

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2025

NEWTOWNWHITE
EDUCATE TOGETHER
NATIONAL SCHOOL



Message from Caroline:

I would like to thank every person who has contributed to the school in any way over the past year. We are enormously proud to see our school growing and we have 9 Junior Infants coming to us in September! The children are a credit to their families and I wish you all a safe, healthy and happy summer break! Go raibh míle maith agaibh.

We look forward to welcoming all children back to school at 8:50 am on Thursday 28th August!

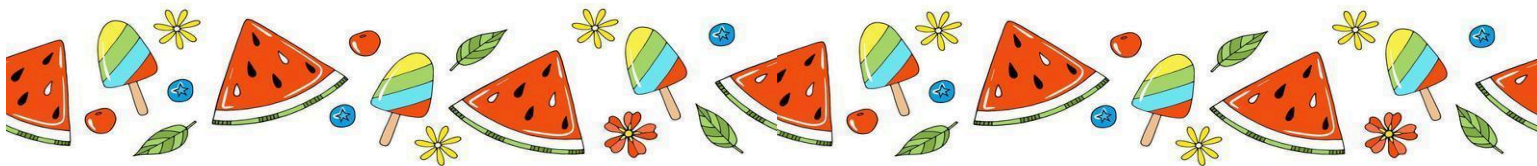
Reminders:

Our school opening times are:

- **8:50 am – 1:30 pm daily (For Junior & Senior Infant pupils)**
- **8:50 am – 2:30 pm daily (For 1st – 6th Class pupils)**

Please note: Junior Infants will be going home at 12pm on Thursday 28th & Friday 29th August 2025 and again from Monday 1st Sept - Friday 5th Sept 2025.





Our 2025/2026 Calendar can be found on:

www.newtownwhiteetns.com

Breakfast Club & Afterschool Club

Breakfast Club:

8:15am - 8:50am daily

Breakfast such as cereal, toast and juice can be availed of.

The fee is **€3** per child per morning.

Afterschool:

Mondays - Fridays: 1:30pm - 2:30pm (*Junior & Senior Infants*)

Mondays - Fridays: 2:30pm - 4:30pm (*All Pupils*)

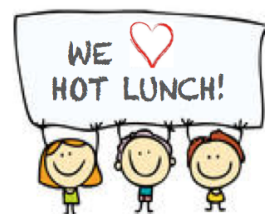
The fee for this service is **€5** per hour per child.

Contact Sarah in the office on **096 32728** or newtownwhite@gmail.com for further information on either of these services.



Hot Meals:

Hot lunches will be provided by local company, Martina's Homemade Foods. We hope to roll out the hot meals programme again in Newtownwhite ETNS starting from Monday 15th Sept 2025. Children are asked to bring in a lunch from home daily until 15th Sept 2025. Please note children should bring a snack every day for their small break.



Department of Education Book Grant Funding:

All pupils will be provided with school books in September 2025. Parents will however need to purchase some stationery for the children and a list of the stationery required will be sent out on an Aladdin message this week.



BAKE SALE

Parent Association Bake Cake



A big thanks to our PA who held a very successful Bake Sale on Saturday 19th April 2025. They raised over €1,000 and the money raised will go towards school resources. For this, we are very grateful.





Sports Day:

Our annual sports day was held on Tuesday 10th June 2025 in The Tom Ruane Park in Ballina. The sun was

splitting the stones which was fantastic! We were joined by a number of people who kindly volunteered to help us organise the sporting competitions and events on the day.

We had a visit from an ice cream van come along too!

The Green Team were the overall winners of the Olympic Values competition this year. Congratulations to the team members: co-captains Hannah & Maria, and to Alex, Riain, Cillian, Tadhg, Lachlan & Ava! Children thoroughly enjoyed the outdoor activities, novelty games and running races. We were very proud of the leadership skills demonstrated by our outgoing Sixth Class pupils.



School Tour:

The children and staff went to the Let's Go Camp in Sligo IT on Monday 16th June 2025 for their annual school tour. It was very exciting for our pupils to travel so far and have a day filled with sporting challenges and activities.

