



Scoil Mhuire, Portroe

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Parent Newsletter

January 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We hope you and your families enjoyed a restful Christmas break. It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school and to see them settle so quickly into routines after the holidays. January has already been a busy and positive month in Scoil Mhuire, with lots of activity and celebration across the school.

Enrolment-September 2026

Enrolment opens for Junior Infants and our autism classes for 2026/2027 from **30th January**. Pre-Enrolment forms can be submitted online via our school website at www.portroeprimary.ie or you can email/call the office for a form. The closing date for accepting enrolments is 27th February.

Swimming Reminder

A reminder that swimming lessons will begin on **Friday 6th February** for pupils in 3rd–6th Class. Payments are now open and can be made via Aladdin.

School Developments

We are delighted to share that two new flagpoles have been installed at the front of the school. These now proudly display the Irish flag, the Cineáltas flag, the Green Schools flag and the EU flag. The flags reflect our values as a school community and it is wonderful to see them flying as children arrive each morning.

Green Schools

The **Green Schools Committee**, led by Kathryn, are continuing to work towards achieving the **Global Citizenship Flag**. This theme encourages pupils to develop a greater understanding of global issues, sustainability and our responsibilities as global citizens.

Teaching, Learning and Activities

Irish Dancing has begun in the school hall each Wednesday for children from Junior Infants to 3rd Class. The children are thoroughly enjoying the lessons with Claire Nealon and it has been lovely to see their enthusiasm and growing confidence.

Children from 3rd to 6th Class have also started **soccer** sessions with Klaaskidz. Seán has been putting the boys and girls through their paces and there is great excitement already as we look ahead to the FAI schools soccer competition in March.

Faith and Community

As part of Catholic Schools Week, children in 1st and 2nd Class celebrated **Grandparents' Day** in the school hall. It was a lovely morning where we welcomed grandparents into the school and took time to connect with families and our wider community. The children were very proud to share this special celebration.

School Trips and Fundraising

Children in Rooms 7 and 8 enjoyed a wonderful day of **horse riding** and fun at Liskennett Equine Therapy Centre this week. During the visit, we were delighted to present the centre with a cheque for €622, which was raised during our Christmas Colours Day. Thank you to all who donated so generously and helped make this possible.

Over the Christmas period, a **sponsored walk and road hurling event** were organised locally in support of school GAA activities. We are very grateful to all who took part and donated so generously. The funds raised will go towards travel costs for school blitzes, as bus hire is a significant expense for the school. This support will make a real difference and will help ensure that children continue to have opportunities to participate in sporting events. Thank you to everyone involved.

Hot Lunches

The hot meals programme is going very well and it is great to see the children enjoying them each day. Any feedback or queries regarding lunches should be directed to The Lunch Bag directly.

Digital Learning

Our school currently has 16 iPads, which are used daily across classes. As digital learning continues to play an important role in teaching and learning, we would love to **invest in additional devices** for the school. Some companies may be interested in supporting this through a corporate sponsorship venture. If parents are in a position to approach their workplace or know of any potential sponsors, we would be very grateful if they could contact the school office.

Reminders

Parents are reminded to log all early collections and late arrivals through Aladdin. When we have advance notice, we can ensure children are ready and waiting, which helps the school day run smoothly. We also ask parents to **please avoid parking in the bus area or in the disabled parking spaces** at the front of the school. These areas are required for specific children in our school and must be kept free at all times.

Staffing

We are delighted to congratulate Nicola Sharkey on her appointment as an SNA in our school. We wish her every success and happiness in her new role in Scoil Mhuire. Congratulations also to Yvonne Hayes, who has recently been appointed to the role of Assistant Principal II. We wish her the very best as she takes on this new leadership role within the school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and cooperation. We look forward to another positive and productive term ahead.



Maria Geaney