



Scoil an Tamhnaigh

*Toonagh, Fountain, Ennis,
Co. Clare*

Roll No. 03898U

Tel: 065-6820143

20 October, 2025

Dear Parent(s),

I would like to bring the following to your attention in this October newsletter.

School Open Night and Showcase Event:

We are excited to invite you to our School Open Evening on tomorrow **Tuesday 21st of October starting at 7pm**. This an opportunity for you to see the various programmes we offer your child, meet other parents, see and meet with teachers and staff. At this information night parents can tour the facilities, find out about the school and see what Toonagh NS can offer their child. We are also inviting **prospective new parents** to come and visit our school. Refreshments will be served. We look forward to seeing you tomorrow night.

Junior Infant Parent Information Session:

An information meeting for the Junior Infant parents takes place tomorrow **Tuesday 21st of October starting at 7pm** in the Junior Infant Classroom. Refreshments will be served. After this meeting parents can attend our open evening in the GP hall.

Parent Teacher Meetings:

Parent teacher meetings for Junior Infants – 4th class are scheduled for the week of Monday November 10th. The date and time of your meeting will be sent home this week. The parent teacher meetings for 5th and 6th class will take place on the week of January 12th 2026.

Team Hope Christmas Shoe Box Appeal:

The children of Toonagh N.S. are again supporting this worthwhile charity. Many thanks for your continued generosity over the years to this charity. An information leaflet will be sent home this week. Labels for a shoebox are also attached to this newsletter. The final day for donation of shoeboxes will be Wednesday 5th of November.

Christmas Annuals:

Orders may be placed for Christmas Annuals again this year and the order forms will be sent home after the Halloween midterm break. When the order forms are received, please send back the order form and correct amount to your child's teacher. Each sibling that wants an annual must send back their own form and money to their own teacher. Noelette will have more details on this after the Halloween midterm break.

School Planning and School Self Evaluation (SSE):

School Self Evaluation is where we have to review one specific area of our teaching and learning in Toonagh NS. For the 2025-26 school year we are focussing on the pupils' English Comprehension Strategies. This focus follows on from a recommendation we received in our Curriculum Evaluation in English carried out by an inspector from the Department of Education earlier this year. At our recent half in half out staff meeting the teachers discussed and planned further strategies to develop this important area of the English Curriculum.

School Closure Dates for Training:

The Department of Education have informed us that the school will be closed to facilitate Teacher and Staff Training in Clare Education Centre on the following 3 days this school year, one each term:

Thursday 20/11/25: School closed for staff training in Clare Education Centre on Child Protection Procedures.

Tuesday 20/01/26: School closed for teacher training in Clare Education Centre on the new Primary Curriculum.

Wednesday 29/04/26: School closed for teacher training in Clare Education Centre on the new Primary Curriculum.

Child Safeguarding:

In order to comply with the Child Protection Procedures for Primary Schools, the Board of Management recently carried out the annual review of our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment. This will be published shortly on our school website. A hard copy of this document can be viewed in the school.

Jolly Phonics Spellings Programme:

For spelling practice we are using the Jolly Phonics Word lists throughout the school. Please ensure that your child practises their prescribed spellings each night.

Donation of Books

We are trying to increase our stock of Accelerated Reader (AR) books for our library. If you are doing a clear out of books at any stage that are on AR we will use them for our library. Thank you.

Secondary School Open Days - Sixth Class Pupils:

These are ongoing at the moment. Please see the secondary school websites for details of their open days and the date applications are accepted from or you can contact the secondary schools directly for this information.

Party Invitations (Infant Classes only):

Invitations to parties may be distributed in the Junior and Senior Infant Classes at school. However, in all other classes, we would ask that you issue invitations to children outside of school time, as it can cause upset and disappointment to some children if they don't receive an invitation. We hope you understand this situation and we appreciate your consideration on this matter.

School Sport:

- **Cross Country:** Well done to all the boys and girls from 1st to 6th class who took part in the North Clare Cross Country competition in Lees Road. All the children acquitted themselves very well and a number of children have progressed onto the County Finals on Tuesday November 19th. Thanks to Mr. Eustace, Ms. Garrahy and Ms. O'Halloran for training our runners for this event.
- **Gaelic Football:** Our Boys' and Girls' have played very well in the Cumann na mBunscol Competition. Both teams have put in a great effort at training and our boys have qualified for the semi-finals. Thanks to Mr. Eustace and Ms. Garrahy for training our footballers.

Christmas Concert:

Our Concert will take place on Thursday December 11th starting at 7pm.

Parents Association (PA) News:

- **Clothes Collection:** The Clothes Collection was a great success and we received a great response. The amount raised was €763. All monies raised from this collection will be for important school resources for the children. Thanks for your support.
- **Coffee morning for Cahercalla Hospice Care:** The coffee morning for Cahercalla Hospice Care raised €797. Thanks for your support and well done to our Parents Association for organising.
- **Book Fair:** It will take place Wednesday November 12th – Wednesday November 19th. The PA and Noelette will issue further details at a later date.

Important Dates coming up:

- **Tuesday October 21st:** School Open Evening and Showcase event @7-8pm.
- **Tuesday October 21st:** Junior Infant Parents Information meeting @7pm.
- **Thursday October 23rd:** School closes for Halloween mid-term break. Halloween Dress up day!
- **Monday November 3rd:** School reopens after Halloween mid-term break.
- **Week of Monday Nov 10th:** Parent Teacher Meetings (Juniors – 4th).
- **Wednesday Nov 12th – Wednesday Nov 19th:** Book Fair.
- **Thursday November 20th:** School closed for staff training in Clare Education Centre on Child Protection Procedures
- **Thursday December 11th:** Christmas Concert starting @7pm.

I wish you all a happy Halloween and a nice midterm break.

Gearóid Roughan

Principal

- Cut out your label.
- Tick the relevant age box.
- Glue the back of the label and stick to the top right hand corner of your box (using tape if necessary).

TEAM  HOPE

BOY 

My box is for:

☐ 2-4
YEARS

☐ 5-9
YEARS

☐ 10-14
YEARS

TEAM  HOPE

GIRL 

My box is for:

☐ 2-4
YEARS

☐ 5-9
YEARS

☐ 10-14
YEARS