

# Newsletter

June 2025



## A word from Niall ...

As we reach the end of another memorable year at Westport Educate Together, we take a moment to reflect on how far we've come as a school community. This year marks a truly special milestone—our first ever graduate! It's a proud and emotional moment for all of us, as we watch a pupil take their next steps into the wider world, carrying with them the values of Respect, Safety and Readiness to learn, that define our school. Though only joining us this year, Ella has worn these values everyday and our younger pupils are lucky to have such a good role model to look up to. We wish Ella 'bon voyage' in her onward educational journey in Sacred Heart Secondary School and we look forward to your visits and hearing all about your progress. We are also delighted to welcome Laura and Gráinne as permanent members of our school staff. They have worked hard since they came here and we wish them every good wish for their future career. We are extremely lucky to have such talented and hard-working teachers on board.

This has been a year full of learning, growth, creativity, and connection. From adventures with Abbvie Stem competitions to outdoor learning and Forest Bathing with Christine, our students have continued to show us the power of inclusive, child-centred education in action. Looking ahead, we're excited to welcome many new families to our school in September. As always, our doors are open and our community is ready to embrace new members of our growing school community.

A heartfelt thank you to our incredible staff, dedicated parents and guardians, and most of all, our wonderful pupils for making this such a positive, supportive and inspiring place to learn and grow. As I said at our Blooming day ceremony - "Life is what happens, when you're busy making other plans". Our children are the most wonderful reminder to live each moment as passionately and as energetically as you can - as long as you are respectful and safe!

We wish you all a joyful and restful summer break, and we look forward to another exciting chapter together in the new school year.

Le gach dea-ghuí,  
Niall

## Important Dates

- ✓ Friday **June 27<sup>th</sup>** - early closure at 11:30: **Summer Holidays**. Assembly & Prize-giving @11:00. Parents welcome
  - ✓ School will open again on Monday **September 1<sup>st</sup>** @ 08:30
- See next year's calendar on the website or on the Aladdin App.

## School Reports

The end of year school report will be paperless. You will be able to access your child's school report on the Aladdin Connect App. If you require a paper copy please let the office know. Thank you

## Team

We wish to officially welcome both Laura and Gráinne as permanent members of staff. We are delighted to have you as part of the team.

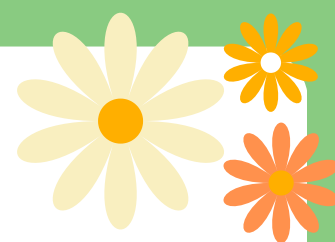


We wish to thank Éabha for all her hard work and dedication in her EAL role and throughout the school all year. Éabha will finish up on June 25<sup>th</sup>. We wish you all the best on your next adventure.

## Class Allocations

- Junior & Senior Infants: Gráinne
- 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>: Kirsten
- 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>: Laura

# Blooming & Graduation Day



This month we celebrated our 3<sup>rd</sup> Blooming Day and our 1<sup>st</sup> Graduation. It is such a special occasion and a wonderful way of celebrating the milestones the pupils have reached.

The celebration included a terrific drumming performance by our 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> class pupils led by Anthony McNamee. These workshops are made possible due to our fundraising.



Congratulations to Ella on graduating Primary School. We wish you all the best as you to go to Secondary School.



## Active Month & Sports Day

June is Active School Month at Westport Educate Together. The pupils took part in the daily **Mile with a Smile**.

On June 19<sup>th</sup> we had a fantastic **Sports Day** on the green by the Quay Community Centre.



## AbbVie STEM Prize

A huge congratulations to Laura and our Senior room for coming runner-up in the AbbVie STEM prize competition. The pupils designed a project based upon helping our community using STEM, together with students from the Sacred Heart Secondary.



*Congratulations*





# Parent Guardian Association

The Interim PGA has met monthly since December 2024, with good attendance and engagement from parents and guardians. The PGA is an opportunity for parents and guardians to support the school and students, and ALL are invited to participate. That does not necessarily mean attending monthly meetings, but can involve participating in a subgroup, project or event.

Two subgroups have been formed from the PGA in the last few months. One subgroup is looking at current, and potential future, smartphone use among pupils, and any extra supports that can be provided to parents. The group is made up of: Tom Sweeney, Sally-Anne McFadden, Breda Gavin, Megan Burke and Niall Quinn. Currently, the subgroup is looking to organise an information event for parents in September or October, and may follow that with a survey of parents' concerns and proposed actions.

Another subgroup, consisting of Emma McCabe, Joshka Kaufmann and Cara Shields, has reviewed the results from the communications survey sent to families who joined the school in 2024 and are supporting the school in updating some information for future new families to the school.

## Upcoming events from the PGA:

We are organising a **New Families Welcome Meet-Up on August 30<sup>th</sup> @ 11am** at Westport Town Playground. Aimed as an introduction to the school community, we extend the invite to all current families to join in welcoming these families.

There will be a **Bucket Collection** Fundraiser on **September 20<sup>th</sup>** and we hope all families can support on the day with volunteers to assist with collections. A rota will be created in September. The first meeting of the new school year will be held on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> @ 8:35am in Westport Woods hotel, followed by an informal tea/coffee for parents/guardians.

An AGM for the PGA will be hosted during the first term - date and time to be confirmed. During this meeting the constitution will be ratified and the committee elected. Following this, the PGA will no longer be 'interim'.

Thanks to the parents who helped organise a great Bingo night!

## Family Bingo

Our PGA organised another fun filled family fundraising event. The Family Bingo and Raffle raised over €600. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

