

GREEN-SCHOOLS WATER AWARDS 2026





From the Water Team

Welcome to the Water Awards Ceremony 2026!

Today we come together to celebrate students, parents, teachers and caretakers who have poured their energy and care into protecting one of our most vital resources: water.

This event honours the work of outstanding Green-Schools Committees. From conserving water to exploring local waterways, the initiatives showcased remind us that protecting water is a collective endeavour. We're also celebrating the winners of the 2026 "Water and Me / Mise agus Uisce" Poster competition, where students expressed their unique relationship to water - recalling a place they cherish, as well as the feelings, sensations or meanings water holds for them.

This booklet is your guide to today's celebrations and a keepsake of the dedication and community spirit that make the Green-Schools programme so special. We hope it sparks new ideas and motivates you to bring this energy to your own school, home or community.

The Green-Schools Water Team,

Sabrina, Tori and Rishibha



Agenda

11:00 AM: Arrivals & Registration

Get your photo taken, enjoy refreshments and explore the poster exhibition.

11:30 AM: Awards Ceremony Begins

Show & Tell (Part 1)

- Citywest & Saggart
- St. Catherine's Special School
- Scoil Naomh Bríde
- Scoil Ailbhe/Cahreelly NS

Junior Primary Winning Posters – National winner announced!

12:15 PM: Comfort Break

12:25 PM: Awards Ceremony Continues

Show & Tell (Part 2)

- Firhouse Educate Together NS
- Glenroe Community National School
- Gaelscoil na Laochra
- St. Conleth's College

Senior Primary Winning Posters – National winner announced!

Best Show & Tell announced!

1:00 PM: Lunch is served – pizza time!

Poster Competition Winners

Junior Primary School Category



Emily Byrne
Scoil Mhuire National School



Aryav Mittal
Wicklow Montessori Primary School



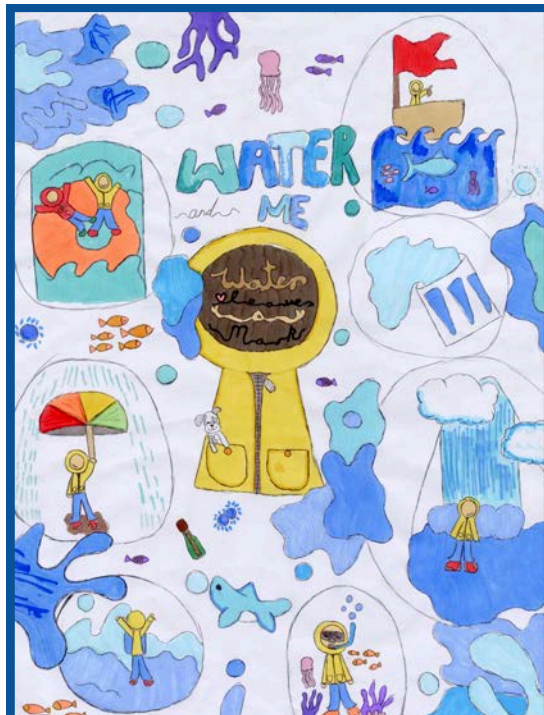
Julia Keane
Meentogues National School



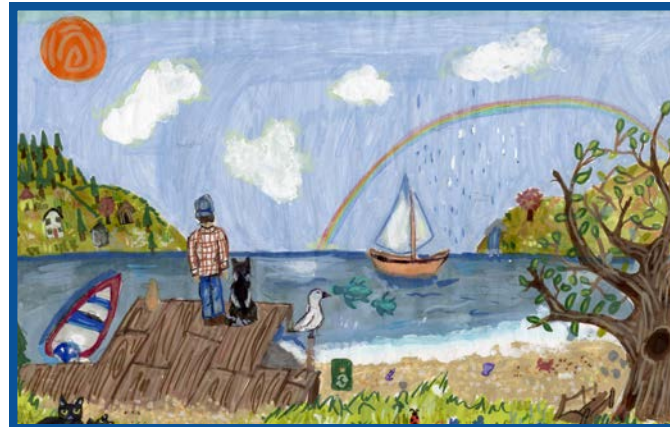
Síetra Ní Chonghail
Scoil Éinne

Poster Competition Winners

Senior Primary School Category



Emmy Mulligan
St. Mary's National School



Nora Columb
Scoil Adhamhnáin Naofa



Ahana Kumbam
Wicklow Montessori Primary School



Kayla O'Sullivan
Scoil Mhuire Ballincollig

Citywest and Saggart Community NS

Water School of the Year



Citywest & Saggart Community NS's 27-member, pupil-led GS committee drives a whole-school approach to water conservation.

- Pupils led impactful campaigns such as “Turn Off the Tap” and “What Goes Down the Toilet,” alongside hands-on initiatives including a School Pond Project and the use of rainwater and greywater systems for gardening.
- Their standout Water STEM Day engaged all classes in practical investigations, while a week-long 5-Minute Shower Challenge tracked real water savings at home. Progress is monitored through water meter checks, pupil-led audits, surveys, and caretaker reports, embedding lasting behavioural change across the school community.

St. Catherine's Special School

Water School of the Year

Exploring themes from fast fashion to marine life and water quality, St. Catherine's Special School takes a creative, wide-ranging approach to water conservation.

