



## Principal's Message



Dear Families,

As we approach the end of another school year, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been a fantastic and fulfilling year for everyone in the St. Corban's community. The 2025–2026 school year brought with it a huge amount of energy, learning and joy. This final term in particular was bursting with activity – from our sports competitions and class leagues to our ever-popular school tours, Sports Days, First Holy Communion, Graduation, and the return of the much-loved, fantastic school show, Beauty and the Beast.

Before we all take a well-earned summer break, I'd like to express heartfelt thanks to the people who make St. Corban's such a special place. Our Board of Management continues to provide incredible leadership and care and we are deeply grateful for their time, wisdom, and dedication. I also want to acknowledge our fantastic Parents' Association. Their tireless work and fundraising efforts have given our pupils countless fun experiences and lasting memories.

To the exceptional staff of St. Corban's – thank you, sincerely, for the passion, patience and dedication that you show each day. The warm and caring atmosphere in our school is a direct result of the people who work here and we are fortunate to have such a talented and generous team supporting our students both in the classroom and through extra-curricular life.

Thank you also to you, the parents and guardians, for your continued support and trust throughout the year. And of course, to our pupils – thank you for your good manners, kindness and cheerful spirit. You continue to make us all proud.

As always, we bid farewell to our Sixth Class pupils, at this time of year. They leave us having contributed so much to school life and have grown into fine young people, ready to take on new adventures. They take with them our very best wishes and blessings.

We also say a fond goodbye to Teachers leaving us – Ms. Fitzsimons, Ms. Hevican, Ms. Harman, Mr. Donlon, Ms. O'Donovan, Ms. Finnegan, Ms. Murphy and Mr. Carter. We thank them for their dedication and service to our school community and wish them every success in the future. Go raibh míle maith agaibh uilig.

# ST. CORBAN'S B.N.S NEWSLETTER

## JUNE 2026

## EDITION 12



We also remember our dear colleague, Colman Nugent, who passed away last month and we thank God for the gifts, talents and music that he shared with us over many years.

Finally, a sincere thank you to all of our families for being such an important part of what makes St. Corban's the vibrant and caring place that it is. Your generosity, involvement, and encouragement are deeply appreciated.

We finish this year on the last day of St. Corban's Boys National School, as a boys' only school. After over 70 years of wonderful service to the boys and men of Naas, we close the chapter on "The Boys School". We hope that we have served our young men well and that they remember fondly their time in the St. Corban's BNS. In August 2026, we begin the new chapter as St. Corban's National School, serving both boys and girls in Naas.

Looking ahead, we are filled with excitement as we continue preparations to welcome our very first junior infant girls in August 2026. A huge amount of work has been done behind the scenes, to ensure that each little girl will feel right at home from the very first day. Their arrival will bring a wonderful new chapter to our school's story and we can't wait to meet them. We know that they will enrich an already warm and vibrant community.

Wishing you all a joyful and restful summer. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Thursday 27 th August 2026.

Warm regards,  
John Drewett

**A NEW CHAPTER TOGETHER!**  
**EXCITING NEWS!**

From **September 2026**, we are opening our doors to **girls** for the first time!

Everyone. Every Talent. Every Day.  
Welcome to **St. Corban's NS**

**TOGETHER, WE WILL LEARN, GROW AND ACHIEVE!**

NEW FRIENDS | NEW OPPORTUNITIES | SAME VALUES BRIGHT FUTURES

# JUNIOR INFANTS NEWS



We have had a wonderful finish to our year in Junior Infants. One of the highlights was watching our caterpillars grow into butterflies. The boys loved observing each stage of the life cycle and were delighted to release the butterflies into the field. We also made our first visit to the church for Mass and the boys were absolutely fantastic. Their excellent behaviour made us all very proud.

We had our school tour to the Playbarn in Johnstown and it was a great success. A lovely way to celebrate the end of a super year. In class, we enjoyed learning about the composer Camille Saint-Saëns, listening to and responding to pieces such as Royal March of the Lion and Kangaroos. We also learned about our scientist Louis Pasteur and had great fun making butter as part of our investigation into pasteurisation. We were also treated to a special visit from the ice cream van, which was a lovely surprise and a real treat for the boys.



In our final week of Junior Infants, we have our Sports Day and our Teddy Bears' Picnic to look forward to. It has been a pleasure to teach them this year and we are so proud of all they have achieved. We wish them a happy and well-deserved summer break.

# SENIOR INFANTS NEWS



Term 3 has been full of fun, learning, and exciting experiences in Senior Infants! The boys became magic e experts and loved taking their learning outdoors, using chalk to share their work. A school tour trip to the Jungle Den was a big highlight, with plenty of excitement and dancing at the disco. In Maths, the boys enjoyed becoming shopkeepers and customers as they explored money through buying and selling with their friends. In SESE, they discovered fascinating facts about minibeasts and sea creatures and created some fantastic artwork inspired by their learning. They also had great fun playing collaborative games, enjoyed paired reading with 6th Class, and worked together in PE, where both classes joined forces to create and complete chalk obstacle courses during playground stations. To top off a wonderful term, everyone thoroughly enjoyed a special ice cream treat from the Parents' Association!



# FIRST CLASS NEWS



The last term has been a very busy and enjoyable one in First Class. The boys completed their first Drumcondra tests in both Maths and English. They learned all about summer and the seaside and learned how to draw a sandcastle. They devoured their ice-creams that the PTA kindly bought for all the pupils and staff. In SESE, they explored different types of food from around the world and learned about the importance of healthy eating. The children have also enjoyed reading and learning about a variety of animals. Who wouldn't want a chameleon as a pet? They also went swimming this term in K Leisure and are still trying to Find Nemo! For their school tour, they went to Fort Lucan. The boys had a blast playing Crazy Golf, go-karting, climbing the pirate's ship, zip lining and playing in the sand. They enjoyed all the fun activities on Sports Day. The boys have worked really hard this year and are looking forward to a well earned rest over the summer.



# SECOND CLASS NEWS



June has been a very busy and exciting month for 2nd Class! The highlight of the month was our school tour to Let's Go Camp in Kilcullen. The boys had a fantastic day taking part in lots of fun activities, including go-karting, bouncing on the bouncy castles, playing team games, and experiencing virtual reality (VR). There were smiles and laughter all day long!

In class, we have been working hard in Maths, learning all about weight and capacity through practical activities and investigations. We also enjoyed using Bee-Bots to develop our coding and problem-solving skills.

The boys have shown great enthusiasm and teamwork throughout the month and should be very proud of all they have achieved. We would also like to congratulate the boys on making their First Holy Communion in May. It was a very special occasion, and they represented themselves, their families and our school wonderfully. We wish everyone a happy summer break!

# THIRD CLASS NEWS



Third Class had a great year full of fun, learning and new experiences. We enjoyed learning and improving our chess skills, using LEGO Spike, completing activities on Google Classroom and taking part in a variety of projects throughout the year. A highlight of the year was our school tour to Sports Campus Ireland, where we took part in lots of exciting activities. We also enjoyed our class league games, which were fun, competitive and gave us lots of opportunities to work as a team.



