

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 and Water Ambassador Teams. 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 and Video competitions, who each expressed their unique relationship to water - recalling a place they cherish, as well as the feelings, sensations or meanings water holds for them.

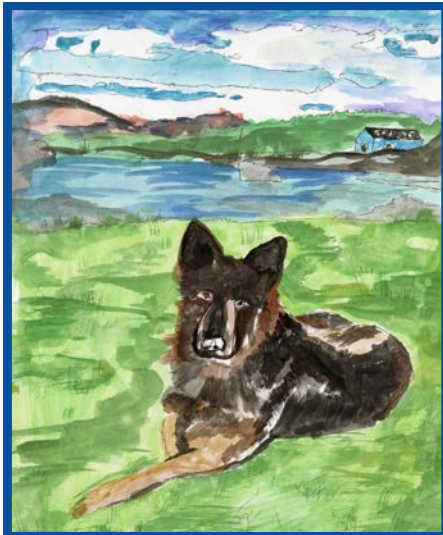
You'll also witness how the message "Water and Me" has been expressed through music, visual art and film - proof that activism also thrives through imagination and storytelling.

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

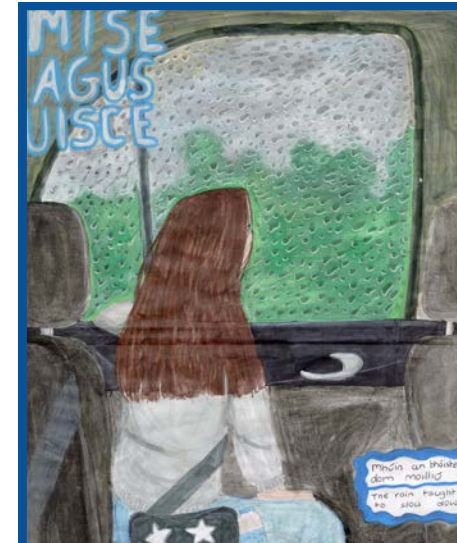
Poster Competition Winners



Charlie McCann
Boherbue Comprehensive
School



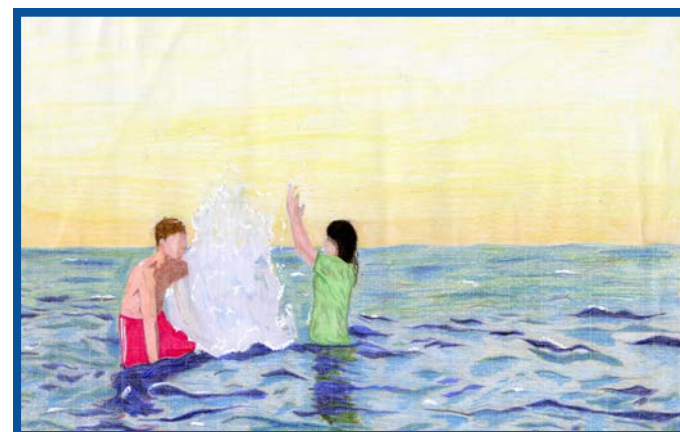
Abigail O'Brien
Mercy College Roscommon



Clodagh Molloy
Dunshaughlin Community
College

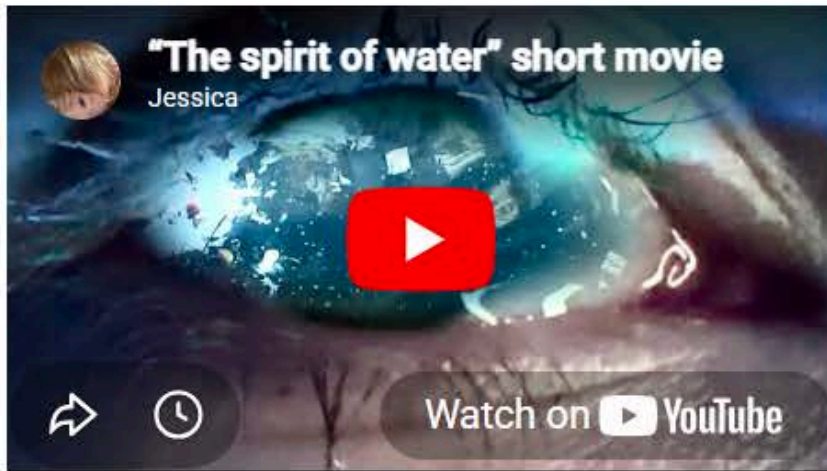


Sam Samonte
Tús Nua Resource Centre



Stephanie Devlin
Pobalscoil Iosolde

Video Competition Winners



Polina Lisnivska

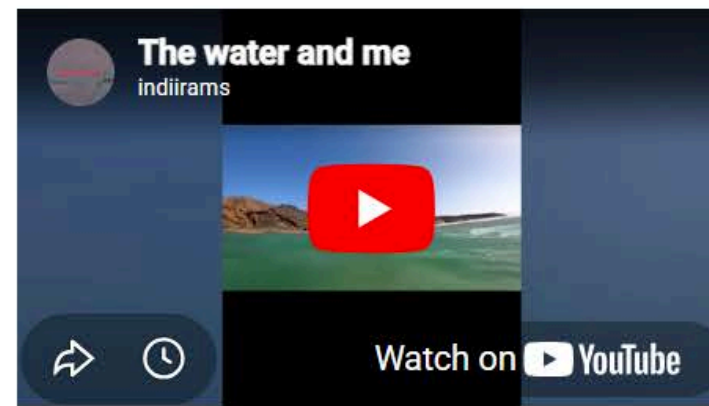
Coláiste Muire, Tuar Mhic Éadaigh



Scan to watch!



Scan to watch!

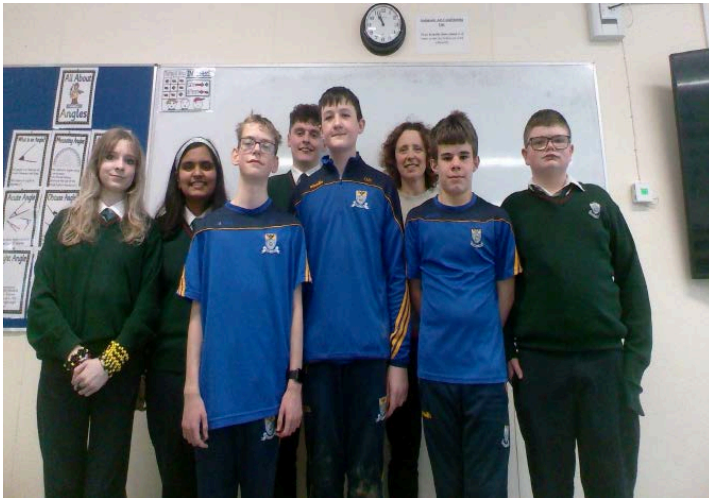


Indira Marín, Amy Wang and Jimena Prieto

St. Joseph Secondary School, Rush, Dublin

Cashel Community School

Water Ambassador Team of the Year



The WA team at Cashel Community School led a focused campaign promoting everyday water conservation actions within their school: shorter showers and only flushing the three P's down the toilet.

- They were awarded Top Participation in the “5 Minute Shower” challenge, where the team used surveys, posters, and school-wide displays to raise awareness and influence student habits—ultimately logging 909 five-minute showers and saving an estimated 45,450 litres of water.
- This team also educated students on proper toilet use through interactive games and awareness posters, helping reduce blockages and water waste.
