

St Anne's School Newsletter

Term 1



It's been an exciting first term back at St. Anne's! This year, we welcomed 14 new students, including our Junior Infants who are settling wonderfully into their first year.

We're also thrilled to share news of important staff developments: this is our first year with an Administrative Deputy Principal, Paul Kelly, who has transitioned from classroom teaching to the office. Paul's role, part of a new co-leadership model, is being supported by the Caidrimh programme for school leaders. We look forward to sharing more updates as our school leadership team continues to develop.

Additionally, we are proud to have been chosen to trial a pilot transition support programme through the NCSE. Our teacher, Leomi Mulhern, has dedicated hours to work with our school leavers as they prepare for their transition from post-primary education. This new initiative is being piloted in a small number of schools, and we are excited to be among the first to take part.



Autumn/Halloween

Prior to the midterm break our classes enjoyed plenty of autumn and Halloween activities including a disco in the hall and Fancy dress on the last day.



Hot School Meals

If you choose to avail of this the Hot Meals please be advised you must still send in a drink and a morning snack for your child each day.



School Website

The school website continues to be updated with additional policies being uploaded into this area of the website and as reviewed and renewed by the BOM

Messages for Parents

We kindly ask all parents to ensure that their contact information remains up to date and that they have installed the Aladdin Connect app, which we use for school notices and important information. The app also includes the school calendar, which provides details on school closures and other key dates throughout the year. Thank you for helping us keep communication clear and timely for everyone in our school community!



Board of Management

The Board of Management met on 30th September 2024, reviewing and ratifying key policies, including our Child Protection Safeguarding Statement, Risk Assessment, and Anti-Bullying Policy.

The BOM discussed the current national teacher shortage, which posed challenges over the summer. We are grateful to share that all long-term positions are now filled, ensuring stability for our students and staff this year.

The BOM also acknowledged that, as with all schools nationally, securing substitute cover for short absences can occasionally present challenges. However, the school continues to navigate this through DES-approved substitute mechanisms and local arrangements to ensure that appropriate supervision and support are in place for our students.

In finance-related updates, the BOM also reviewed school finances, and correspondence on this matter will be shared separately.

Upcoming Events



Parent-Teacher Meetings: Will take place towards the end of November. Booking slots will be available via the Aladdin app; further details to follow.



Important Dates

Midterm Break: School closes at 14:40 on Friday, 25th October and reopens Monday, 4th November. Wishing all our school community a happy and restful break!

Christmas Break: School closes at 12:00 pm on Friday, 20th December and reopens Monday, 6th January.

The school will receive a Whole School In-Service Day for the Maths Curriculum. Once dates for any in-service training are received by the school they will be shared with parents.



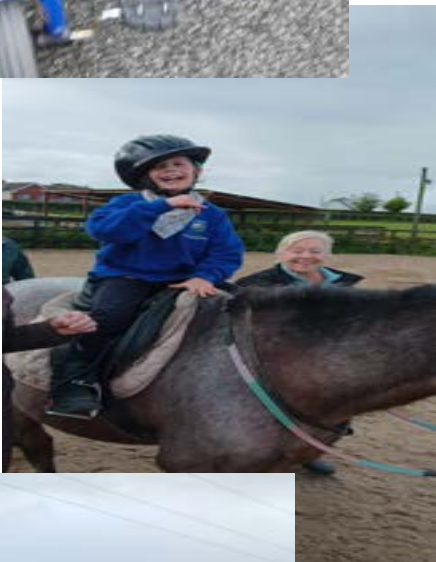
★ Junior 1 ★

As you can see, we have had a lot of fun settling into our new school.



Junior 4

We've had a busy and happy term in Junior 4. There were lots of smiles every day. We had fun with plenty of playtime outside and Pony Riding—when the weather plays ball! Foot Spas, and lots of Sensory Play on days spent inside.



Junior 5

It has been a fun and exciting start to the new school year in Junior 5. We welcomed two new students to our class, Luna and Jayden, all the children are working hard and getting to know their new classmates!

We enjoyed some lovely walks to our sensory garden in the beautiful autumn sunshine and saw the different colours autumn brings to our environment and of course we worked hard on our maths, writing and art with lots of fun and sensory play along the way.

We hope you enjoy midterm break and we look forward to seeing everyone back at school after mid-term.



Junior 6

The students in Junior 6 have enjoyed the first term of school, we have been very busy making our Halloween decorations for our classroom, enjoying sensory play, and enjoying our lovely Autumn walks to the garden. Our favourite time of the day is circle time where we dance to our favourite songs.

Have a lovely Halloween break,

Liz, Brenda, Caroline and Aoife.



Hello from Junior 7- We have had a busy few weeks since starting back in September - We have made new friends and moved over to the Senior school.