The boys worked hard, showed great enthusiasm and made many happy memories throughout the year. We are very proud of all they have achieved and wish them a happy summer. We look forward to seeing them in Fourth Class.

# FOURTH CLASS NEWS



The boys from fourth class have worked really hard over the last couple of months. In History, the class learned lots of new facts. This month we covered the Ancient Greeks and Legends and the History of Transport. In Geography, the boys learned about the main Tourist Attractions in Ireland. In Science, they learned about plants and flowers. In PE, the classes have been enjoying their swimming lessons. The boys also enjoyed taking part in the Class League Final in Gaelic football. The boys also wrote wonderful pieces on Explanation Writing in English. The class went to Fort Lucan for their School Tour. The boys really enjoyed the tour and we were very lucky with the weather.



# FIFTH CLASS NEWS



Fifth Class have had a busy and exciting term filled with learning, competition and outdoor adventure. One of the highlights was our school tour to CP Adventure, where pupils challenged themselves and demonstrated excellent teamwork while taking part in activities such as ziplining, wall climbing, canoeing and bushcraft. A fantastic day was had by all, and many pupils showed great courage when stepping outside their comfort zones.



In Geography, pupils completed projects on a FIFA World Cup country of their choice. They researched the country's location, culture, landmarks and sporting traditions before presenting their findings to the class.

Our budding poets showcased their creativity by participating in a class poetry competition, while our keen debaters developed their speaking and listening skills through a series of debating competitions against their classmates.



Many pupils also enjoyed taking part in the lunchtime soccer league, displaying great sportsmanship and teamwork throughout the competition. During golf lessons, pupils learned and practised key golfing skills while improving their coordination and concentration.

In History, the class learned about Daniel O'Connell and explored his important role in Irish history, particularly his campaign for Catholic emancipation and his contribution to political change in Ireland.

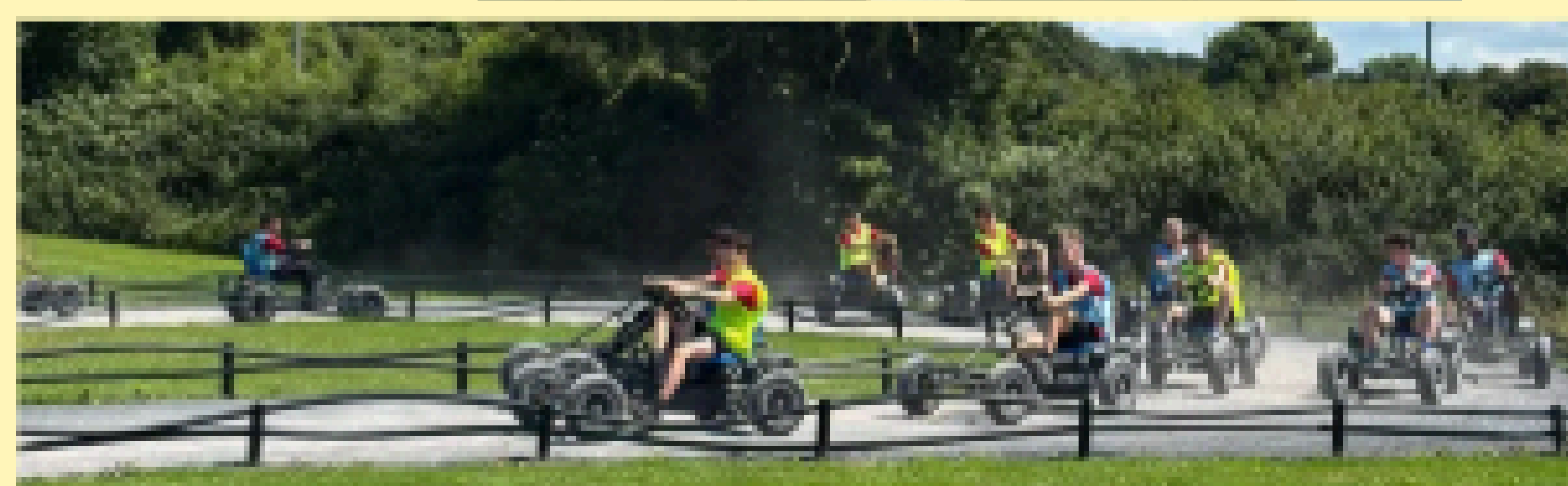
We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, effort and positive attitude shown by all pupils throughout the term.

# SIXTH CLASS NEWS



Our 6th Class boys had an action-packed end to the school year! They enjoyed various activities, including class leagues, lunchtime soccer leagues organised by Ms. Mangan, and indoor soccer in the CBS Hall. A highlight was the Soccer Tournament Day at Naas Sports Centre.

Sports Day was full of energy and friendly competition, showcasing great team spirit. The school show was a standout success, with boys performing on stage and working behind the scenes, earning well-deserved praise.



They also took part in a prefect tour, enjoyed a school trip to Redhills Adventure Centre, and celebrated Device Day with Nintendo games and FIFA. Some students represented the school in the Microsoft Dream Space programme, presenting innovative projects.

Preparations for Graduation Mass saw pupils contributing through singing, prayers, and artwork. The Yearbook Presentation was a memorable event, celebrating many school memories — a big thank you to the Parents' Association for all their work in producing such a special keepsake.

# SPORTS NEWS



## First and Second Class Hurling Blitz

Pupils from first and second class represented St. Corban's in a hurling blitz in Naas GAA in June. Both teams played matches against Rathmore NS, Scoil Bhríde and Gaelscoil Nás na Ríogh. The boys had a brilliant day and represented our school wonderfully. Well done boys!



## Tennis

Our school tennis team showcased some excellent tennis skills while participating in doubles matches against Mercy Convent and Holy Child National School. The pupils demonstrated great teamwork, determination and enthusiasm throughout both days of playing. As well as playing some fantastic tennis, they were a credit to the school, displaying lovely manners, respect, and sportsmanship at all times. We are very proud of how they represented our school both on and off the court.



## Annual St. Corban's Chess Competition

The Annual St. Corban's Chess Competition once again proved to be a hugely popular event, with over 150 boys from across the school taking part. Throughout the competition, pupils demonstrated excellent concentration, strategic thinking and sportsmanship as they battled their way through a series of challenging matches.

The competition has a proud history, with previous champions including Rory Comerford, Euan Breen and Jacob Abella, whose names are now part of St. Corban's chess legacy.



After a series of closely contested matches, congratulations go to Saicharan from Sixth Class, who was crowned this year's St. Corban's Chess Champion. Danil finished in second place, Asher secured third place, and James claimed fourth place. All four pupils displayed exceptional skill, determination and composure throughout the tournament.