- They introduced rainwater harvesting by installing a water butt to reuse water for the school garden. To further engage the school community, they organised a “Walk for Water” fundraiser for World Water Day.

Dunshaughlin Community College

Water Ambassador Team of the Year

The WA team at Dunshaughlin Community College worked creatively and collaboratively to build a culture of water stewardship in the community while enhancing green spaces across the school.

- The team enriched school life by developing water-themed games for students, organising a “Think Before You Flush” campaign, and leading an outing that required participants to bring reusable water bottles. They also contributed to a menstrual hygiene project, promoting sustainable, reusable products to reduce waste entering water systems.
- The group planned improvements to their courtyard and pond area, making it more suitable for wildlife such as frogs, while also creating a welcoming space for students. They also support biodiversity by cultivating the mini forest they won from Coill na nÓg with harvested rainwater.



Our Lady's College, Greenhills

Water Ambassador Team of the Year



“The Ripple Effect,” the WA team from Our Lady’s College led a dynamic campaign through practical initiatives and student engagement.

- They launched a “Stop the Drop” initiative to tackle leaks, saving an estimated 36,000 litres of water, and engaged students through fun educational events and creative activities.
- The team coded an interactive app that contains a variety of different exciting activities—such as games, impact calculator and even a water future simulation—and used social media to reach a wider audience.
- They removed over 150 kg of waste through a “Walk for Water” beach clean-up and organised a clothes swap to highlight the water impact of fast fashion.

St. Bricin's College

Water School of the Year

St. Bricin's embeds a practical, student-led approach to water conservation across the school.