Here we all are exploring the school sensory garden – We collected autumn leaves and made lovely colourful leaf rubbings



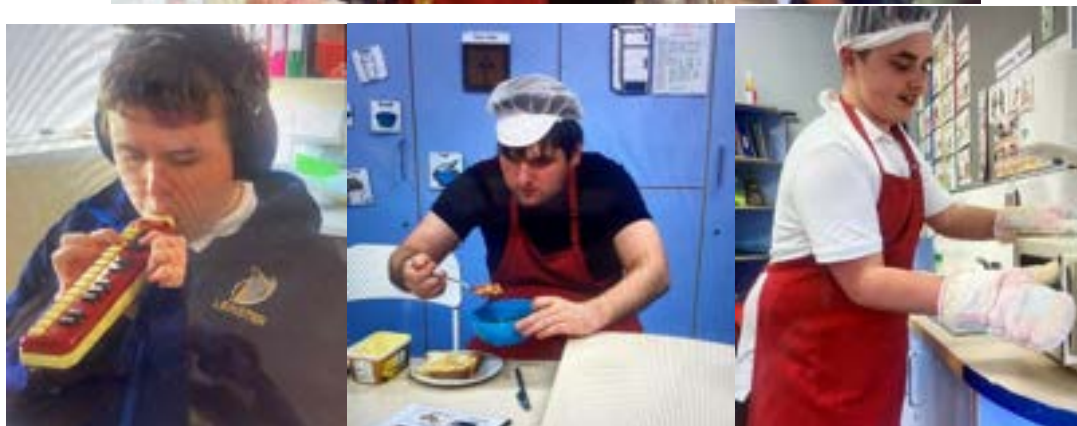
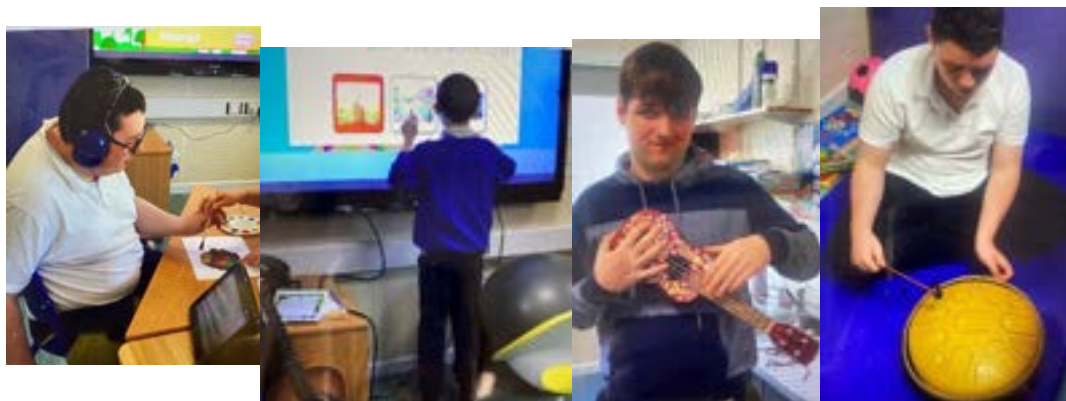
Here we are Carving the *Classroom Pumpkin*' to add a Spooktacular look to Junior 7 🎃



Wishing you all a Happy and Safe Halloween from Junior 7

Senior 1 Class Photos

Please find some pictures of Senior 1 engaged in their September & October Art, Music, Cooking and Halloween activities



Senior 2 have had a busy first term. We have been making friends, old and new.



We started home economics classes and have been cooking up a storm!



We look forward to the Halloween break and hope all our friends enjoy their mid-term!



SENIOR 3



Senior 4

It has been a very busy term here in senior 4. The students have been settling back into the school routine.

We have been learning all about Autumn and Halloween through various sensory experiences.

The ball pool was a huge hit and the students are enjoying their new playtime in the Senior schoolyard.

Happy Halloween from all in Senior 4!



Hello... from Senior 5



It's been a very quick first term in senior 5. Our pupils settling well into the class, making friends, working hard and have fun too. We enjoyed some walks to the sensory garden, tasted few apples and collected some leaves for our artwork. Happy Halloween! from James, Thomas, Danny, Sean, Kyle, Marina, Danielle, Catriona and Francy.



Senior 6

A big hello from Senior 6.

We started our year very well by welcoming 3 new students into our room, Denis, Yashwant & Dylan and it is like they have always been part of our class.

Senior 6 continue with the daily mile and try to complete at least 2-3 sessions in the week. If the weather is against us, we will do 15 mins of exercise in the classroom. It is great to see the improvement they have made already and it is also part of QQI programme "Health Related Exercise." Next half term students will complete a daily exercise log at home and in school.

All students were remarkably busy with all their QQI modules in this first half term and showed vast improvement and dedication already.

We hope you all have a lovely mid-term break.



Rory, Lewis, Dara, Denis, Yashwant, Dylan, Áine, Úna & Caroline.

