

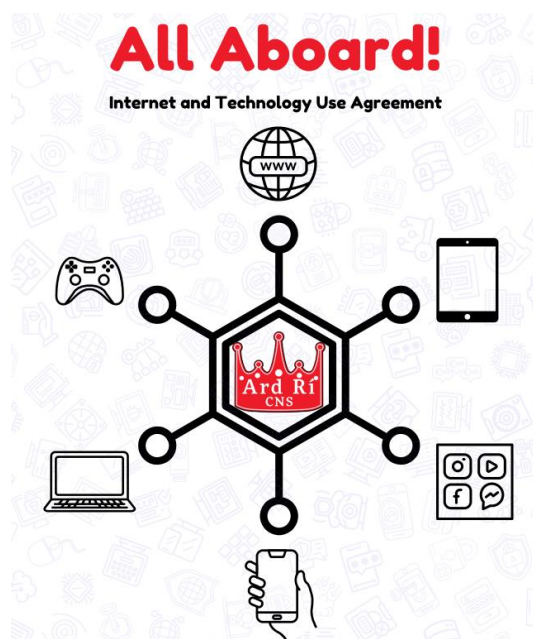


Ard Rí Community National School

Ard Rí C.N.S, Balreask Old, Navan, Co. Meath.

Principal: Darragh Roe

Roll No 20352T



We are delighted to launch **All Aboard! Ard Rí CNS Internet and Technology Use Agreement.**

The use of smartphones and other technologies is now a feature of daily life for people of all ages. As you are likely aware, smart devices can particularly expose young children to risk – including exposure to harmful content (violence, explicit language, mature themes), cyber-bullying, online predators, scams and many children show signs of genuine addiction to their devices. **Research consistently shows that, for children, the risks associated with owning a smartphone, using social media and playing online games far outweigh the potential benefits.**

As a school community, parents and educators need to work together to create a culture where parents are informed, empowered and responsible for their children's internet and technology use. There is pressure on parents to purchase smartphones, tablets and consoles. Children feel 'everyone is online except me'. There is strength in numbers. We want to empower parents by uniting you all together to protect our children from being exposed to harm when online.

Childhood is supposed to be a care-free and happy time. Now, in many cases, children's lives are full of anxiety, self-doubt and distress. As a school, we want your children to be happy and reach their potential during their primary school years. **Pupils are not allowed to bring their personal and internet-enabled devices to school at Ard Rí CNS ([Circular 44/25](#))**

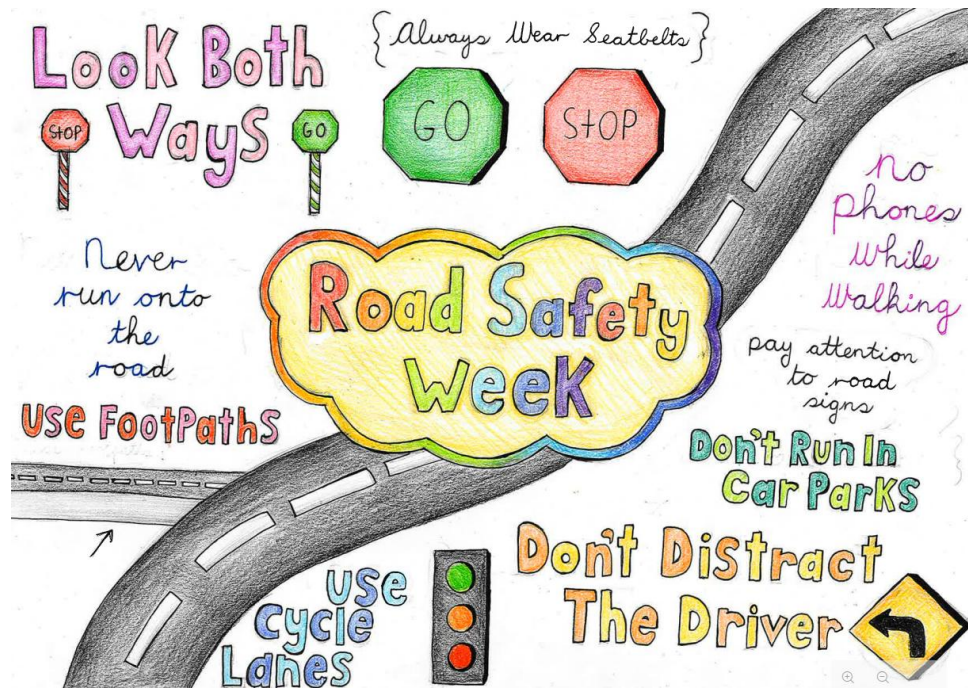
By September 2028, the aim is to have full school adoption of this initiative and agreement. We will be sharing a hard copy of **All Aboard!** with all families very soon. We will then break it down step by step and walk you through every step of the way. **All Aboard!** is part of the [Agree2Agree Project](#).



