

Scoil an Tamhnaigh

Toonagh, Fountain, Ennis, Co. Clare

> Roll No. 03898U Tel: 065-6820143

> > 23rd of June, 2025

Dear Parent(s),

As we reach the end of another school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your help, support and interest this year. We have had another busy year in the school and you as partners in your child's education deserve great acknowledgement for that.

I would like to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of the staff of Toonagh NS during this school year. We are very fortunate to have such dedicated, caring and hardworking teachers in our school who did fantastic work this year with the children. The teachers work very hard to give your child a wonderful experience while in Toonagh NS. Our teachers and SNAs deserve great credit for the excellent rounded education and outstanding care that they give to our pupils in Toonagh.

Sixth Class

We say goodbye to 6th Class, everyone in Toonagh NS would like to wish them all the best as they shape their future lives. The 6th class were an excellent class in so many ways who had numerous achievements during their time in our school. These 11 students have contributed a lot to Toonagh NS over the years and the staff here have enjoyed watching them grow into mature, confident and very capable young people.

All the best to Jack Casey, Emma Brohan, Ellie Carroll, Orlaith Flanagan, Maria Hurley, Teaghan McLoughlin, Caitlin Moloney, Isobel O'Leary, Rachael Pegg, Sophia Treacy and Samantha Vaughan. They did very well with Ms. Cullinan this year and worked to the best of their ability. Well done 6th class!

We also wish Zoe in 4th Class very well on her transition to her new school in September. We will miss Zoe in Toonagh and we wish every success in her new school.

Toonagh's Got Talent

We were treated to an amazing talent show on Monday June 9th. This year one of aims of the Student Council was to hold this popular end of year talent show and to help with its organisation. The event also was a fundraiser for our new climbing wall. The pupils from 1st – 6th class were invited to participate. Special guest and judge on the day was John Forde. John has been involved in Drama and the Performing Arts in Galway for many years, he highly commended the talent on show in Toonagh N.S. It was an excellent event showcasing the wide variety of talent in the school, including drama, singing, music and dancing. Thank you very much to Ms. Griffin for organising along with great help from the staff, student council members and 6th class. Toonagh certainly has got great Talent!

New School Shorts

See letter attached from Mr. Eustace. The online shop is open until June 30th with delivery at the start of August. A second opening of the shop is scheduled for July 7th for 2 weeks closing on July 21st with delivery at the end of August. https://cobisports.com/product/toonagh-national-school-shorts/

Hot School Meals

This scheme will start in Toonagh N.S. sometime in September. Schools are still awaiting details from the Department of Education about the tendering process how this will work. The Board of Management have been seeking expressions of interest from school meal providers. We hope to let you know the details before we return to school or during early September.

Reading in Toonagh NS

Children can continue to use the Accelerated Reader (AR) Programme during the summer and take quizzes if they wish to. AR takes place in the classes from $2^{nd} - 6^{th}$ and the children did fantastic reading all throughout the year, an amazing **29 million words and 2303 books** were read by the children in Toonagh NS this year!

Also well done to the children in Ms. Browne's Juniors and Seniors, and to Ms. Garrahy's 1st and 2nd class who did fantastic reading with the PM Levelled Readers throughout the year and a vast amount of books were read each week in these classes. The children are reading at their instructional level and they are progressing very well with their reading through achieving success and understanding.

STEM in Schools Project

Well done to 1st and 2nd class who took part in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) in schools project which was organised by Clare Education Centre this year. Ms. Garrahy attended the teacher training sessions and the children took part in lessons where they were involved in engaging Science experiments. STEM is an important part of the new curriculum which is being launched next year and well done to the pupils and Ms. Garrahy for taking part in this project.

Bí Cineálta Policy

Our Bí Cineálta Policy to prevent and address bullying behaviour has been ratified by the Board of Management. This newly adopted anti-bullying policy is in line with national guidelines and procedures. This policy will be available from the school and it will be published on our school website.

Return of School Library Books

Please return this week any school library books that may still be at home. Our Accelerated Books have a sticker in front of them with a reading level. PM Levelled Readers (Junior Infants -2^{nd} Class) have a reading level on the back of the book and most have a school stamp. We need to sort our school library this week. Thank you.

School Uniforms' Swap

Laura Cahir has organised a FREE Uniform swap day. You can drop in any unwanted, school uniforms in good condition to school today or tomorrow Wednesday morning. We will hold a FREE Uniform swap day this Wednesday from 11.30am. This will be your opportunity to pick up some free items you may need for September and also find new homes for what you no longer need.

Local Water Scheme presentation and field trip

Dysart Toonagh Group Water Scheme (DTGWS) manager Matthew Rynne visited 5th and 6th class and he gave a presentation on the importance and necessity of water and a presentation on the history of the DTGWS and all the work carried out in bringing water from source to tap. The class were then taken to visit the DTGWS source at Ballycullinan lake and given a tour of the treatment plant in Soheen Dysart where they learned about the process at work there to get the water to a level that is safe for human consumption. The Treatment plant tour finished off with a question and answer session. DTGWS then presented the class with reusable drinking bottles with the DTGWS logo on them. Thanks to the local water scheme for organising this educational trip for 5th and 6th class.