Tennis Lessons:



Many of our pupils from Junior Infants up to 6th Class took part in 6 tennis lessons at Ballina Tennis Court during the months of May & June. We were so proud to see how much they enjoyed learning this sport & we hope they keep it up! Thank you to Artur for his excellent coaching.

GAA Coaching:



Thank you to Michael Fitzmaurise for organising our weekly GAA basic skills and fundamentals coaching for the pupils in our school. Our coach this year was Adam Bourke from Westport. He encouraged children to participate and provided opportunities for those who have never played before.



Music

Music Generation continued this year. Children in the Junior Room worked on body percussion, song singing, rhythm and performance, including use of percussion instruments this year with Jessica and Dennis. 2nd - 6th Class children continued with the ukulele and there was a celebration morning showcasing all they have covered throughout the year. Accompanied by Jessica & Dennis, the children were brilliant!



Drama

Martha O' Shaughnessy kindly came in and facilitated a drama session with the Middle Room on Tuesday 17th June 2025. They explored a story of a refugee cat and explored the locations the cat could be, including Istanbul and Greece. Thank you for this voluntary work Martha!



Flowers / Gardening:

A special word of thanks to Emma & Shaun who kindly volunteered time to plant some lovely flowers in the bedding at the front of our school. Also a special word of thanks to Chelsea for the window boxes which many people complimented on Graduation Day. Adrian has been kept very busy keeping our vegetable garden fresh and cared for. We hope to get cooking in September with our home grown veggies! Mark has kindly kept watch and worked on our school garden and yard over the past year. Many thanks for this. Many hands make light work!



Junior Entrepreneur

Following the adjudication of the children's business ideas, "The Brownie Company" was announced as the winning company. The company went on to be a massive success and made an overall profit of €284.00. The children decided to use their profits to fund a celebratory Pizza Party to celebrate the success of their business. And they divided the remaining funds evenly among themselves. What a lovely success story!

Sixth Class Day Trip:



Our annual 6th class trip took place on Monday 23rd June. All of our 6th class pupils enjoyed a day out in Ballina Town with Caroline & Siobhán. They had the opportunity to spend some pocket money in Pennys and Sports Direct, eat a fancy lunch in Jalan Jalan, followed by a quick stop off at Timmy McGraths for a few sweets before the day was over. We even managed a quick trip to the playground!



Sixth Class Graduation

We bid farewell to our pupils Frank, Dara, Lily, Hannah, Emma, Isabel & Maria on Tuesday 24th June 2025.



We marked the end of an era for six of our seven graduates - the last of their family in Newtownwhite ETNS!

Thank you to our Parents Association for purchasing the personalised hoodies for each of our 6th class pupils.

The children sang the graduation song, "I lived", for the families and we had our annual sports awards also. Congratulations to these amazing children.

We wish you every success in your next chapter!



Ice-Cream Van Visit!

A massive thank you to John Joyce who kindly sponsored us with some ice cream cones for everyone!!



Upkeep of School:

Painting: We would really appreciate it if any parents or friends in our community would have time to spare to offer their help in painting the outside of our school during the summer holidays. It would really brighten up our school to pupils, staff, visitors and passers-by.

We need to try to remove the old wooden shed from the children's play area and fix/remove the fencing surrounding it. If there is anyone who could spare a few hours and have the tools to do this, it would be much appreciated.

Please send a message to 086 7933559 if you are able to help at some stage in August. Many thanks!



Our Mission Statement:



"In our small school with big hearts and big dreams, we nurture happy children in a warm, playful, and positive atmosphere filled with grá. We celebrate diversity and inclusion, ensuring a voice for all in a safe, welcoming space where every child is accepted, valued, and supported. Rooted in kindness and community, we help each child grow with confidence and joy—where learning and wellbeing go hand in hand."

School's Out For Summer!

Thank you to all of our wonderful families for the support & kindness you've shown during the year. We hope you have a wonderful summer. See you after the break!

