

Calendar

March 5th to March 16th	Coicís na Gaeilge
March 8th	Closed for Referendum
March 13th	6th Class Trip to Dublin
March 21st	Boys Soccer in Portumna
March 22nd	Closing at noon for Easter Holidays.
April 8th	Re-opening at 9.10am
April 17th	Confirmation at 3pm
May 11th	First Holy Communion
May 6th	First Holy Communion
May 27th	6th class RSE talk
May 20th-24th	Numeracy Testing
May 27th-31st	Literacy Testing
June 17th-21st	School Tours
June 26th	Closing at noon for Summer Holidays.

Our blog

Address

is



ST. THOMAS' N.S.

MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER



The school will close for the Easter Break
on Friday March 22nd at 12.00 noon.

*Beannachtaí na Féile Pádraig
ort.*

AWARDS

STUDENT OF THE MONTH—FEBRUARY 2024

Congratulations to Chloe, Anna and Finn.

AWARD WALL—FEBRUARY 2024

Congratulations to Páidí, Amber and Culann.

RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS

Congratulations to Fiadh, Nathan, Grace, Emily, Dara, Darragh, Holly, Méabh and MJ.

GAELGÓIR NA MÍOSA

Comhghairdeas do Donagh, Tomás agus Eimhinn.

ENROLMENT 2024/25

Enrolment forms have been sent to all new entrants. Please return at your earliest convenience to the school.

SWIMMING

Swimming will commence in The Lady Gregory on April 24th for 1st-5th class. A payment link will be sent closer to the time. Price will be €54 per child and this includes transport.

4th-6th class will be taking part in the Cycle Right course in school in April. This will be starting on April 10th and overall cost is €22 per student. However, we have secured funding from An Taisce to reduce the price to €5 per student. A payment link will issue closer to the time.

SCHOOL TOUR

School Tours will take place on the week of June 17th-21st. 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 upcoming 6th class trip to Glasnevin Cemetery and Kilmainham Gaol. 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 and Mr Mulkerrins well in the sacramental preparation that they are undertaking with their classes. The Board would like to thank Ms Marren and Fiona Buckley for their support in preparing our school choir for this years sacraments.

The RSE talk for 6th Class has been booked for May 27th 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 would like to thank all those who recently attended a meeting in relation to our schools 80th celebrations in June and all those who expressed an interest in helping to organise the occasion.. We are looking forward to welcoming all of our school community on the weekend of June 14th and 15th.

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.

8 This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Board of Management 15/11/23

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on 15/11/23

Signed: Francis Walsh

Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: Michael Mulken

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 15/11/23

Date: 15/11/23

ATTENDANCE:

January 2024 94%

February 2024 96.5%

GAEILGE

An mhí seo roinneamar na paisti I ngrúpaí agus scríobh siad focail agus frásaí Gaeilge ar an gclós. Rinne na páistí póstaí Ghaeilge. Ta trí sheisiún damhsa Gaelach againn le Marie Gavin. Léigh na páistí móra leabhair Ghaeilge, dona páistí óga. Beimid ag déanamh cuis as Gaeilge, bíogó, Céile Mór agus cluichí clóis. Beidh ceardlann ar zoom againn chun an Poc ar Buile a fhoghlaim. Beidh lá glas againn 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. The Junior Classes are still making wonderful art from items they have brought in from home. Our Junior Room have been taking part in an extended version of Food Dudes and well done to all students for their participation. Senior students are taking part in the final part of the program. The Senior Room have planted the raised beds this week. We are all doing our bit for the planet so keep up the good work! We remain in regular contact with the Safer Routes to School Scheme in efforts to secure funding in this area.

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.

After school training for 3rd-6th will commence immediately after the Easter holidays with girls training on Tuesdays from 3-3:45 and boys on Thursdays from 3-3:45.

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

Well done also to our U11 girls who reached the Galway Olympic Handball County finals and played brilliantly on the day.

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.

Road Safety

A reminder that all motorists should reverse to the kerb when parking outside the school.

Mr Mulkerrins recently met with Senior County Council Engineer Enda Gallagher to discuss speed limits outside our school and he has furnished the BOM with a report. Please see below in relation to the current national speed limit review from Enda:

The installation of permanent or periodic speed limits will be considered by the Roads section in the context of the current Speed Limit Review.

As discussed we are currently awaiting the passing of new speed limit legislation, so we're not in a position to give a timeframe on the implementation of new speed limits.

We are also continuing to pursue funding with the Safer Routes to School Scheme to help with safety measures around our school.

FREE BOOK SCHEME 2023-2024

Details on our Free Book Scheme for 2024/25 will be forwarded to parents when we receive further information on this years funding 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:

- o The Board of Management's annual review of the school's anti-bullying policy and its implementation was completed at the Board meeting of 20/2/24 [date].
- o 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
Chairperson, Board of Management

Date 20/2/24

Signed Michael Mulkerrins
Principal

Date 20/2/24

