

Calendar

March 7th to March 16th	Coicís na Gaeilge
March 15th	Olympic Handball Finals
March 17th	Closed
March 22nd	GAA Blitz in St Thomas GAA
March 28th	4th/5th class blitz Gort Community School
March 31st	Closing at noon for Easter Holidays.
April 17th	Re-opening at 9.10am
May 5th	Induction for new Entrants at 1pm.
May 1st	Closed
May 6th	First Holy Communion
May 15th	6th class RSE talk
May 15th-19th	Numeracy Testing
May 22nd-26th	Literacy Testing
June 5th	Closed
June 19th-22nd	School
Tours	
June 23th	
noon for days.	Closing at Summer Holi-

Happy
St. Patrick's
Day

Our blog

ST. THOMAS' N.S.

MARCH 2023 NEWSLETTER



The school will close for the Easter Break
on Friday March 31st at 12.00 noon.

*Beannachtaí na Féile Pádraig
ort.*

AWARDS

STUDENT OF THE MONTH—FEBRUARY 2023

Congratulations to Dara, Gracie and Joe.

AWARD WALL—FEBRUARY 2023

Congratulations to Grace, Katie and Ciaran.

RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS

Congratulations to Michael, Fiadh, Tom N, Sadie, Patrick, Amber, Andrea, Aaron and Joe.

GAELGÓIR NA MÍOSA

Comhghairdeas do Sadhbh, Odhrán agus Aoibheann.

ENROLMENT 2022/23

Enrolment packs have been sent to all new entrants. Please return Appendices, documents at your earliest convenience to the school. A link for enrolment fee will be sent later. Induction Day will be held on Friday May 12th from 1pm-2pm.

SWIMMING

Swimming will commence in The Lady Gregory on April 26th for 1st-5th class. A payment link will be sent closer to the time. Price will be €54 per child and this includes transport.

SCHOOL TOUR

School Tours will take place on the final week of school this year June 19th-23rd. Exact dates and activities will be finalised shortly. J1 to 2nd will be travelling together and 3rd-6th will be travelling together.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The Board of management met at the school recently. The Board would like to thank the students, parents and staff for their hard work this school year and also thank Fr Roche for organising the recent 6th class trip to Glasnevin Cemetery and Leinster House. The Board would also like to extend our sympathies to all those who have suffered bereavements during this school year.

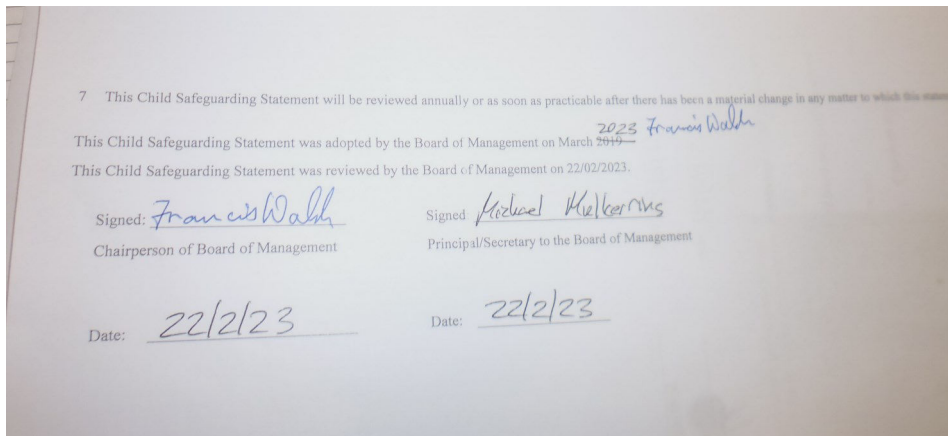
The Board would like to wish Ms Moloney well in the sacramental preparation that she is undertaking with her class. The Board would like to thank Ms Marren and Fiona Buckley for their support in preparing our school choir for this years First Holy Communion.

The RSE talk for 6th Class has been booked for May 15th and we will be joining with Kilbeacanty and Ballyturn schools for this. The Board would like to take this opportunity to thank all their volunteers who give so freely of their time. The Board would like to thank all our parents and students for their adherence to our many school policies such as our healthy eating policy in school.

