



# Ard Rí Community National School

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

Principal: Darragh Roe

Roll No 20352T



## December 2025

**December is such a busy month at Ard Rí CNS!** We'll do our best to share as much of the action as we can on the school Instagram account. Follow us at **@Letsgoardri**. Please note, this account is for current parents only. If we don't recognise your account, email us at **ArdRiCNS@lmetb.ie** and we'll approve access.

With just under two busy weeks left until the end of term, here's everything you need to know... **Let's go!**

<b>December</b>	<b>GMGY!</b>	Ard Rí CNS is a multi-denominational school where children learn about a variety of world religions. This December, we will be exploring <b>Buddhist Bodhi Day</b> and <b>Jewish Hanukkah</b> , and we will also be celebrating <b>Christmas</b> together.
<b>December</b>	<b>Pupil Council</b>	<b>The Solstice Arts Centre</b> will be projecting children's Christmas drawings onto the Solstice building using their outdoor projectors. Pupils from <b>Junior Infants to 3rd Class</b> were invited to create their own Christmas-themed picture, celebrating the many different traditions of the season. These wonderful artworks have now been sent to the Solstice. Keep an eye out for Ard Rí creations lighting up the walls of the Solstice Arts Centre! <b>Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Class</b> pupils have created <b>Care Pack Christmas Cards</b> , which will be sent to elderly residents in care homes across the country. Members of the Student Council walked to the post office in Johnstown to send off the cards.
<b>Wednesday 10th December</b>	<b>Parent Association Clothing Collection</b>	<b>Parent Association</b> will hold their bi-annual <b>Clothing Collection at 9am</b> . Donations can be brought in regular bin bags. Please spread the word to friends and family so we can gather as many items as possible!
<b>Thursday 11th December</b>	<b>Parents Association Annual Cake Sale</b>	<b>Parent Association</b> will be hosting their annual <b>Winter Cake Sale at the Rugby Club from 9am to 11am</b> . All donations of baked or purchased goods are greatly appreciated. Pop down with family and friends for tea/coffee, treats and chats. Everyone is welcome!  Bring your own lunchbox and travel mug and enjoy as many treats as you like for a €5 donation. If you can't attend you can pop €5 in an envelope and donate!!



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<b>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Winter Show at the Ardboyne Hotel</b>	Junior and Senior Infants will perform at the Ard Rí Winter Show. The chairperson of our Board of Management, Yemi Adenuga invites all families of Infants to attend. Christmas jumpers are a must for all our guests and there will be lots of audience participation. Yemi will make sure of it! Unfortunately, it is not practical for siblings of Junior and Senior Infants to come along. Nobody will miss out- we will host performances here at the school and the show will be recorded by Victor and Luana Raggi de Camargo and shared with the school community and friends and family from all over the world through our YouTube channel. Teachers will communicate directly with parents of children in the show about times and what to wear etc.
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Navan Garda Meals on Wheels Christmas Party</b>	Children from Junior and Senior Infants will perform songs from their Winter Show and Múinteoir Sarah's 4 <sup>th</sup> Class will perform 'Killagh' by Kingfishr at the Navan Meals on Wheels Christmas Party. This event will take place during the school day. There is no room for parents to attend but we will share pics from this community event on Instagram.
<b>11<sup>th</sup> &amp; 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Pupil Council Christmas Jumper Day</b>	Our pupil council have requested non-uniform/ Christmas Jumper Days.
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December (all week)</b>	<b>No Homework</b>	There will be no homework on the last week of term to take some pressure off busy families.
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Christmas Jumper Day End of Term</b>	Final day of term will be a non-uniform/ Christmas Jumper Day. School will close at 12midday. There will be no Hot Lunches. Children will receive a sweet treat.

**Dates for your Diary: (School Calendar: [click here](#))**

**School will be closed on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026** for teacher training on the Primary Curriculum Framework.

Parent Teacher Meetings will be held on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January and Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026**. You will receive your appointment time in January.



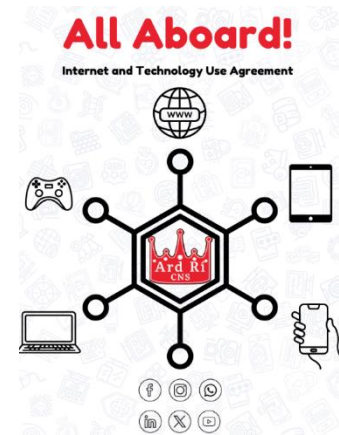
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## All Aboard! Internet and Technology Use Agreement

Smartphones and online technology are now part of everyday life, but they expose children to serious risks. As a school community, we want to support parents in creating a safe, informed, and responsible approach to children's technology use. There is growing pressure to buy smartphones, tablets, and gaming consoles, especially at Christmas, but united, we can protect our children from unnecessary harm.



Childhood should be happy and carefree, yet many children now experience anxiety linked to online activity. At Ard Rí CNS:

- a large majority of parents feel pupils should be older than 6th Class before having: a smartphone (61%), social media (86%) and play online games (40%).
- 79% of pupils agreed that people should stick to the age restrictions for games and websites. Overwhelmingly, 90% of pupils agree that while some games can be fun to use, online safety and wellbeing is more important.
- 84% of pupils agree that parents should be able to see what children are doing online.

### Our Term 1, 2025 Targets

**For all pupils, devices should be co-owned by parents and used in open spaces in the home, where parents can supervise, monitor and observe. There should be no screen time in the bedroom.**

**For children in Junior Infants to Third Class, we encourage families to renew their commitment to keep their child's Primary School years smartphone, social media, and online-gaming free. You will receive a permission request via Aladdin. Families who sign up to this agreement will receive a certificate to display in a prominent place at home.**

For more information you can find our All Aboard! Internet and Technology Use Agreement on our website: ([click here](#))

**Yours sincerely,**  
*Darragh Roe, School Principal*  
*Agree to Agree Committee*



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## Exciting News for Ard Rí CNS!

I am delighted to announce that An Coimisiún Pleanála has granted permission to Louth & Meath Education and Training Board (LMETB) to develop Ard Rí Community National School and St Ultan's Special School at Academy Street in Navan. It has been a long journey to reach this milestone, and I want to sincerely thank my colleagues at Land and Buildings LMETB and congratulate our friends and soon to be neighbours at St Ultan's.

What a wonderful Christmas present to receive! In the new year, the team will begin work to appoint a building contractor. Meanwhile, work continues at Balreask Old, and we look forward to having four new classrooms ready for use early in the new year.

This is a hugely exciting step for our ever-growing school community!

