

Urlingford NS Parent/Guardian Email – Friday 16th of October 2026

Hi All,

Please read the following school updates -

Halloween Quiz

Halloween quiz for 4th to 6th class will take place on Thursday 22nd of October at 9:15am in the school hall. Teams will be posted up in relevant classrooms in advance.

School Bus Behaviour

We are working with our school bus drivers to promote safe, respectful and positive behaviour on our school buses. We are particularly encouraging children to remain seated, use seatbelts, keep their hands and feet to themselves and always listen to their bus driver. We ask for parents' support in reinforcing these expectations at home.

Trick or Treat for Temple Street

We have our annual dress up day in aid of Temple Street Children's Hospital on Friday, 23rd October. We ask children to bring in €2 on the day. (€5 per family). We appreciate all the support from families.

Maths Week

Maths week in school will take place between Monday the 12th and Friday 16th of October. All classes will partake in fun maths activities during the next school week.

Hot Lunch Scheme

All families are reminded to log on to Fresh Today website using their log in details on Thursdays in advance of the week ahead to order their child's preferred lunch selection for the following week. Families will need to send a small snack with their child for little break. Hot Lunches will be distributed to classrooms between 12.15 and 12.30pm. Families who need any assistance or need questions answered re: Freshtoday hot lunches should email kilkenny@freshtoday.ie or call 053-9235994.

School Closed Wednesday 14th of October (Industrial Action)

Due to the directive by primary school teacher's union INTO and SNA's union Fórsa, it is highly likely that primary schools nationwide will be closed on Wednesday 21st of October.

Swimming / Aquatics

3rd and 4th class will attend swimming lessons in Thurles Leisure Centre starting Wednesday 16th of September and finishing on Wednesday 21st of October. Swimming costs €60 per pupil. 5th and 6th class will begin swimming lessons on the 12th of November.

Restorative Practice

Restorative practice is a framework focused on building, maintaining and repairing relationships by actively addressing conflict and harm through inclusive dialogue. This is a methodology being used as part of our revised Code of Discipline. Please see information page on restorative practice attached.

School Payments

Any family who has yet to pay school expenses is asked to do so before the Halloween break.

Nathan Culleton GAA GPO

Nathan Culleton will do hurling sessions with 3rd and 4th class starting on Tuesday 15th of September for 6 consecutive Tuesdays. 3rd and 4th class will need hurls and helmets on these Tuesdays.

Boys and Girls Gaelic Football

Gaelic football training for interested boys and girls in 4th to 6th class takes place on Mondays and Wednesdays at big break. The boys will play Danesfort in the Country Cup on Tuesday 20th of October, 2pm throw in at Emeralds GAA pitch. The boys will be ready for collection at 3pm from the pitch after the game.

Pupils using School Pitch

Pupils using the school pitch at breaktime and during sports coaching during the Winter months must wear boots or old runners.

Whole School Fire Drill

Our schools next Whole School Fire Drill will take place on Thursday 12th of November at 10.30am.

Up to date Contact Details

All families are asked to ensure that our school has up to date mobile phone numbers and email addresses as necessary so as our school can communicate suitably with all Parents/Guardians. Contact details can be changed by using Aladdin app or by calling or emailing Mary or Aimee in School Office. School phone number is 056 8831512. School email address is urlingfordns2020@gmail.com

Appointments Procedure

Any Parent/Guardian who is requesting to speak with a member of staff should do so through the school office. A convenient time which suits both staff member and Parent/Guardian will then be arranged.

Work Experience Requests

Our quota of TYs has been filled for the 26/27 school year. We cannot facilitate any further requests for TY work experience.

1:40pm Finish (Staff Meeting / Planning)

Our school's next 1:40pm finish for all classes to facilitate staff planning and staff training will take place on Tuesday 12th of January 2027

Homework

Homework is an important link between school and home. All Parents/Guardians are asked to check and sign their child's homework daily. If for any reason pupils are unable to complete

homework assigned by class teacher - Parent/Guardian should write a quick note to explain reason for incomplete homework.

Sacrament Dates for 2026/2027

Urlingford NS Confirmation for 5th and 6th class Confirmation candidates will take place on Saturday 13th of February 2027. Confession will take place on Tuesday 16th of February 2027. Communion will take place on Saturday 8th of May.

New Curriculum Framework Training Days

School will be closed to pupils on Monday 2nd of November 2026, Tuesday 2nd of February 2027, Wednesday 14th of April 2027 and Monday 31st of May 2027. Oide facilitators will be visiting the school to upskill staff on the new curriculum framework.

Student Council Election

Our second student council meeting will take place on Thursday 22nd of October.

Parent / Teacher Meetings

Parent / Teacher Meetings are planned for the week starting Monday 16th of November. We will have to change plan if industrial action does not cease before then.

Green Schools

A big well done to everyone on week one of our Travel Green campaign. We had a big number of pupils travelling to school in a green way. Thank you to everyone. An Taisce National WOW (Walk or Wheel) week will be taking place from Monday 19th of October to Friday 23rd of October. Please see attached letter from Green Schools Committee.

Vision & Hearing Screening

The HSE vision and hearing nurses will visit our school on Thursday 12th of November.

O'Reilly School Tracksuit

Urlingford NS online shop will re-open between the 12th and 22nd of October.

Rainbows

Reminder – Rainbows Programme will start this term. Children in 1st-6th class will receive information leaflets and an expression of Interest form in school on Monday 12th October.

Please return forms to the office by Friday 16th October if you would like your child to be considered to participate in the programme.

Please contact the Rainbows Coordinator Deirdre McGovern via email rainbows@urlingfordns.com or leave a message with the school secretary (056) 8831512 if you have any queries. Please see letter attached.

School Calendar

Please see attached updated calendar for 2026/2027. The school calendar is also available on the school website www.urlingfordns.com.

Halloween Closing and Re-opening

School will close for Halloween break on Friday 23rd of October at 2:40pm. School will re-open for pupils on Tuesday 3rd of November at 9am. Teachers will be undertaking New Curriculum Enactment Planning on Monday 2nd of November.

Thanks all. Enjoy the weekend.

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