

Mandatory Template 3: Notification regarding the Board of Management's review of the Child Safeguarding Statement

To: All Stakeholders

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

- The Board of Management's annual review of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement was completed at the Board meeting of 9/10/25 [date].
- This review was conducted in accordance with the "Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement" published on the gov.ie website

Signed Franca Nally Date 9/10/25

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed Michael McKernan Date 9/10/25

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Recommended Board Games For Winter Fun

With the cold winter here, you're no doubt looking for ways to keep your family busy when you're all spending quality time together. What better way to entertain everyone than with a fun, challenging board game! Please add some of these to your shopping list! (One out of each category initially would be great and see how much use you make of it) Here are some recommendations:

Gaeilge

- Liosta Siopadóireacht
- Junior Scrabble as Gaeilge
- Usborne Snap as Gaeilge
- Snap -Nollag

English

- Scrabble (Junior and Original)
- Upwords
- Boggle
- Jenga
- Guess who

Mathematics

- Mathopoly
- Sum Swamp
- Equate
- Head full of Numbers
- Snakes and Ladders

Geography

- Discover Europe
- Discover Ireland

ST. THOMAS' N.S.

NOVEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



Our blog address is www.stthomaspeterswell.blogspot.com

Our email is peterswellschool1944@gmail.com

Our website is www.peterswellschool.ie

Bingo Night

This year, we will be hosting a Bingo Night on January 30th at 6:30pm in the Joe Cooley Hall. This is a vital fundraiser to help with the running costs of our school. We will be sending home tickets for the event with each student in the coming weeks to sell. In the meantime, we are asking any families who are in a position to donate a prize for our bingo night to do so. Every prize, no matter how great or small, would be greatly appreciated. Prizes can be sent in from now with students or if you would prefer to make a donation later, you can notify us via email to peterswellschool1944@gmail.com.

School Sport

Best wishes to our senior Olympic Handball teams who will be taking part in the Galway Olympic Handball championships in the coming weeks.

Christmas Nativity, Carols and Cake Sale

Preparations are in full swing for our Christmas Nativity, Carols and Cake Sale. Date for the event is December 16th at 11am in the school hall. Peterswell Montessori will be kicking things off with their performance followed by our Junior Room Nativity. We will conclude with our school choir performing a selection of carols. Following the show, our Students Council are hosting a cake sale in the school hall. It promises to be a lovely festive occasion and we look forward to seeing you there.

Enrolments

We are now accepting enrolments for the school year 2026/27. Please inform any neighbours who may not receive communications from the school. Enquiries should be emailed to peterswell-school1944@gmail.com

Léigh sa Bhaile

Léigh sa Bhaile is an important reading task that students complete as Gaeilge each evening. If necessary to assist with pronunciation, audio files for this book can be online by following the steps below.

Go to www.cjfallon.ie

Click on Parent Student Resources

Select Primary

Select class (First class or Second class or third class)

Select Gaeilge

Select Léigh sa Bhaile

Select page number – for example lch 89 is page 89 and listen to your track.

Infants

It is encouraging to see our Infants becoming happy, well adjusted learners. They have now become established in what is for them, a new place in the world, and are making friends, taking part in activities and learning new skills.

Sacraments

Confirmation takes place on March 13th at 11am and First Holy Communion will take place on May 2nd at 12pm. Best of luck to all our students receiving their sacraments.

Credit Union Art

All of our students submitted fantastic pictures for this years Credit Union Art competition. The standard was very high and we were extremely proud of all our entries. A huge congratulations to Caitlin Mulkerrins who was chosen as a winner by the Credit Union.

Green Schools

This year is a maintenance year for Green Schools We intend to do some Climate Ambassador work with classes 3rd to 6th. In the meantime we will continue to work on all our themes—litter & waste, energy, travel, biodiversity and global citizenship. It is important that we make every effort to mind Mother Earth.—re-use and recycle as much as we can.

