



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Student Council

Enrolment 2025

Football

Sacraments

Halloween Hike

Gaeilge

County Photos

Hot Meals

Care Plans

*Parents' Association
AGM*



Student Council

We are excited to announce that the pupils have elected a new Student Council. They will continue to provide an opportunity for pupils to voice their opinions and offer suggestions in relation to many aspects of school life. Through our Student Council, we hope to give the pupils a positive role in the organisation of the school.

There was great activity in recent weeks as scores of children in 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th classes nominated themselves and campaigned for their respective class elections. Elections followed in each classroom and we now have a new 12-member Student Council in place. We look forward to working with them in the coming months. Well done to all the boys and girls who put their names forward. The members of our new Student Council are listed below. Each month on our newsletter, we will get to know two members of the Student Council a little better with a profile piece. Please go to Page 4 to meet our first two members.

Rang 2: Eve O'Connell & Oisín O'Connell

Rang 3: Ryan Daly & Aoibhínn O'Grady

Rang 4: Cami Iurescu & Finbarr Murphy (missing from picture)

Rang 5: Tadhg O'Connell, Saoirse Henderson & Danny Daly

Rang 6: Aoibhín Kirwan, Tommie Gorman & Molly Phelan

Enrolment 2025

Enrolment for the Junior Infant Class and our special classes for the 2025/2026 school year opens on **October 25th**. The closing date for application forms is November 15th. Please inform any family members or neighbours if they've children ready to start school in September 2025. Enrolment forms are available from the school office or can be downloaded from the school website www.rathns.ie. Our Admissions Policy is also online. It is important that all prospective parents read the policy carefully beforehand.

Gaelic Football

The girls and boys in 4th, 5th and 6th Class have been very busy in recent weeks training for and playing their respective football games. We entered 4 teams in the Cumann na mBunscol competitions and our teams have been very competitive in each game, with mixed results across the board. As the leagues begin to wind down in the coming weeks, we plan to commence our Autumn Lunchtime Football Leagues with pupils from 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th Classes.



Gaeilge

Deireadh Fómhair (October)

Seachtain 1 - An bhfuil...? Tá / Níl...

Seachtain 2 - An bhfaca tú? Chonaic mé/ Ní fhaca mé (Did you see? I saw / I didn't see)

Seachtain 3 - Fan nóiméad! (wait a minute!)

Seachtain 4 - Aon scéal? (Any news?)

Ceist coicíse: Cén t-am é? (What time is it?)

Conas atá an aimsir? (How is the weather?)



Hot Lunches

We have been operating the free hot school lunch scheme since May. Therefore, we felt it was timely to seek feedback from you as parents / guardians. 76 parents responded to the survey we circulated last week. The responses in terms of take up and quality of the food were very positive. Some concerns were raised, in particular in relation to the choices available on the menu. The full set of responses have been passed onto The Lunch Bag and they were grateful to receive the feedback.

We remind you to pay particular attention to the tips / suggestions below:

- Please check your child's order regularly. We advise all parents to do so each weekend until you and your child are satisfied with their choices. The menu does change occasionally as well. Changes to orders can be made up to 48 hours before meal time.
- The plastic lunch box needs to come to school each day. The brown box and all contents can be composted. We are very conscious of our environmental responsibilities so we ask for your cooperation in this regard.
- Children may wish to use their own cutlery. This is fine once the children bring them home and wash daily.
- Encourage your child to try new foods.
- If you have any technical issues or general queries, please contact schoolmeals@thelunchbag.ie

Sacraments 2025

The dates below are for our two sacrament classes this year:

Rang 2

November 12th - Enrolment Meeting for Parents 7pm

April 9th - First Confession at 7pm

June 7th - First Communion at 11:30am

Rang 6

November 5th - Enrolment Meeting for Parents at 7pm

March 25th - Service of Light at 6:30pm

March 27th - Confirmation at 2pm

Halloween Hike 2024

Our annual Halloween Hike will take place later this month. It will be either Thursday Oct 24th or Friday Oct 25th. Depending on the weather forecast, we will fix the day early that week. The children (and staff!) are encouraged to dress up, so all types of witches, ghosts, fancy dress etc. are welcome. The emphasis is on fun and we discourage parents from buying expensive costumes for the day. Homemade costumes are usually the best! The Parents' Association will circulate sponsorship cards in the coming weeks. Below are some pictures from last year's Halloween Hike. It is always one of the most enjoyable days in the school calendar.



Care Plans

We are currently in the process of updating our care plans for children with particular medical needs. Your child's completed plan will store helpful details about your child's condition, current medication, triggers, individual symptoms and emergency contact numbers. The plan will help school staff to better understand your child's individual condition. If your child has an existing care plan, we will contact you to update. However, if your child has any allergies, conditions or medication that may be required in school, and that we need to be aware of, please contact Amanda in the office to discuss further.

Parents' Association Noticeboard

Halloween Hike

With Oíche Samhna just around the corner, the annual Halloween Hike will take place on 25th October. This is our first fundraiser of the year. The children will have an opportunity to dress up for the hike. Beidh spórt, craic agus spraoi acu. Sponsorship cards will go home in the children's bags in the coming week, one card per family. We very much appreciate your support. The money raised from the Hike will go towards alleviating the cost of swimming lessons, music classes and computer classes, transportation costs etc. If anyone would like to help out on the day of hike please watch our FB page or text Fiona 086 8339779.

Calendar

We have commenced work on the 2025 school calendar. We hope to have our calendar for sale in early December. If anyone would like to place an advertisement or knows someone who would like to place an advertisement, please let us know. You can contact Amanda in the school or email sec.p.c.rathns@gmail.com for further information.

AGM

Our AGM will take place on Wednesday 9th October at 8:30 p.m. in the school hall. If you are interested in getting involved in the committee, please contact Amanda to submit your name, new members are always welcome. We would really love to see as many people as possible attend.

Meet our Student Council



Name: Molly Phelan

Class: Rang 6

Favourite Subject: English

Hobbies: Irish dancing, hockey & guitar

What I like about our school: I love that the school offers a wide range of instruments. I also love how the staff are so lovely and that anyone can join in extra activities. Everyone is so kind and supportive.

My priority for the Student Council: Our school is lovely but there is always room for improvement. My main priority is that everyone has a chance to share their ideas. I'd love more flowers and plants around the school. I'd also like if there were more activities for the less sporty pupils.



Name: Ryan Daly

Class: Rang 3

Favourite Subject: Maths

Hobbies: Basketball & football

What I like about our school: I love how much space we have on the pitch. Every class has their own pitch to play on. I also like the classrooms in the school.

My priority for the Student Council: Try to make sure everyone in the school is happy.

County Photos



County Photos will visit the school on Tuesday October 15th. They will circulate proofs and payment options following this, if you wish to purchase from them. As always, this is completely optional.



Pictured above are all the certificate recipients from our September 'Teacht le Chéile'.