A special word of thanks must go to Eric Stafford in Sixth Class, who designed and created this year's magnificent championship trophy. Eric's creativity, craftsmanship and attention to detail resulted in a unique trophy that will be treasured by the competition winner for years to come.

Congratulations to all pupils who participated and helped make this year's competition such a success. We look forward to another exciting tournament next year

## U13B in House Blitz

An U13B in house school blitz was played on Monday 22nd of June. This involved approx. 60 students from 5th and 6th class. The boys played in 4 teams- Kildare, Laois, Longford and Kerry. It was a competitive and fun filled day, enjoyed by all teachers and students involved! Congratulations to Laois finally beating Kildare!

# SPORTS NEWS



## Cumann na mBunscol U13 Hurling

Congratulations to our U13 hurling team who represented St. Corban's BNS with great pride in the Cumann na mBunscol competition this year. The boys faced strong opposition from Holy Child School Ballycane, Scoil Bhríde Naas and St. Anne's NS Ardclough on their journey to the latter stages of the competition. They showed tremendous skill, determination and teamwork throughout, progressing all the way to the county semi-final. While the result did not go our way, the boys can be extremely proud of their efforts and the manner in which they represented our school. A special word of congratulations to our 6th Class boys, for whom this was their final opportunity to wear the St. Corban's colours. Thank you for your commitment and sportsmanship over the years. We extend our sincere appreciation to Ms. B. Mangan and Mr. Hartnett for their coaching and continued support to the team.



## 'Unleash your Drive' Golf Programme.

Our 5<sup>th</sup> Classes got to participate in the 'Unleash your Drive' golf programme. Golf Ireland funded €1000 worth of age appropriate golf equipment to the school, as well as teacher training and six weeks of lessons with a golf instructor. A big thanks to Ms. Finnegan for guiding and organising this fantastic opportunity for the boys.



# SPORTS NEWS



## U13 Gaelic football team

Excellent year with the U13 football team. They were successful and reached the division one final! They played a strong team from Scoil Uí Riada, Kilcock. It was a sunny day in Hawkfield and the St. Corban's boys gave everything that they had. The boys worked together as a team and supported each other. A high level of skill was on show from both teams, it was an exciting game to watch. The St. Corban's team won the division 1 final for only the second time in 28 years! The last time was eleven years ago. This is a profound and proud moment in St. Corban's. It was an excellent achievement and we are all so proud of the hard work, commitments and efforts that every team member put in this year. A special thanks to Ms. Harman and Mr. Dineen for supporting and guiding the team.



# SPORTS NEWS



## Medal Presentation

We were delighted to welcome our past pupils and footballers, Seán Hanifin, Tim Ryan, and Rob Murray, to our annual Medal Presentation in June. Our pupils were thrilled to be presented with their own medals and cups by these inspirational figures. We are very proud of all our boys' achievements, and it was a great honour to have the lads attend our presentation. A special thanks to Mr. Rock for organising this wonderful event and for his commitment to maintaining this long-standing tradition in our school.



# MUSIC, DANCE AND DRAMA



## A Spectacular Production of Beauty and The Beast.

A highlight of the school year was our fantastic school show. Our talented students delivered a fantastic modern adaptation of *Beauty and the Beast* over three nights at the Moat Theatre, receiving standing ovations each evening. The show highlighted their skills in acting, singing, dancing, artwork, costume design, stage management, and technical production. Special thanks to Ms. McCarville for her exceptional writing and direction, and to our dedicated teachers and Parents' Association for their support. The event was a huge success, even featured in our local newspaper, *The Leinster Leader*! As a reward, cast members enjoyed a pizza party and extra Golden Time. Well done to everyone involved!



## School Choir

After their performance at the Peace Proms in the RDS back in February, the school choir quickly started rehearsing for their performance in the school show *'Beauty and the Beast'* in the Moat Theatre. They performed the songs *Try Everything*, *Viva la Vida* and *Chariot*. Well done to all the choir members for their commitment and hard work throughout this busy school year.