Gaelbhratach

Bhí mí gnóthach againn. Bhí tionól againn leis an scoil ar fad. Roinneamar an scoil ina dá leath agus chuaigh na páistí móra leis na páistí óga sa chlós agus mhúin said cúpla frása dóibh as Gaeilge.

Bhí na páistí móra an bhródúil as iarrachtaí na bpáistí óga.

Bhí seó faisin na Samhna againn agus rinne na MC'S Cáit Ní Mhaoilchiaráin agusm Noah Mac Toirbhealaigh an jab.

Tá comórtas ar siúl faoi láthair idir ranganna chun an rang is fear ag déanamh iarrachta an Ghaeilge a labhairt a phiocadh amach. Ba mhaith liom na páistí a mholadh as an iarracht atá á dhéanamh acu Gaeilge a labhairt agus sibhse, a thuismitheoirí as cabhrú leo.

Uniforms:

It would be great to see all students wearing their formal uniforms on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Intermittent homework vouchers will be handed out as a reward for this.

Awards

Student of the Month — October 2025

Congratulations to:

Iarla Burke, Charlotte Mulkerrins and Noah Curley..

Award Wall—October 2025

"Friendship Awards" - were presented to :

Jack Kelly, Chloe Mulkerrins and Caitlin Mulkerrins.

Random Act of Kindness—October 2025

Certificates were presented to:

Nicolas Santos, Ella Hynes, Keava Lynskey, Caitlin Connors, Fiadh Lynskey, Michael Glynn, Anna Burke, Sadie Neylon and Katie Mulkerrins.

Gaeilge

Bronnadh teastaisí Gaeilgeoir na Míosa ar na páistí seo a leanas an mhí seo caite:

Kayden Ó Dubhlaoich, Tomás de Búrca agus Óisín Ó Raghallaigh.

Operation Christmas Child

Christmas Shoeboxes should be dropped to the school prior to November 14th please.

Paired Reading:

Every year after Halloween for 6 weeks we ask our parents to take part in the Paired Reading Programme with their children.

What is it?

Paired Reading is a technique that parents can use to help their own child with reading practice. The method involves the parent who is a skilled reader and the child who is learning, reading a book together.

Your child selects a book. It must also be suitable to his/her reading level.

- Discuss the book: What is the title of the book? What does the cover picture tell you? Why did you pick this book? What do you think will happen in the story?
- Invite the child to read along with you.
- You both read together. Pace your reading to the speed of the child.
- If your child fails at a word, or struggles at a word for longer than 4 seconds, pronounce the word clearly for him/her. Then continue reading as before.
- Ask questions occasionally e.g. at the end of a page: What do you think will happen next?
- Make observations about the story: "That's terrible! He must feel very sad".
- Praise the child frequently for his/her effort.
- A period of 15 minutes is recommended for reading together. Always stop at a natural break in the story, if the book is too long to read at one sitting.

Things to Avoid:

Turn off the television, radio etc. - they are obvious distractions.

- Avoid other family members interrupting you while Paired Reading is taking place.
- Avoid negative comments. Do not make comments like "Look at what you are doing" or "Concentrate, you knew that word last week"
- Don't continue with a session if the child is obviously very tired.
- Now that your child is reading himself/ herself don't stop reading to him/her at other times. The more times you read to your child will increase his/her enjoyment of books.

Halloween Fancy Dress

Fancy dress was held on Wednesday October 22nd and the children had a very enjoyable day. It was great to see such a variety of spooky characters around Peterswell.

Self Help Africa

Thank you to all who contributed to our fundraiser for Self Help Africa . A fantastic sum of €212 was raised on the day for this worthy cause. It is the policy of St Thomas NS to support one worthy cause each year. If you have a suggestion for next year, please feel free to approach us. Best wishes to past pupil Shane Cooney on his upcoming trip to Uganda and well done to our past pupil Elaine Walsh who has recently returned from her work there. We are very proud of you both.