

Saint Catherine's National School

Ballyhack, Arthurstown, New Ross, Co. Wexford.

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19th December 2025

NEWSLETTER

This is a newsletter from the principal. I will be sending a school newsletter to all parents/guardians at the end of each half term.

School Uniform

The wearing of the school uniform is strongly recommended as it establishes a basic standard of acceptable dress promotes tidiness and also promotes a sense of unity and identity among the children.

These are the details of the school uniform:

K Sports School Half Zip

K Sports Navy Tracksuit Bottom or K-Sports Navy Shorts

White Polo or O' Neill's Training Top

Runners

We are asking you to work with us to enhance the very positive co-operation between the parent body and the school to establish pupil unity.

Absent Notes and Aladdin Connect

Absent notes in accordance with legal requirements, children should attend school regularly. Under section 21 of the Education Welfare Act 2000, the Board of Management is required to submit an Annual Attendance Record with details of students who have been absent for 20 days or more. A note of explanation is required when a child is absent. Please submit an absent note for all full day absences through Aladdin Connect. If for any reason, your child is collected early or brought to school later than normal please send an email to ballyhackschool@gmail.com. We appreciate your co-operation with this matter.

Aladdin Connect

We are now fully up and running on Aladdin Connect. We would appreciate if you have not downloaded this application please do so immediately. Aladdin Connect will be used for the following; Parent Teacher Meetings, Announcements, Permission Slips,

Attendance and many more features as we use the application more and more. We appreciate your patience in setting up this application.

Morning Drop-Off

Morning drop-off from 9:15am will continue and staff will be outside to supervise from that time. Please ensure your child uses the footpath provided when exiting your car.

Super Saver Sam Savings Scheme

Super Saver Sam will take place on alternating Tuesdays. We will inform you via class dojo or which days the credit union will be in.

'Meaningful Muinteoir'

All classes were visited by the 'Meaningful Muinteoir' on a weekly basis after October mid-term break. This is a wonderful programme catering for the wellbeing needs of our students and also training our teachers in new methodologies for mindfulness and wellbeing.

First Holy Communion

The First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday 23rd May 2026 at 2pm in St James' Church, Ramsgrange.

Confirmation

The Confirmation will take place at 2pm on 19th March 2026 in St James Church, Ramsgrange.

Confirmation Retreat

Our retreat for the Confirmation candidates took place on Tuesday 9th December. This was to help with the preparation of Confirmation candidates.

Team Hope - Shoebox Appeal

Well done to the students who carefully prepared a shoebox packed with generous items for the shoebox appeal. The shoeboxes will be distributed at their destinations very soon.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Parent Teacher Meetings took place on Wednesday 26th and Thursday 27th November.

Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas Jumper Day (Non-Uniform Day) took place on Friday 12th December. We asked for a €2 donation per child towards this event. Thank you for all the donations.

Christmas Festivities Day

This year Christmas Festivities Day took place on 18th of December. This wonderful day has become an annual event where the students get to do lots of Christmas themes activities throughout the day, as well as dress festive.

School Calendar Fundraiser

Our school calendars are still available from Floods Centra and Walter Byrnes shop. Thank you to everyone who purchased a calendar.

School Closure - Staff Training

The school will be closed on Wednesday 28th January 2026 to facilitate staff training.

Carepacks.ie

We are super proud of all the students who carefully prepared a Christmas card or picture and posted it to a resident in a care home. Well done everyone.

Parents Association Raffle

Thank you to the PA for organising the Christmas raffle this year.

**We hope you all have an enjoyable and safe Christmas.
Nollaig Shona Daoibh!**

