not a week goes by that we are not as a school celebrating the successes of our pupils.

Well done boys and girls!

Every day we welcome and appreciate the support that you have given as parents and guardians to your child(ren) as they enter our classrooms. Thank you for helping us to give your child the best start in lifelong learning by ensuring that your children arrive on time each day, ready and prepared to learn, dressed in the correct uniform, with a full and nutritious healthy lunch, ensuring that every child in our classrooms are offered a unique and enjoyable learning experience, based on their individual needs, allowing them to grow strong and resilient, to stand on their own two feet and develop their talents within a team learning environment for the benefit of themselves and their community.

Thank you for all your kind words of support to staff and understanding as, with often limited resources, we try to implement policies designed and created by others far from our daily lived reality. We will always endeavour to do our best with what we are given.

In Scoil Bhríde we are looking forward to a faith filled and safe year in 2026 and to your continued support throughout. Now, as the months go by, the work gets a little bit harder and a little bit more will be expected from each child. Basically, we want each child to do their very best at all times, make an honest effort in everything they do, treat everyone with respect and behave properly at all times so that everyone can benefit from each day they spend in our school.

We hope the 2026 school year will be a happy one for your child but if, at any time during the year, you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to speak to the class teacher.

As a school community we also treasure the opportunities where we worship and pray together and celebrate in our school assemblies. It is through these opportunities that we experience the message that God loves us in creative and engaging ways.

When I reflect on my time this year as principal of what I consider to be a lovely school, I have many fond memories. The road has had bumps and challenges along the way. However, the rewards have far outweighed the challenges. All the experiences of this past year have contributed in some way to learning for us all. In our school we learn through loving and living. In the interest of wellbeing and improved learning outcomes, we have learned of a strong need to refocus more on our core function of teaching and learning by developing more sustainable work practices and creating a calmer school environment. We look forward to this task even more in the year ahead.

Thank-you to all the Scoil Bhríde families who continue to promote Scoil Bhríde in a positive manner.

God Bless you. Merry Christmas to all and have a happy and holy holiday season. Keep safe.

Nollaig faoi shéan is faoi mhaise daoibh go léir. Le gach dea ghuí Dr. Vinny Thorpe – Principal

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