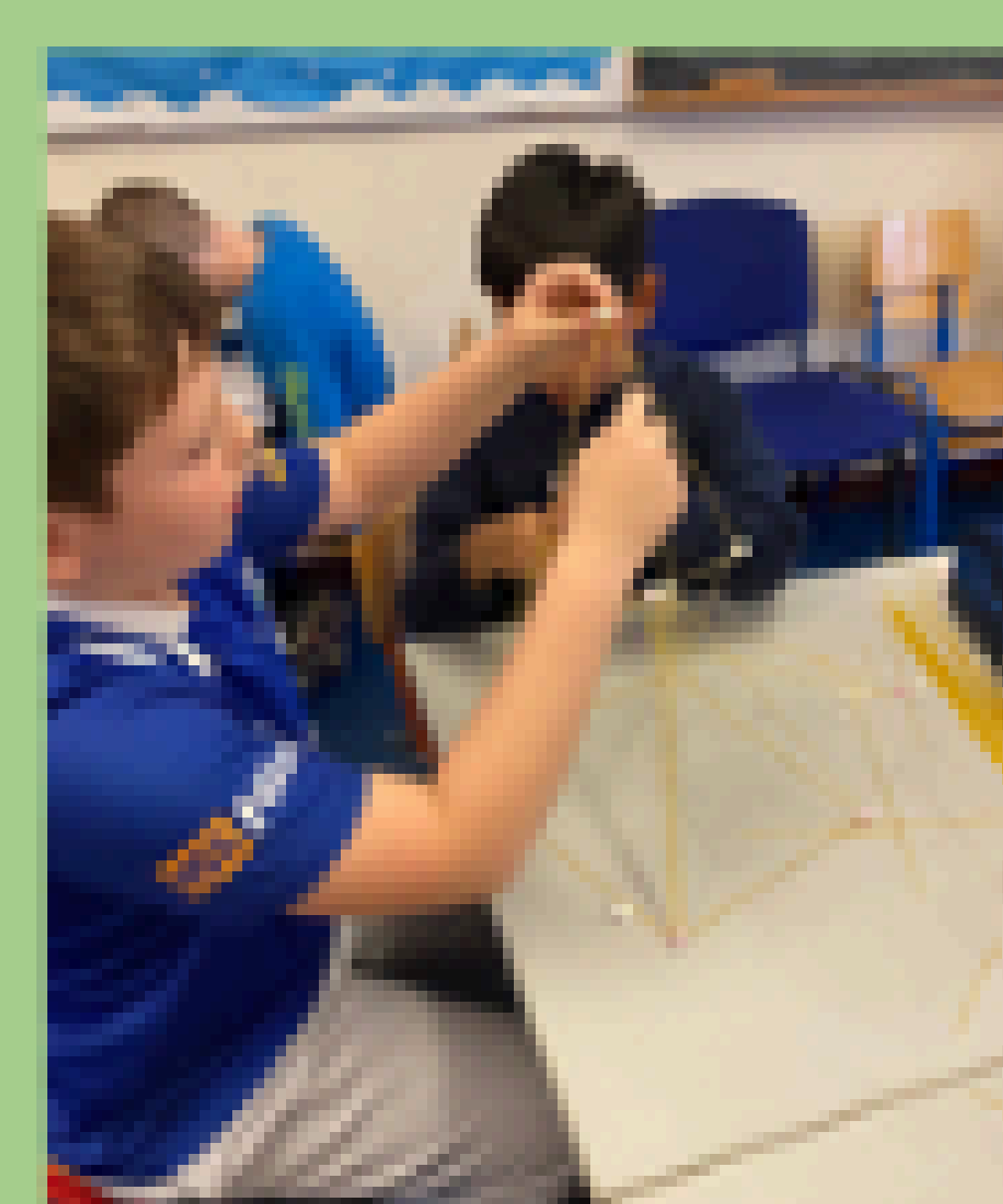
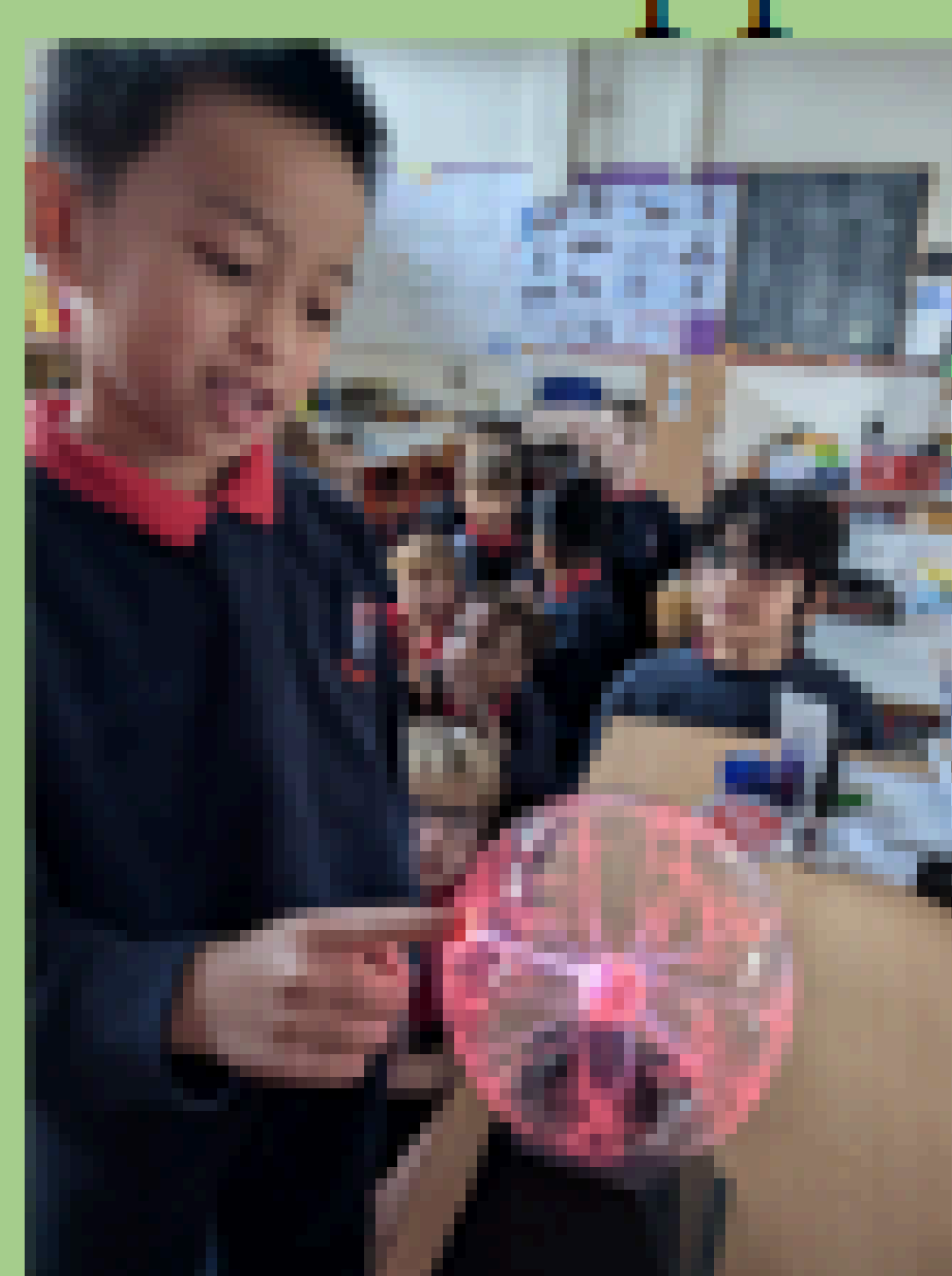
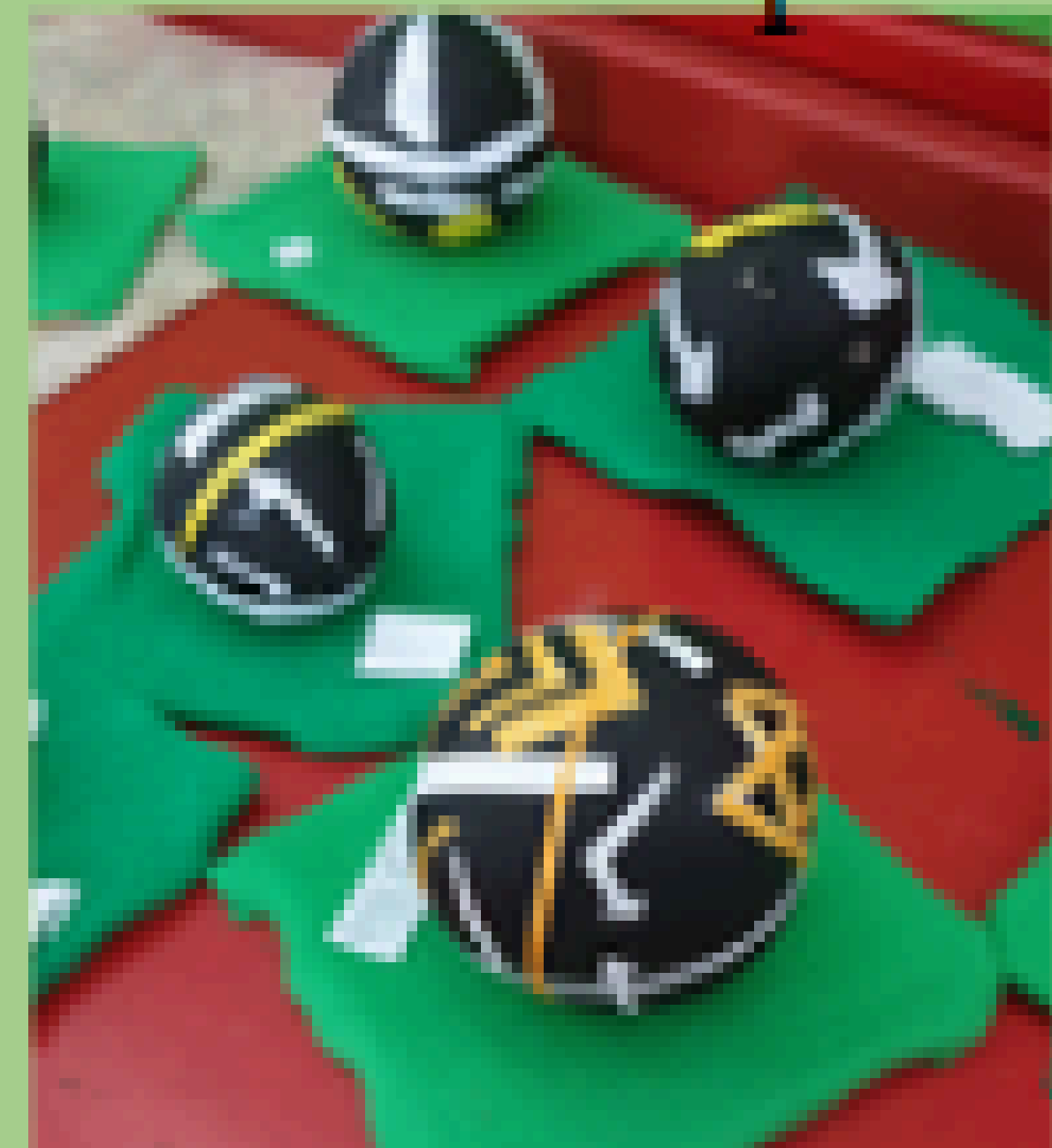
# SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY



## Curious Minds Gold Award

Our pupils have been awarded the Curious Minds Gold Award. This achievement is a testament to the tremendous effort and enthusiasm shown by the children throughout the year, as they engaged in a wide range of STEM activities. The award recognises the school's strong commitment to Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths, as well as the excellent work showcased in our STEM Showcase.

Congratulations to all involved on this fantastic accomplishment—your hard work, creativity and curiosity have truly paid off! Sincere thanks to Ms. Ahern for her expertise and supporting the boys to achieve this fantastic award.



## St. Corban's Coding Club Excels at Microsoft Ireland

Our Coding Club pupils had a fantastic day at Microsoft Ireland, showcasing their STEAM projects following the Dream Space Programme, under the guidance of Ms. Pearson. Using Micro:bits, they presented innovative solutions including SMART recycling bins and a model pedestrian crossing to promote sustainability and road safety. The boys also shared their projects with other classes in the school hall, demonstrating excellent confidence and creativity. Through this work, they developed valuable skills in coding, teamwork, and problem-solving. We are incredibly proud of their achievements.



# EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



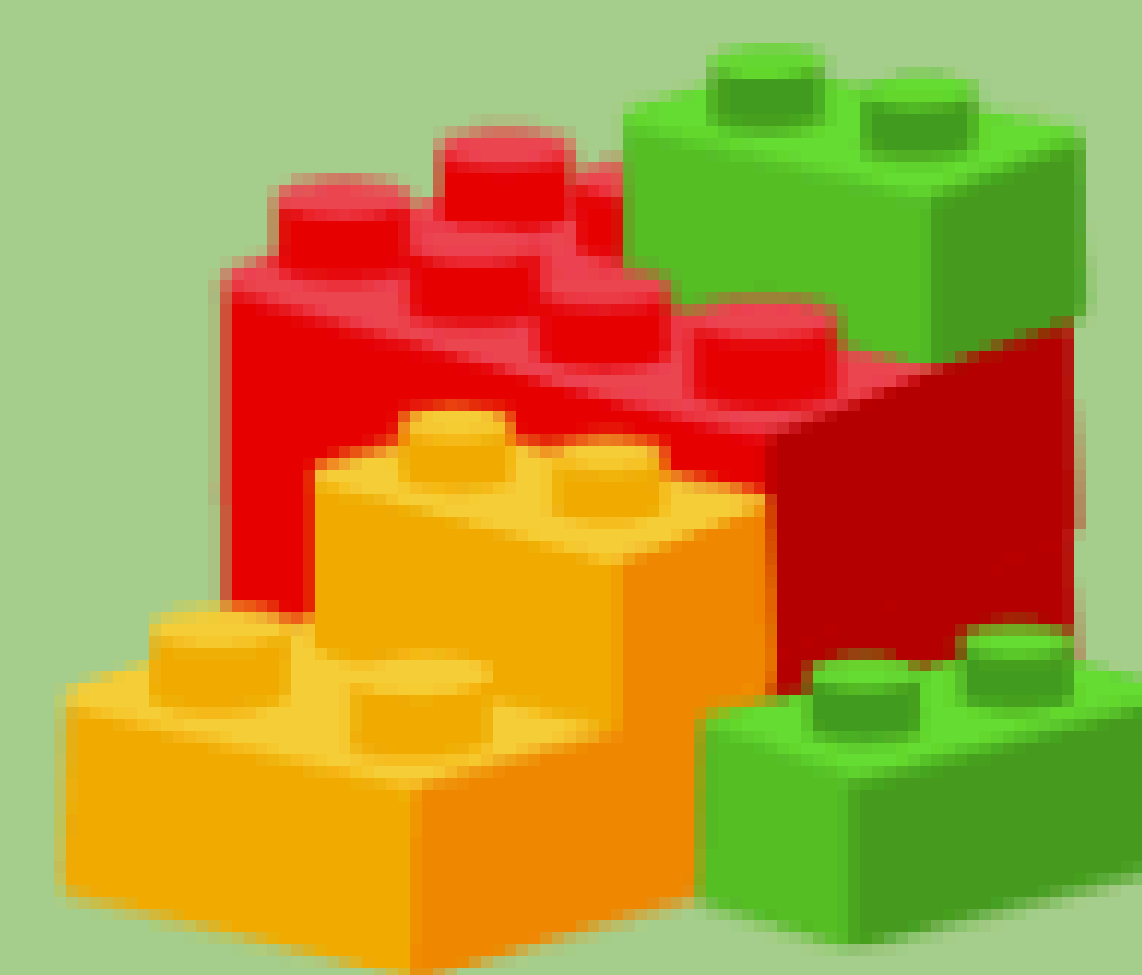
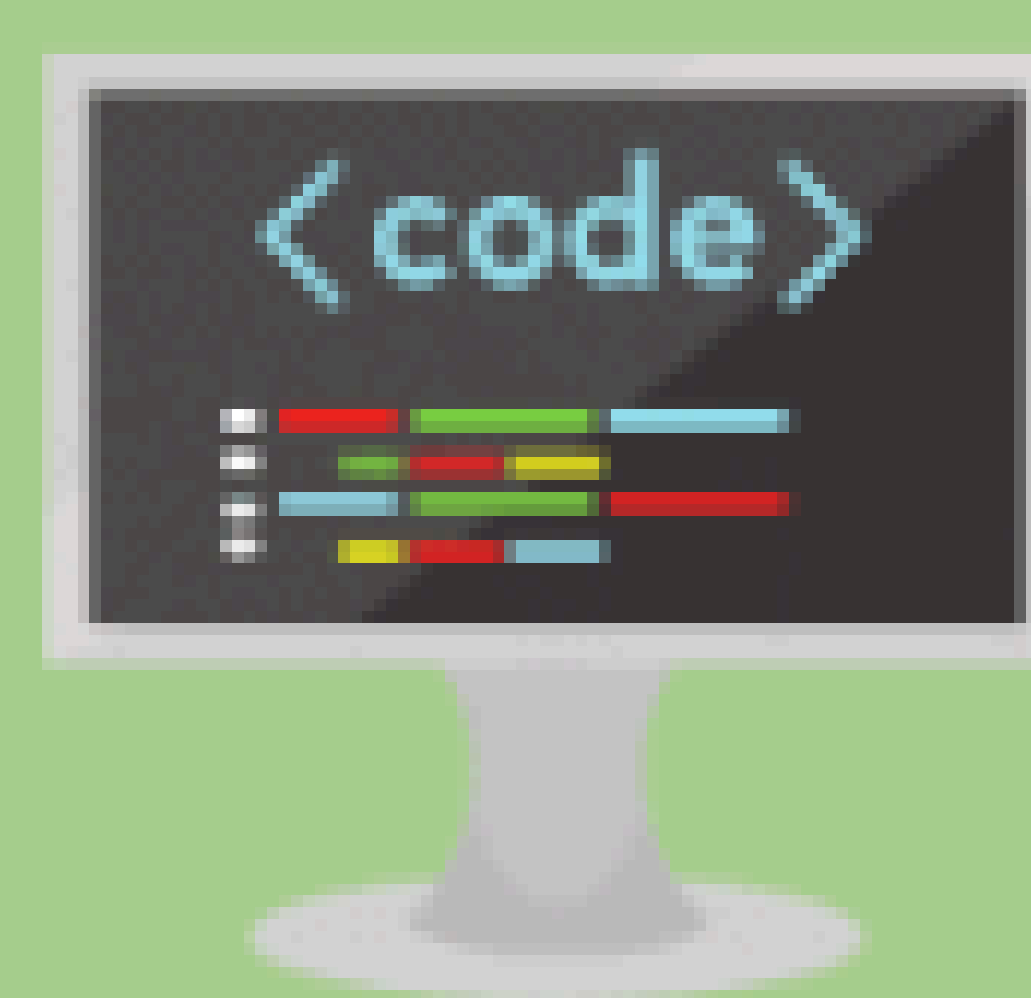
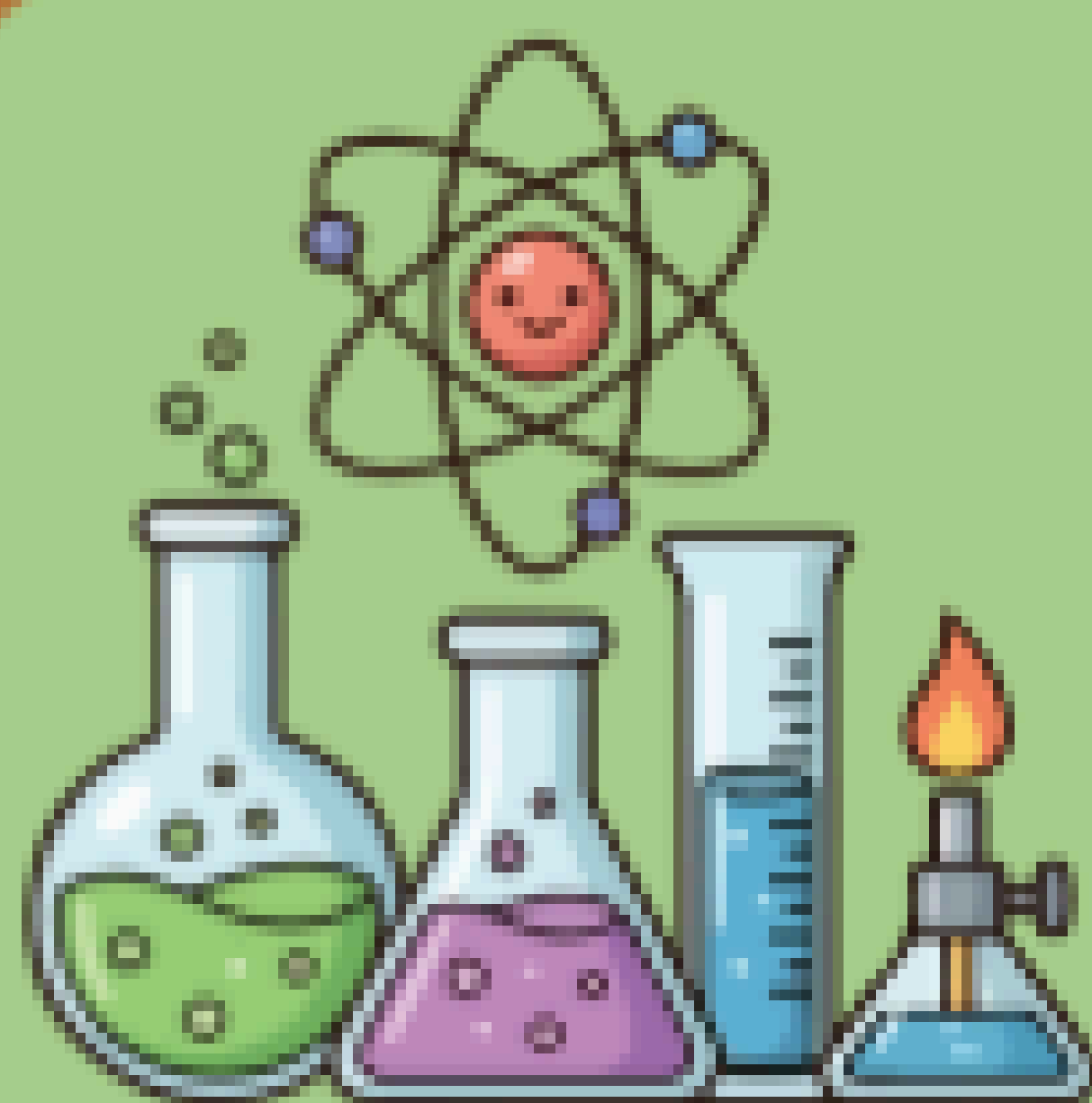
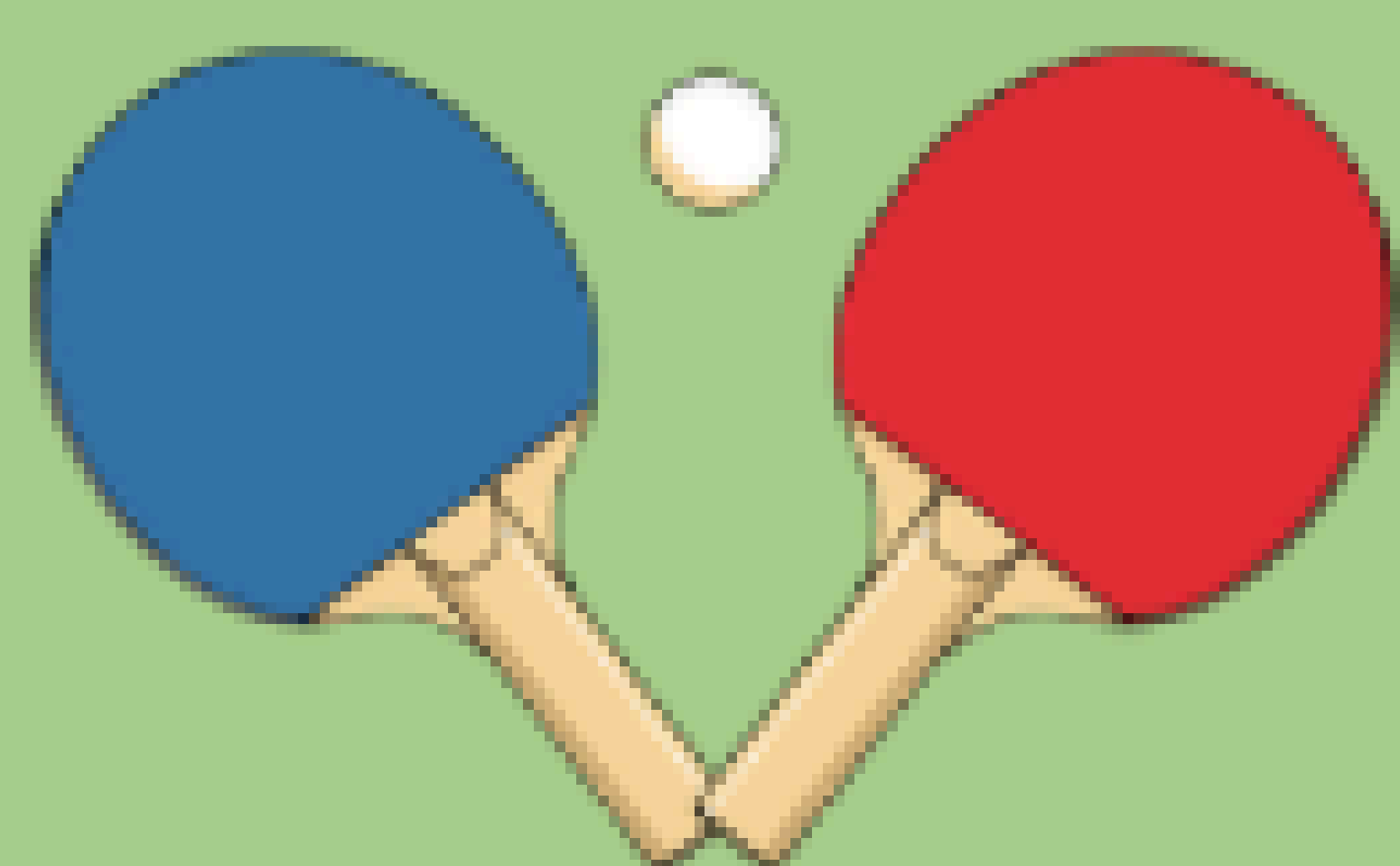
## After-Schools Club