- This team's Day of Action featured an Anti-Fast Fashion Show, where pupils chose a garment from the local charity shop, customised unique outfits at school, and showed off their creations during an exciting catwalk. Pupils even learned how to use a sewing machine while learning more about the circular economy.
- Hands-on learning extended to their local environment through adopting the River Altidore, where pupils carried out water testing, created art, and engaged in nature-based activities.
- The school took trips to Marine Life Bray and the little tern colony in Kilcoole to learn more about marine life, inspiring curriculum work and art activities back at school.



Scoil Naomh Bríde

Water School of the Year



Scoil Naomh Bríde promotes a whole-school culture of water conservation through diverse and engaging learning experiences that involve the entire community.

- Pupils engaged in hands-on learning through river visits with heritage experts, biodiversity workshops, and a dedicated water-themed digital resource for all classes. This team also repaired major leaks and installed a rainwater harvesting system.
- Their standout initiative, “Walk for Water Day,” saw the entire school walk up to 6km carrying water, raising awareness of global water challenges.
- The school also promotes sustainability through eco-friendly workshops, collaboration with Tidy Towns, visiting speakers, and active community engagement, proudly showcasing their efforts through social media and their Green Flag.

Scoil Ailbhe/Cahreelly NS

Water School of the Year

Scoil Ailbe's vibrant, pupil-led programme places students at the heart of water conservation. A large, rotating committee works in action groups, featuring a unique buddy system where older pupils mentoring younger ones.

- This team led an impressive reduction in water use 6.4L to 5.06L per person, made possible by "Leak Detectives," meter monitoring, and low-flush initiative where students placed sand bottles in cisterns to reduce water usage per flush.
- Their Day of Action combined a school-wide leak check, litter pick along the local river, and collaboration with the school caretaker to weed plant beds and repair the water butt. During lunch, a creative "Lunchbox Legends" campaign celebrated pupils with reusable lunchboxes.



Firhouse Educate Together NS

Water School of the Year



At Firhouse ETNS, impactful, hands-on action, alongside ongoing evaluation and strong pupil leadership, fostered a lasting culture of responsible water use throughout the school community.

- Representatives from each class monitor water use, share solutions, and encourage daily water-wise habits, resulting in clear behavioural changes across the school. The team became professional water meter readers and data trackers, monitoring the meter each month and sharing the figures at every meeting.
- Their “Walk for Water” Day of Action highlighted global water challenges, with pupils carrying up to 20L of water to reflect the reality faced in other countries. To reduce spillage, this team opted to reuse 5L bottles they got during their own water shortage earlier this year.

Glenroe Community National School

Water School of the Year

Glenroe Community NS embedded water conservation across school life through classroom learning, student leadership, and community engagement.

- A student-led committee conducted a detailed water audit, introduced tap monitors, and regularly reviews progress. Themed events like a "Walk for Water," poster competitions, and the "5 Minute Shower Showdown," reinforce awareness and make conservation a collective habit. Strong student leadership includes roles such as the Leak Squad and peer educators.
- They have also worked with An Taisce's GLOBE for a river ecosystem workshop, linked with local water authorities for a field trip to the water treatment plant, and even connected with the Limerick Outdoor Education Centre for a day of pond-dipping, kayaking, and water testing at Lough Gur.



Gaelscoil na Laochra

Water School of the Year



Bhí coiste glas éachtach ag Gaelscoil na Laochra. Bhí sé mar aidhm acu daltaí do gach saghas riachtanaisí a bheith ar an gcoiste, chun gach guth a cloisint agus suim na ndaltaí a thuiscint.

- Bhí laghdú sunt asach ar a núsáid uisce (1,407 litre d'uisce), bhí sé sin mar laghdú 32% ina iomlán! Dochreite!
- Bhí an pobal na scoile an-pháirteach, i dteannta sin bhí páirt lárnach ag na tuismitheoirí. Bhí Lá Gnímh acu, Siúlóid Cois Abhainn, ina raibh na tuismitheoirí ann leo. Bhí Lá Gnímh eile acu inar thug siad cuairt speisialta ar an linn snámha chun taithí ceadfach a fháil ar uisce.
- Bhí nascanna láidir déanta idir caomhnú uisce, sabháilteacht in uisce, an eolaíocht agus tíreolaíocht a bhaineann le uisce. Is léir go raibh oideachas den scoth ag na daltaí scoile i leith an téama uisce. Molaimis na múinteoirí uilig gafa leis.

St. Conleth's College

Water School of the Year

St. Conleth's School creative approach to water awareness combines science, action, and student leadership to improve the local environment and engage the wider community.

- Pupils tested water from local sources including the Grand Canal and their local pond, explored water topics through field trips to a rock pool, incinerator and airfield, and investigated their own school water system.
- Key initiatives include a student-led “walking toilet” campaign for World Toilet Day, DIY pond construction, and installation of bat shelters with a water focus in Herbet Park. Transition Year students led awareness through large-scale posters, return schemes, and even a student-written rap performed at City Hall.



Murhur National School

Water School of the Year



Murhur NS embeds water awareness across school life through creative, practical, and community-led initiatives.

- During Action Days and Science Weeks, pupils explored water through experiments and local walks to the Annamoy River. Expert visitors—including a local farmer, firefighters, and a plumber—shared real-life insights on water use, conservation, and infrastructure.
- From staff to students and families, everyone helps conserve water, including classroom “water watchers” who monitor usage and report leaks.
- The school took part in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade in Listowel this year, using the theme “On the crest of a wave” to reflect both the sea and the journey of our school. The younger classes represented the rolling waves of the ocean, while the older children symbolised the rocks and pebbles along the shoreline.