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Credit RB in 6th Class

Road Safety and Fire Safety Week

This month, we are learning all about road safety and fire safety.

It is very important that children make positive connections with the people in our community who help and support us. We will welcome visits from Navan Gardaí and Navan Fire Service, who will speak to the children about safety and answer their questions.

I need to express serious concern about some children's behaviour when cycling and scooting to school. **Over 90% of our cyclists are not wearing helmets.** Some are also travelling **too fast**, **bunny-hopping off footpaths** and **skidding their wheels**, especially dangerous when coming down the hill towards the Dublin Road.

Please remember that the school is not responsible for children once they pass the school gate at the end of the day.

Parents, we urge you to review your child's road safety practices immediately this is literally a matter of life and death.



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Halloween Week at Ard Rí CNS 🎃

There will be no formal homework during Halloween Week to allow families time to prepare for our fun community events.

We're delighted to announce the return of our **Annual Halloween Family "Smashing Pumpkin" Carving Competition!** Each family is invited to get creative and bring **one carved pumpkin** to school and leave on the Rugby Club stands on the morning of **Wednesday, 22nd October**.

Over the years, entries have become wonderfully wild, some might say a bit monkey-nuts! This year, we encourage everyone to keep it simple and have fun together. All pumpkins should be clearly labelled with your family name. We'll create a fantastic display on the Rugby Club stands for everyone to enjoy. Please remember to bring your pumpkin home again on Wednesday afternoon after school.

Then, on **Friday, 24th October**, we'll round off the week with our **Halloween Fancy Dress Day!** Children are invited to come to school in costume for a day filled with spooky fun and frolics.

We can't wait to see all the creativity and excitement that Halloween Week brings! 🧛



Save the Dates



Ard Rí Winter Show: Our Junior and Senior Infants will take to the stage for the **Ard Rí Winter Show** in the **Ardboyne Hotel** on the **morning of Thursday, 11th December 2025** (time to be confirmed).

Be sure to book the morning off work this is always an unmissable event full of festive cheer and smiles!

6th Class Graduation: We are delighted to confirm that our **6th Class Graduation** will take place on the **evening of Thursday, 11th June**, also in the **Ardboyne Hotel**.

We look forward to celebrating this special milestone with our graduating pupils and their families.



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Ard Rí Pupil Council



On behalf of the school management, staff, pupils and the wider Ard Rí community, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our Pupil Council for all their hard work and dedication over their past year in office.



Pupil voice plays a vital role in the life and running of our school. The Pupil Council provides a fantastic opportunity for children to share their ideas, take on leadership roles and help make Ard Rí an even better place to learn and grow.

Over the coming weeks, pupils will be on the campaign trail, seeking election as their class representatives to the new Pupil Council. **Elections will take place on Thursday, 23rd October**, the day before the Irish Presidential Election.

We wish all our candidates the very best of luck as they put themselves forward to represent their classmates and school community!



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Ard Rí Parent Association



The Parent Association provided outstanding support to the school throughout the year, strengthening home-school links and enriching school life in countless ways. Their involvement included helping at the Open Evening, hosting a coffee morning for new parents and organising WhatsApp groups to keep families connected. They supported events such as the Halloween Festival, Pancake Tuesday, Lá Glas and Holi, while also coordinating the memorable Career Day and Ard Rí Carnival. Fundraising and community efforts included two clothing collections, the Tesco Blue Token fundraiser, a Christmas Cake Sale and a charity food drive. The Association also part-sponsored the 6th Class Graduation hoodies, maintained a stock of spare clothing and sanitary items and supported the creation of All Aboard! Altogether, it was a huge body of work that greatly enhanced teaching, learning and community spirit across the school.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to our outgoing Parent Association Chairperson, Ciara McManus, who has served with incredible dedication over the past two years as Chair and has been involved in the Parent Association in one way or another for an amazing ten years. Ciara's commitment, energy and care have had a profound impact on strengthening homeschool links and supporting the growth and spirit of the Ard Rí CNS community. Her contribution over the years has truly helped make our school the vibrant, welcoming place it is today.



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Parent Association 25/26: *Katja Hennessey, Karen Boylan, Katka De Araujo and Shelley Mercer*