- Weekly water meter readings and a visual tracking system in the main hall allow the whole community to monitor usage and identify trends. Students conduct regular leak checks and constructed DIY water butts and water hippos. Ongoing awareness campaigns—through posters, assemblies, and student feedback—encourage lasting behaviour change.
- Students play an active role in all initiatives, taking responsibility for real actions and solutions. Their upcoming Day of Action includes a 6km water-carry challenge, river clean-up, quizzes, and fundraising for Water Wells for Africa, highlighting both local and global impacts.



Our Lady's School

Water School of the Year



Our Lady's School shows what's possible when evidence-based approaches are combined with creativity.

- The team conducted weekly metre readings and compared data over two years to track progress. Student surveys and peer-led workshops by Water Ambassadors also helped build water literacy across the school.
- This work is reinforced through strong curriculum links. In Third Class Geography, students explored water through soil analysis, historic surveys, aerial photography, and cartography. In Transition Year Horticulture, an ESD grant funded a new polytunnel, while in Art, the school's involvement in Junk Kouture saw one design reach the national finals.

Pobalscoil Inbhear Scéine

Water School of the Year

Pobalscoil Inbhear Scéine adopted a creative, community-focused approach to water education.

- Students engaged with local experts, including Uisce Éireann and LAWPRO, to deepen their understanding of Kenmare's water systems.
- Central to their work is a striking mural, developed in collaboration with an artist through the Artists in Schools programme, which brings the story of water in Kenmare to life and raises awareness of their efforts. This project reflects the strong commitment of a student-led committee, supported by dedicated teachers, to promoting environmental stewardship across the school.



Beaufort College

Water School of the Year



A strong culture of reuse and circular economy is evident across Beaufort College, demonstrated by initiatives such as the student-run Beaufort Boutique, the Christmas Swap Shop, and the Uniform Clinic.

- Students are at the heart of water conservation, from leading “Drop Everything and Learn” lesson to managing awareness campaigns on social media. The team also implemented practical actions, such as installing sensor water fountains, distributing reusable bottles to all first-year students, tracking water usage, and maintaining water butts.
- Supported by innovative learning opportunities, including enterprise sustainability projects, Climate Action classes, and participation in initiatives like the Rubbish Film Festival and Tidy Towns clean-ups.

Maynooth Post Primary School

Water School of the Year

Maynooth Post Primary School demonstrates a highly collaborative, whole-school approach to water awareness, supported by extensive curriculum links across subjects.

- The team sustains strong engagement through creative communication, from social media and newsletters to student-led campaigns. Their Action Day united the school through interactive activities and awareness initiatives, while partnerships—such as a canal clean-up with Maynooth Tidy Towns and collaboration with Maynooth University on water testing—enhanced hands-on learning.
- Ongoing engagement with KWETB climate action networks and plans to develop a shared Green Campus further reflect their commitment to long-term environmental impact within both the school and wider community.



Stepaside Educate Together Secondary School

Water School of the Year



Stepaside Educate Together boasts a strong, student-led culture of sustainability with water awareness at its core.

- Students led campaigns like “Think Before You Flush” and the “5-Minute Shower Challenge,” improved waste systems, and promoted reusable habits. Their work extends beyond the school through beach clean-ups, river studies, and national initiatives, supported by the Water Ambassador Programme. A key achievement was securing funding and building a school pond to support biodiversity.
- A distinctive aspect of their work links water to fast fashion. Students participated in the ReLove competition, attended workshops and film events, and set up a repair workshop within Green-Schools meetings.

Ballyhaunis Community School

Water School of the Year

Ballyhaunis Community School shows a strong commitment to water awareness through a range of engaging, student-led initiatives.

- Students took part in hands-on activities such as monitoring water usage. They also researched local and global water sources and shared their findings with peers, promoting awareness across the school.
- Creativity was a key element of the programme. In collaboration with the Art Department, students created a large-scale piece titled “*Water World*”, along with posters and visual displays promoting water conservation.
- Another highlight was a whole-school soccer blitz. Organised by Transition Year students with a Fifth Year Geography class, each team represented a drought-affected African country, linking sport with global water issues.



Coláiste Iognáid

Water School of the Year



Coláiste Iognáid (The Jes) boasts a strong culture of environmental action, with 35 students actively involved in its Green Schools Eco Advocates Water Quality Committee, and over 100 involved in environmental initiatives.

- Over the past four years, Transition Year students have led hands-on water quality projects, including five field trips to local waterways such as the River Corrib and Lough Corrib, in partnership with organisations like Corrib Beo, LAWPRO, and Galway City Parks.
- Students test phosphates, nitrates and pH levels, carry out kick-sampling, and study biodiversity.