Active School's Week and Sports Day

The pupils had a great Active School's Week from June 9th to 13th. They tried many different sports and healthy activities. There were specialist guest coaches visiting. Another healthy activity included our annual Toonagh Mile run! You can see photos of the week's events on our school Instagram page.

We had a most enjoyable sports day on Friday June 13th in good weather. The children had a great day and took part in many sporting activities. The Ice Cream Van arrived to the delight of the pupils. We concluded the day with our fun obstacle course. The Parents Association also provided us with fruit and water throughout the day. Thanks very much to Mr. Eustace and the teachers for organising such a fun and beneficial Active School's week and Sports day for the children.

New Climbing Wall

The pupils are delighted with our new climbing wall which has recently been installed. The climbing wall was opened by our Student Council on Sports Day. Thanks to our caretaker John Hanrahan and Mr. Eustace for installing this new resource for our school. We thank Councillor Mary Howard for allocating some of her Council funding to help towards the cost of this facility. It is great to see the children each day challenge themselves as they navigate their way across the climbing boards.

Fun Mini-Leagues

An in school fun mini-league for hurling, camogie and basketball has been run over the last 2 weeks. The emphasis on this competition is participation and all children from 3rd to 6th class get an opportunity to participate. Thanks Ms. Cullinan and Mr. Eustace for organising these enjoyable leagues.

Division 1 Camogie Final

The Ruan/Toonagh NS Camogie team were runners up in the Division 1 Cumann na mBunscol Final played in Cusack Park. In the final Clarecastle defeated Ruan/Toonagh. There was a great atmosphere at the final and great support from the community. The girls gave a very good performance against a strong Clarecastle team. Afterwards all the panel were treated to a meal at Supermacs. It was a great achievement to get to the Division 1 final. The coaches were Adrian Barrett, Claire Cullinan, Aoife Garrahy, Gearóid Roughan, Seán Eustace and Jonathan Barry.

GAA Coaching

Anne McMahon coached the pupils this year and thanks to Ruan GAA for funding this initiative. With Anne's training, the children are learning the skills of our games in very well-structured coaching sessions weekly and we thank Anne for her work throughout the year.

Ruan Summer Camp

The Ruan hurling and camogie summer camp will take place from Monday August 11 – Thursday August 14. This is a fun camp for children in the two primary schools in the parish. Registration forms have been sent home and if children wish to take part you can return the form to the school reception by tomorrow Wednesday.

Parents Association (PA)

The Parents' Association did a huge amount of work this year, most notably organising the scrap collection fundraiser. Monies raised helped to fund many new school resources for the children including new sports equipment, library books, PM readers, iPads and Science equipment. The Parents' Association also covered the cost of the Gymnastics lessons for the children.

Thanks to the PA, Lourda Flanagan, Laura Cahir Treasurer, Fiona Keane and Annette Casey for coordinating so many events for the school this year. They were very well assisted by many parents who helped out throughout the year. There is a very good hard-working group of parents who help our PA. I would also like to thank all the parents, for your wholehearted support of all fundraising initiatives and PA events that have taken place throughout the year. Lourda has finished her term on the PA and we thank her for all the time she put into organising so many worthwhile PA events, she will be highly missed in her role.

Board of Management

I would like to thank our Board for their help throughout the year. We are lucky to have a Board of Management with lots of expertise and who are very generous in volunteering their time for the betterment of our school.

School reopening date

School will reopen after the Summer Break on Wednesday August 27th.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy, safe and enjoyable summer. Thanks for your support throughout the year.

Yours sincerely, <u>Gearóid Roughan</u> Principal



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Dear Parents,

We are pleased to inform you that Toonagh N.S. is introducing school shorts for all students from the start of the next academic school year. Standardising our school shorts offers a number of important benefits:

- Uniformity: Ensures all students wear the same high-quality, school-appropriate shorts, reducing visible inequality and distractions related to clothing differences.
- Affordability: By working with a trusted supplier, we've secured competitive pricing that ensures good value for families.
- **Durability and Comfort**: The chosen shorts are designed for active children, with breathable fabric, an adjustable fit, and excellent wear over time.
- School Pride: Wearing a consistent uniform fosters a sense of belonging and pride in our school community.

How to Purchase.

School shorts can be purchased through the Cobi Sports online shop. Please use the link below to access the shop and place your order:

https://cobisports.com/product/toonagh-national-school-shorts/

The current shop will close on June 30^{th} with delivery at the start of August. A second opening of the shop is scheduled for July 7^{th} for 2 weeks closing on July 21^{st} with delivery at the end of August.

We have a selection of sizes available at the school if parents wish to check the various sizes with their child. Please feel free to drop into the school at anytime before the 25th of June if you wish to check sizes. They will be on display outside Noelette's office and we will have changing facilities available if you wish to try them on.

Should you have any questions or require assistance with sizing or ordering, please do not hesitate to contact the school office or me directly.

We appreciate your continued support in helping us provide a positive and inclusive environment for all students.

Kind Regards,

Seán Eustace.