

KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL LIBRARY SERVICE



Kilkenny County Council
Library Service

Weather, Water and Wonderful Discoveries at Kilkenny Libraries for Science Week 2026

Kilkenny County Council Library Service is set to make a splash during Science Week Ireland 2026 with an exciting programme of events inspired by this year's theme, "Water: From Molecule to Ocean."

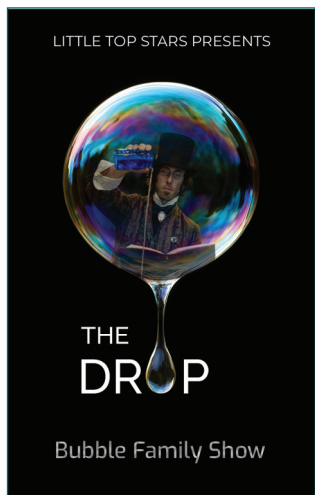
Celebrating the critical importance of water to life, biodiversity and the health of our planet, this year's programme will invite people of all ages to discover the science behind weather, water, energy and technology through a series of engaging talks, workshops and family events.

One of the highlights of Science Week will be a special visit by renowned meteorologist **Joanna Donnelly**, who will present an illustrated talk in **Thomastown Library** on **11 November at 6pm**. With more than 30 years' experience working with Met Éireann and broadcasting on RTÉ, Joanna will explore why Ireland's weather is so changeable, how forecasts are made, and some of the country's most remarkable weather events. Combining science, storytelling and humour, the talk will also examine storms, snow, heatwaves and climate change, while giving audiences an opportunity to ask questions and challenge popular weather myths.



Families are also in for a treat with **The Drop Science Bubble Show** at Mayfair Library on 17 November at 5.30pm. This unique theatrical science experience follows Finn, a curious scientist who transforms simple raindrops into extraordinary bubble creations while revealing the fascinating science behind them. Through a combination of storytelling, magic, audience participation and spectacular bubble artistry, the

show explores concepts such as surface tension, adhesion, cohesion, air pressure, light and colour. Audiences will be amazed by giant bubbles, bubble sculptures, fog-filled bubbles and dazzling visual effects, all designed to make science fun and accessible.



Science Week will also feature a series of **Hydrotech Workshops** for **families, adults, children and teens** at both **Mayfair and Thomastown Libraries**. Participants will discover the first principles of hydropower by building and experimenting with miniature hydro-energy systems, gaining a practical understanding of how the power of moving water can generate electricity and how these principles can be applied in everyday life.

The workshops will also provide a hands-on introduction to **Arduino technology**,



giving participants their first experience with programmable electronics. Attendees will assemble electronic components, write simple computer code and watch their projects come to life. Arduinos are compact programmable microcomputers that can be connected to electronic circuits and sensors and are used in a wide variety of practical applications, from environmental monitoring to smart home technology.

Creativity and engineering will come together in: **Building with LEGO® Bricks**, taking place in Thomastown Library on November 14 from 10.30am to 12.30pm and Mayfair Library from 2-4pm. Led by LEGO® Certified Professional and brick artist Jessica Farrell, the workshop will encourage families to work together to design, build and innovate using LEGO® bricks. Through teamwork, imagination and hands-on construction, participants will explore scientific and engineering concepts while enjoying a fun and collaborative family experience.

With events ranging from



Thomastown Library



Family Workshop: Building with LEGO® Bricks



weather and climate to bubbles, renewable energy, coding and creative construction, Kilkenny Libraries' Science Week programme promises something for everyone. Whether you're a budding scientist, a curious learner or simply looking for a fun family outing, this year's events offer plenty of opportunities to discover the wonders of science and the world around us.

Brought to you with the kind support of CALMAST, the South East Technological University's STEM Engagement Centre, whose generous funding helps make these events possible.

For booking information and a full list of Science Week events, visit www.kilkennylibrary.ie Events pages or contact your local library.

Fadó Fadó Sparkling Memories 2027 Kilkenny Young Researchers School Competition



Prizes

1st prize in each category : €100 and Cup
2nd prize in each category : €75 and Medal
Year of the Normans 2027 Commemorative Prize

Categories

Upper Primary 4-6th Class
1st, 2nd, 3rd Year Secondary
4th, 5th and 6th Year Secondary

Closing Date:

Friday 12th March, 2027 at 4pm

For more information contact
lstudies@kilkennycoco.ie or
Visit www.kilkennylibrary.ie



This project is a collaboration of Kilkenny Archaeological Society,
Kilkenny County Council Library Services
and Rothe House Trust

