

# Scoil an Tamhnaigh

Toonagh, Fountain, Ennis, Co. Clare

> Roll No. 03898U Tel: 065-6820143

> > 7<sup>th</sup> of April 2022

Dear Parent(s),

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

#### **COVID-19 Situation:**

Cases are still very high in primary schools. For now please note:

- 1. When a parent receives a positive Antigen test on their child or a positive PCR COVID-19 test result on their child, they should notify the school. The principal will inform the parents of the other children in the class and they will have the option to receive free antigen tests for their child.
- 2. If a pupil is attending school from a household where there is a positive case of COVID-19 and can't isolate, we recommend that the pupil wear a mask at school until the restricted movement period has passed. Classrooms are crowded environments.
- 3. School will close at 3.00 pm for 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> class, 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> class and 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> class after the Easter Break.

  Please at all times keep the area directly in front of Toonagh Hall free of parked cars so this can be used a turning point at drop off and collection times.

#### **Enrolment Junior Infants and other classes September 2022:**

Application forms can be downloaded on our school website <u>toonaghschool.com</u> or one can contact the school to receive a form.

If you know of another child (neighbour, relation, friend etc..), please inform them of this.

## **Standardised Testing Dates:**

The Department of Education has informed schools that Standardised Testing in Literacy and Numeracy is to go ahead in this school year. English Standardised Testing for classes  $1^{st} - 6^{th}$  will take place in May during the week of May  $16^{th} - 20^{th}$ . Maths Standardised Testing will take place during the week of May  $23^{rd} - 27^{th}$ . The Early Literacy and Numeracy Test for Senior Infants will take place on these dates also.

# **Staff Planning and School Self Evaluation:**

In term 3 there will be a half day closure for a staff planning meeting and New Language Curriculum Training on Wednesday May 11<sup>th</sup>. School will close at 12.30 pm on this day.

### **School Swimming Programme**:

We are delighted to have swimming organised again for the children 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>. We hope that they great benefit from taking part in this important life skill which is part of our PE programme. Swimming starts back on Friday April 29<sup>th</sup>.

# **Spring Cleanup of our Community:**

On Thursday March 31<sup>st</sup> all classes in the school took part in a clean-up of our community. We registered with an Taisce and received supplies. The children had spring clean hi-vis jackets, bibs, litter pickers, recycling waste & general waste bin bags for each group. 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 did the length of the road outside the school and hall, Ms. Cullinan's cleaned all back along the road from the school to the Equestrian Centre. 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.

#### Active Schools Week:

Active Schools week has been taking place this week, it has been fantastic success and the children really enjoyed it. There have been specialist guest coaches in every day including Ezra Guilfoyle from Ireland's Fittest Families fame who did Yoga with the children and Limerick Eagles Basketball player Vadji Dosso who did basketball coaching with the children. The children took part in many other healthy activities including a run around Ireland activity daily and our annual Toonagh Mile run! You can see photos of the week's events on our school Twitter page or on our website in the news section which has our Twitter feed. Thank you to Mr. Eustace and the teachers for organising a great week for the children. We are very proud to be a designated Active School and to have our Active Flag flying outside our school.

## **Sporting Activities:**

Our school basketball team participated in the Marion Keane Tournament recently. The squads had been busy training over the past number of months. Both boys and girls teams had some great wins in round 1. Despite fantastic performances, the boys team were narrowly defeated by Inagh while our girls team have progressed through to round 2. We are very proud of the effort of both our boys and girls teams. I wish to thank Ms. Barry and Ms. Cullinan for the work that they have done in preparing both our teams for the competition.

Hurling and Camogie Training and skills practise  $(3^{rd} - 6^{th})$  has been taking place since February midterm, each Monday and Thursday after school in our Astro Turf. The children from Ruan NS are also attending. Matches for the older classes are ongoing too. After Easter Camogie Training will take place in Ruan GAA pitch on Mondays and Hurling Training will take place in Ruan GAA pitch on Thursdays. Children are to leave school at 2.40pm and parents are to make arrangements to bring the children to Ruan. Thanks to our teachers who are coaching these teams after school.

## **Recent Fundraisers and Collections:**

Our wear green day on March 16<sup>th</sup> raised €180 for the Ukraine Crisis. We gave this donation to the Ennis Lions Club Ukraine Appeal. Many thanks for your support.

The collection for Autism day raised €116.90. We gave this donation to Ennis Voices for Autism. Many thanks for your support.

The Vintage Car Run for the Ukraine Crisis organised by Ian Keane raised €4120 and he thanks everyone who supported.

## **World Down Syndrome Day:**

The children enjoyed celebrating World Down Syndrome Day on Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup>. To raise awareness the school children wore odd socks coming to school on this day and they celebrated the differences that makes us all unique. They also took part in the Down Syndrome Clare colouring competition in conjunction with World Down Syndrome Day 2022 and congratulations to the prize winners from this competition who received very nice prizes from Down Syndrome Clare.

## Remembrance Run and Walk for Tadhg Lynch:

The Remembrance Family Fun Run/Walk for Tadhg Lynch takes place on Sunday April 10<sup>th</sup> starting at 10am from Ruan GAA Pitch. This is being organised by Tadhg's parents William and Elaine. Tadhg's brothers Cillian and Rian and sister Sophie are pupils here in Toonagh National School. This April would be Tadhg's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday. There is lots of fun things planned for children on this day.

All details of the Family Fun Run/Walk and charities supported are on the posters attached.

## **Parents Association News:**

- <u>Book Fair:</u> There will be a book fair in the school from 25<sup>th</sup> of May 1<sup>st</sup> of June. There will be more details in the next newsletter.
- <u>Bob a Job Fundraiser and Clothes Collection update:</u> The Parents Association would like to say a huge thank you for supporting these fundraisers. The Bob a Job collection raised €703 and well done to all the children for carrying out their jobs over the midterm, we heard that they offered great help! The recent clothes collection raised €500. Thank you to all the parents who also helped out with the organisation of this important fundraiser. The monies raised are being used to buy more books for the excellent reading programmes Literacy Lift-Off and Accelerated Reader and which we run here in the school, and also to help pay for our new school library.

## Important Dates coming up:

- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> of April: School closes at 12.30 for Easter Holidays.
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> of April: School reopens after Easter.
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> of May: Schools half day closure at 12.30 for Staff Planning and Training,
- Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> of May: Holy Communion in Dysart Church at 11am.
- Week of May 16<sup>th</sup>: Standardised Testing English
- Week of May 23<sup>rd</sup>: Standardised Testing Maths

I wish you all a happy Easter and continued good health. Thanks for your support this term.

Gearóid Roughan

Príomhoide



Location: Ruan GAA

SAT NAV: 52.933327, -8.989287

9am: Registration

9.55am: Balloon Release

10.00am: Ready Set Run/Walk

11:00am: Street Party

11.30am: Surprise Auction **Ipm:** Event Close

Please Note: For our walkers

we have a 6km route



BBQ - Dermot Murphy & Danny Lynch Ice-Creams - Shannon Ice **Goody Bags** Bag a surprise in the Auction -Prizes from €70 to €250

