



Scoil an Tamhnaigh

*Toonagh, Fountain, Ennis,
Co. Clare*

Roll No. 03898U

Tel: 065-6820143

21st of March 2024

Dear Parent(s),

There are a number of items I would like to bring to your attention this Easter School Newsletter.

Family Fun Bingo Fundraiser

The Family Fun Bingo is taking place on Sunday 24th of March starting @2pm, doors are open from 1.30pm. We have received great support locally from parents, former parents and businesses. Thanks to all our ticket sellers, thanks to those that sourced and gave us sponsorship and well done to our pupils who sold many tickets. Monies raised will go towards our new Sensory Room which we hope to open sometime after Easter. The Parents Association have put in trojan work for Sunday's event and thanks very much to all the parents that have helped and supported with this event. There are fantastic prizes on offer on Sunday and best wishes to all involved.

School Attendance update

Term 2 of the 2023-24 school year will conclude at the end of this week. The daily attendance rate in our school continues to be very high at 93.5% (this time last year the attendance rate was 94%). Naturally, some pupils will have a higher absence rate if they suffer an illness during the course of the year. A reminder that schools are obligated & required to notify Tusla if any pupil misses over 20 days during the year, regardless of the reason(s). Therefore, it is important that the reasons for absences are accurately recorded daily on our school Rolla. We thank you for providing this information via a note or via email to the class teacher for every absence.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Congratulations to the pupils of Ms. Garrahy's 2nd class who made their sacrament of First Reconciliation in Dysart Church on Monday 4th of March. Thanks very much to Ms. Garrahy, Fr. Des and Fr. Pat for the very nice ceremony. The children also did very nice art work for this sacrament.

Confirmation will take place on Thursday April 25th @3pm in Ruan Church.

Holy Communion will take place on Saturday March 4th @11am in Dysart Church.

Holy Communion School Choir

Our school choir practise each week and they are practising at present for the Holy Communion Ceremony which takes place on Saturday May 4th @11pm in Dysart Church. Children from 1st – 6th Class are part of our choir and we ask that these pupils be available on this date where possible for our choir, which is a very important part of our school. More details closer to the date. Thanks for your support on this.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

'Seachtain na Gaeilge' was celebrated from Monday the 11th - Thursday the 15th of March. The children learned traditional dances and there was great music played all week by the pupils. We had an excellent Céilí Mór on Wednesday and Friday where the children performed traditional music, Irish dancing and singing. The children were also encouraged to 'go green' for our Lá Glas on Friday 15th of March and they took part in the Dreoilín dance. Thanks to all our teachers for giving the children the chance to perform during the week and special thanks to Ms. Griffin for organising two excellent Céilí Mór. You can see photos and videos of Seachtain na Gaeilge on our Instagram page.

National Spring Clean-up

On Tuesday March 19th all classes in the school took part in a clean-up of our community. We registered with an Taisce and received supplies. Pupils & staff took an area each to collect litter & waste around the school environment and community.

Ms. Browne's class cleaned up all around our school grounds, Ms. Garrahy's class cleaned up in the Beech Grove Estate, Mr. Eustace's Class cleaned along Toonagh Road, Mr. Kelly's class cleaned all back along Toonagh road from the school to the cross. The children really enjoyed taking part in this clean-up and were delighted to help our local community. All litter collected is being brought to the Inagh Landfill facility. You can see photos on our Instagram page.

World Down Syndrome Day

Today, Thursday March 21st is World Down Syndrome Day. To raise awareness the school children are wearing their favourite socks or odd socks. We are celebrating everything that makes us all different, and yet the same.

Active Schools' Week

This will take place the week after our Easter holidays, Monday April 8th – Friday April 12th. During this week the children will take part in sporting and healthy activities throughout the week. There will be visiting coaches and the children always enjoy our Active School's week. Children will wear their school tracksuit during this week.

Enrolment for 2024/25 and Future Years

If you know of a parent with a child of a school going age in the next year or two, we would appreciate if you would inform prospective parents about Toonagh NS. We will be happy to meet with any parent who wishes to see our school and facilities. Parents can email Noelette to receive an Application Form for Enrolment. Application forms can also be downloaded on our website toonaghns.com. Thank you.

School Sport

- **Basketball:** Our school basketball team participated in the Marion Keane Tournament recently and our teams performed very well in this competition. Well done to our girls well in the next round. Thanks to Mairéad Barry for the training sessions that the children have done in in Inagh Hall.
- **Hurling and Camogie Training after Easter:** Starting Monday April 8th Camogie training will be on in Ruan GAA Field and from Thursday April 11th Hurling training will be on in Ruan GAA Field from 3.00-4.00. Children in 3rd-6th that would like to attend will leave school at 2.40. Parents are to make arrangements to bring the children to Ruan. Our hurling and camogie teams will also be starting their competitions after Easter. Thanks to Ms. Garrahy, Mr. Eustace and Mr. Kelly who are coaching these teams after school.
- **FAI Soccer Tournament:** Well done to all the boys and girls from 5th and 6th who took part in the FAI soccer tournament recently in Lees Road. Our girls have qualified to the County Finals to be played at a later date.

Parents Association News

- **School Tour Buses:** The Parents Association will fund the cost of all buses for each school tour in Term 3. This will help greatly with reducing the cost of the school tours and thanks very much to our Parents Association for this kind gesture.
- **Family Fun Bingo Fundraiser:** The Parents Association looks forward to welcoming as many pupils, parents and members of the school community that can make it to this event on Sunday.

Important Dates coming up

- **Friday 22nd of March:** School closes at 12.30 for Easter Holidays.
- **Monday 8th of April:** School reopens after Easter.
- **Monday 8th – Friday 12th of April:** Active School's Week, children wear their school tracksuit this week.
- **Friday 12th of April:** Swimming lessons start for next 6 Fridays (3rd – 6th).
- **Thursday April 25th:** Confirmation @3pm in Ruan Church.
- **Wednesday May 1st:** Half day closure, School closes at 12.30 for a staff planning meeting.
- **Saturday May 4th:** Holy Communion @11 am in Dysart Church.
- **Monday May 6th:** School closed for May Bank Holiday.
- **May 21st – 23rd:** Standardised Testing English
- **May 28th – 30th:** Standardised Testing Maths

I wish you all a very happy Easter and thanks very much for your great support this term.

Gearóid Roughan

Príomhoide