The Board was happy to sanction a return to the school of our annual Fun Day and have provisionally fixed the date for this for June 16th. We are looking forward to welcoming all of our school community on that day.

CHILD PROTECTION

We updated our Child Safeguarding Statement and our Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment. (See notification below). If you have any suggestions/comments please contact the school. These may be found on our school blog.



ATTENDANCE:

January 2023	94%
February 2023	96.5%

GAEILGE

An mhí seo roinneamar an scoil ina dá leath, chuaigh páistí móra le páistí óga chun Gaeilge a labhairt leo. Shiúil siad timpeall lena chéile sa chlós ag labhairt agus ag imirt cluichí beaga as Gaeilge. Rinne siad é seo cúpla uair. Do Choicís na Gaeilge beidh muid ag léamh leabhair Ghaeilge, ag foghlaim damhsaídon Chéilí, ag foghlaim frásaí agus á scríobh sa chlós, ag déanamh cuis as Gaeilge, bíongó, cluichí clóis agus póstaer, Beidh lá glas again freisin.

GREEN SCHOOLS

I hope that everyone is continuing to re-use and recycle at home. Some of you have brought in your old Christmas cards that we can use for crafts for Christmas 2021. The Junior Classes are still making wonderful art from items they have brought in from home. Mr Mulkerrins gave the Junior and Middle Classes a presentation on FairTrade. Students have brought in evidence of the FairTrade items their families have bought. We have definitely cut down on travel in the middle of a pandemic - so our carbon footprint is a lot lower this year, as we are all staying within our 5km radius. The Junior Room have planted seeds this week - coriander, beetroot, carrots, thyme, rocket, cress and aubergine in the classroom this week. We are all doing our bit for the planet so keep up the good work!

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please ensure that your child's uniform is clearly marked in the space provided. This eliminates confusion and helps to prevent loss of same. Reminder to wear sun block and hats if necessary in the last term. Please do not wear "flip flops"-only strapped sandals.

Sport

We are looking forward to our school teams taking part in the Cumann na mBunscol competitions during the final term. This is the first year that competitive schools competitions will be held in Galway since 2019.

After school training will commence immediately after the Easter holidays with girls training on Tuesdays from 3-3:45 and boys on Thursdays from 3-3:45.

We are hosting a friendly blitz with some local schools in St Thomas GAA grounds for our hurling and camogie teams on March 22nd at 11am.

Well done to our boys and girls teams who competed in the FAI 5 a side soccer competitions recently. They performed with distinction and had some great wins.

Also, best wishes to our school teams in their Olympic Handball Finals on March 15th. These will take place in Knocknacarra with the girls event starting at 10am and the boys at 12pm.

PUNCTUALITY

It is important that we develop, promote and maintain the habit of being punctual for school events and appointments. I would ask everyone to make a special effort to be on time for school this term both **before** and **after** school. Teachers are required to keep punctuality records in relation to children who are frequently late for school.

Breakfast Club, After School and ECCE

Enrolments are now being taken by Peterswell Montessori and After-School for their 2023/24 intake. Enquiries can be made to ellemenopealtd@gmail.com

Sensory Walkway

We are looking forward to starting the next phase of our sensory walkway in the coming weeks and will be keeping parents informed of its progress.

BOOK RENTAL 2023-2024

Details on our Book Rental Scheme for 2023/24 will be forwarded to parents when we receive further information on the proposed Free Book Scheme from the Department of Education.

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

The Anti-Bullying Policy was reviewed, updated and ratified by the BOM recently. Please see notice below re :

Notification regarding the BOM annual review.

Notification regarding the Board of Management's annual review of the anti-bullying policy

To: All members of St. Thomas NS School Community

The Board of Management of St. Thomas NS wishes to inform you that:

- The Board of Management's annual review of the school's anti-bullying policy and its implementation was completed at the Board meeting of 22/2/23 [date].
- This review was conducted in accordance with the checklist set out in Appendix 4 of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools.

Signed Francis Walsh Date 22/2/23
Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed Michael Mulken Date 22/2/23
Principal

