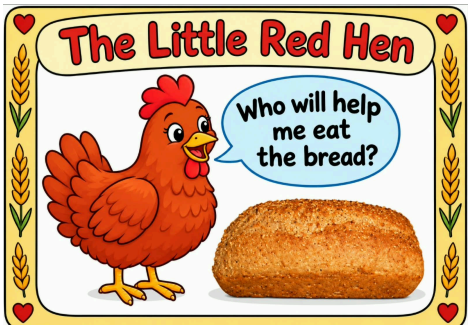
St Mary's National School

Monthly Newsletter | October 2026

A round-up of what's been happening in every class this month, plus our Good News Board highlights.

CLASS NEWS



JI + SI — Mrs. Corrigan

Junior and Senior Infants read the story of 'The Little Red Hen.' They drew maps showing her journey, sequenced pictures, learned about making flour before making and eating brown bread. When they were asked 'Who sill help me eat the bread?' They answered 'I will!'



1st + 2nd — Mrs. Smyth

First and second class began procedural writing this month. We used our procedural writing to create a recipe and make tasty 'Crackle Cakes' in class.



Mrs. Meade's classroom

Mrs. Meade's class completed lots of activities related to Autumn and Halloween. In this picture we are making a Halloween potion.



3rd + 4th — Ms. Kehoe

3rd and 4th class had great fun playing golf thanks to Golf Ireland this month.



Mr. Roberts Classroom

Mr. Robert's room completed some fabulous halloween art.



5th + 6th - Ms. Agar

5th and 6th Class were busy sorting, recording and analysing data using different coloured smarties as part of their learning about data in Maths.



St Mary's N.S go on Strike- 14th October

Thank you to all the parents, students and community members that supported us on the day.



Pumpkin Competition

Congratulations to
1st place Rosie + Katie Smyth with 'The Weird Witch' pumpkin.
2nd place Poppy + Noah Smyth Rothwell with 'Shaunderella' Pumpkin
3rd place Amy + Hannah Ruddock with 'Corpse Bride' Pumpkin
Well done to all that entered, such a great display of creativity!



Our New Wellbeing Practitioner

Her name is Jenny Gladney and next month we will begin the search for our 'Wellbeing Ambassadors' Mr. Roberts and Ms. Martin will be working with her on this initiative.

GOOD NEWS BOARD OCTOBER 2026

1. We completed our Run Around Europe Challenge, Junior and Senior Infants ran to France, 1st and 2nd class ran to Germany and then also around mainland Europe a bit, 3rd - 6th all running the 2,856km to Greece.
2. Our Girls GAA team got to the semi final of Carlow Cumann na mBunscol and lost to Kildavin N.S, the boys played a friendly against them then and won. Hurling training will commence after midterm and we are awaiting news of match fixtures.
3. We received two fantastic new interactive Promethean whiteboards this month, with thanks to the PA for applying and being awarded a grant through the Credit Union for one of them and the other for fundraising. They have been placed into Ms. Meade's classroom and Mrs. Smyth's room and both will be well used.
4. The school celebrated Maths week in each of the classrooms with many interactive, fun, maths activities including trails and competitions.
5. We had our first Halloween Disco and Pumpkin competition raising 200e! Well done everyone!
6. St Mary's N.S. is one of the 77 Wellbeing Pilot Primary Schools in Ireland. Our new practitioner Jenny Gladney began working with us this month, she will be with us every Thursday morning and over the course of the year will be working with different classes and students.
7. The Board of Management have given their approval for a school uniform for St Mary's N.S. beginning from September 2027. Ms. Magee will be meeting with interested parents to begin plans to achieve this. The student council will manage designing a school crest.

Key Dates:

Oct 23 — Halloween Midterm Begins.

Nov 10th - Team Hope Shoebox Appeal collection date.

Nov 17th - Beauty and The Beast Musical performed by a travelling theatre company.

Nov 17th - Creative Clusters Symposium Day for 5th and 6th classes from St. Brigid's, Leighlinbridge N.S., Queen of the Universe N.S. and ourselves all in Coláiste Aindriú, for a day celebrating the arts and creativity with stories as the centrepoint.

Nov 23 - School Closed for redeveloped curriculum training day, our school's focus for the next year is on the new Wellbeing Curriculum area specification.

Dec 9th - Christmas Craft Fair

Dec 17th - Christmas Carol Service

Dec 22nd - School Closes for Christmas Holidays.

Questions or submissions for next month? Email cwatchorn@stmarysnsbagenalstown.ie by the third Friday of the month.