CLADDAGHDUFF N.S NEWSLETTER
HALLOWEEN 2026



Principal's Message

As we approach our Halloween mid-term break, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for a great start to the school year. It has been a busy few weeks. The children have been involved in many fantastic activities both inside & outside the classroom. We hope that you enjoy reading our newsletter & catching up on some of the exciting things the children have been doing. Wishing all of our pupils, staff & families a very happy, safe & enjoyable Halloween break. Happy Halloween!
Ms. Griffin

Welcome to our new pupils

We would like to extend a warm welcome our new Junior Infants and our new pupils who have joined our school community this school year. We look forward to a great 2026/2027 school year ahead.





Omey Stars

We are delighted to have Omey Stars Afterschool open again this year. As there is a new staff member, welcome Ellen, the club can take more children. Parents can avail of the National Child-care Scheme rates. Booking is essential as spaces are limited. Contact Patricia on: 087-3919947



Retirement: In September we bid a fond farewell to Fr. James Ronayne, our Parish Priest. We wish him a well deserved happy and healthy retirement. We would also like to welcome Fr. Seán Cunningham to the parish & we hope he settles in well to the community.



Junior Room: Halloween Potions

The Junior room have been having lots of fun exploring pumpkins through exciting Maths & Science activities. They really enjoyed doing their hands on activities!













Dates for The Diary

Mid- term: School closed Monday 26th Oct and reopening Monday, 2nd November
Christmas concert: at Claddaghduff Hall on Thursday, 10th December at 6pm
Christmas Holiday: School will close at 12pm on Wed 22nd December and reopens Wednesday 6th Jan 2027
Swimming Lessons: 1st-6th Class: 20th Jan for 6 Weeks
Confirmation: 12th April 2027, St. Josephs Church Clifden

Email: info@claddaghduffns.ie
Phone: 095-44334
www.claddaghduffns.ie
Keep up to date with school news on our noticeboards

Fire Station Visit

The Senior room had a great educational visit to The Clifden Fire Station on 8th October. It was so interesting to see behind the scenes the great work our firemen do.



Barbaró

The Senior room also went to a Barbaró show called 'The Dig' in The Clifden Town hall on 8th Oct.





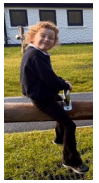
The Junior room went to a Barbaró show called 'Bake' in Letterfrack on 16th October. After the show they went to The Connemara National Park playground to see all the upgrades that they have done!







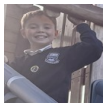














Clifden Arts Festival 2026

We had a fantastic Arts Week this year and are always grateful to be included in the schools program. Luxe kicked things off for us where we had a craft workshop with Mandy & Mark making our stars for the parade. Between the two classrooms, we welcomed: True North, Betty and the Baby Boomers, Peter Carey Band and Yvonne Keane for music, Terry McDonagh and Tony Curtis came for poetry, song & story writing. We also had a special visit from Eoin Warner, film maker, who showed us some incredible nature videos. Madeline & Carol came from the National Park with a selection of stuffed wild animals native to Ireland.

Caitriona Ní Cheannabhain and her sister presented a wonderful Irish language workshop. It was lots of fun with singing and poetry. We were delighted to welcome Tuesday Whitfield back again this year for art & craft workshops with both classrooms. Both rooms did a great Irish dance workshop with Ellen Curley & dance with Linda Shirmer.

The highlight of the festival was the Omey strand 'Women of the Waves' performance with Luxe, which included a surprise fireworks display at the end. Our 2nd– 6th Classes took part in the Grande Finale Parade in Clifden

We would like to sincerely thank Brendan Flynn, Des Lally, Nikki Snow & the Arts Festival Committee for giving us this wonderful opportunity to be involved in The Clifden Arts Festival Events.



Clifden Arts Festival in Pictures



Baking

In September, the Senior pupils gathered blackberries. They made some delicious blackberry crumble, which they kindly shared it with Junior classes.



Music Lessons with Marie Walsh

We delighted to be back doing music lessons with our talented traditional musician Marie Walsh. It is fantastic that children from 2nd-6th all play instruments. Special thanks to our Parents Association who fundraise for the music lessons each year.



Infants



The Junior Infants are enjoying their visits to Ms. Griffins room where they have been learning through rhymes & play which is an important part of the infant curriculum.

Juniors planting Daffodil bulbs

The Junior room have been busy planting their daffodil bulbs with Ms. O' Malley and will look forward to watching them grow over the coming months!