St. Corban's B.N.S. successfully ran three blocks of after-school clubs during the 2025–2026 school year, providing pupils with valuable opportunities to learn, create and develop new skills outside of the classroom.

Clubs took place in September 2025 (8 weeks), January 2026 (8 weeks), and April 2026 (6 weeks). A wide range of activities were offered, including Chess, Science, Homework, Soccer, Art, Coding, Lego, Performing Arts, and Table Tennis.

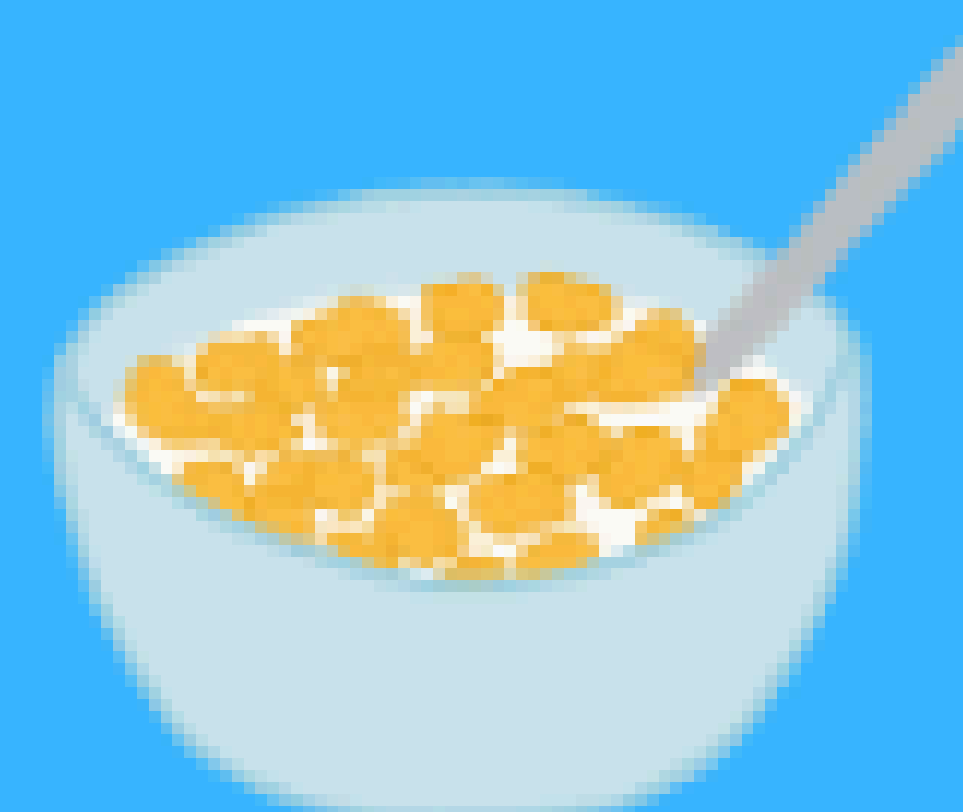
Each club was delivered by dedicated staff members, ensuring a safe, supportive, and enjoyable environment for all pupils. The programme continues to support pupils' academic, physical, and social development while promoting positive engagement beyond school hours.

We are very proud of the enthusiasm and participation shown by pupils throughout the year and look forward to continuing to expand our after-school provision in the future.



## Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club has been a great success! The boys have enjoyed having their nutritious breakfast followed by fun activities every morning in our GP room. It'll continue to run again in September for the next school year. If you wish to enquire, please email [breakfastclub@stcorbans.com](mailto:breakfastclub@stcorbans.com)

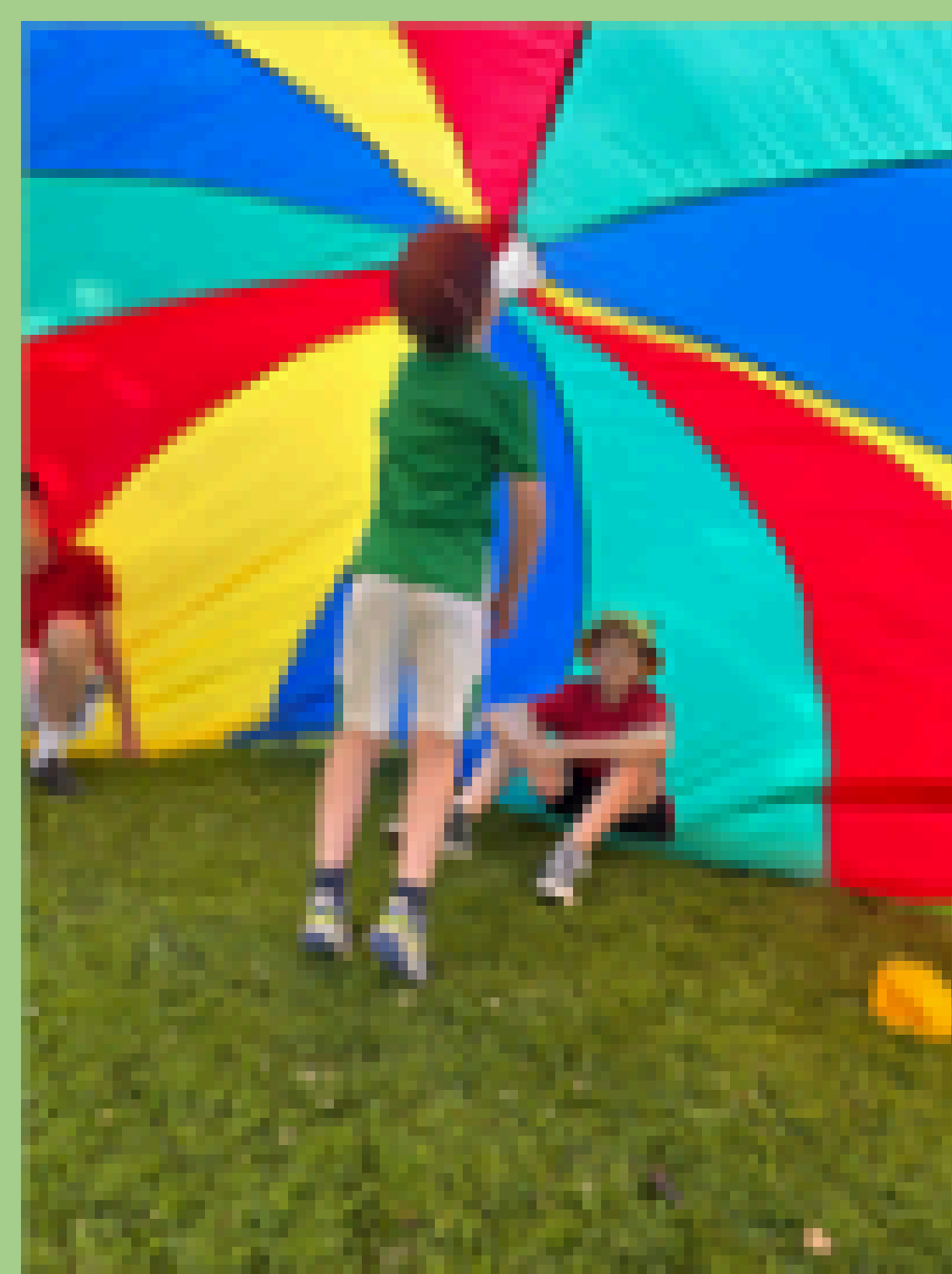


# MISCELLANEOUS



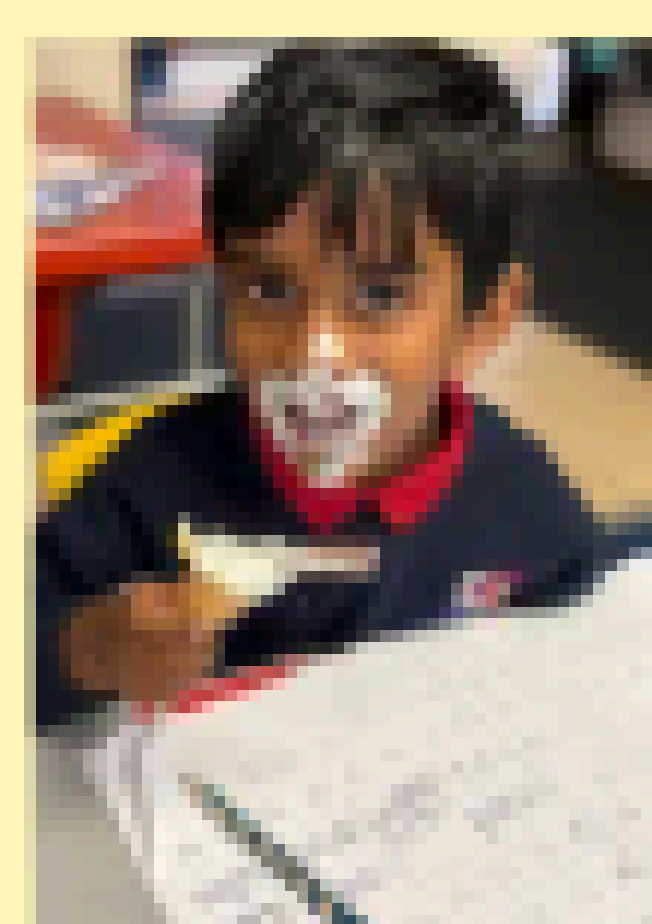
## Sports Day

Sports Day is another annual highlight in June. The pupils enjoyed participating in a variety of fun activities in the sunshine on our school field. A big thank you to Naas CBS Secondary School for allowing us to use their field and hall also.



## Fun, Smiles, Laughter!

There were smiles and happy faces all around as pupils and staff enjoyed a special visit from the ice-cream van, kindly organised by our wonderful Parents' Association. They also treated the 2nd Class boys to a fantastic pizza party. On behalf of the whole school community, sincere thanks to our fabulous Parents' Association for their tireless efforts throughout the year in enriching school life.



We would like to thank the Board of Management and the Parents' Association for their ongoing and invaluable support and contributions to the school.

We wish everyone a wonderful summer break!