

*On behalf of the staff and Board of Management I wish you a peaceful, healthy and safe Christmas.*

**Nollaig Naofa, Beannachtaí Íosa,  
Nollaig Chroíúil,  
Is Bliain Nua maith.**



Michael Mulkerrins

Principál

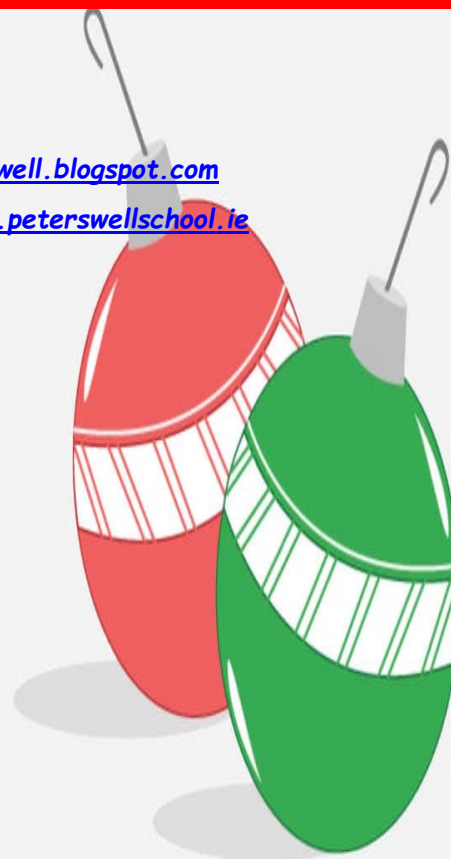
# ST. THOMAS' N.S.

DECEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

Our blog address is

[www.stthomaspeterswell.blogspot.com](http://www.stthomaspeterswell.blogspot.com)

Our web site is [www.peterswellschool.ie](http://www.peterswellschool.ie)



Email address: [peterswellschool1944@gmail.com](mailto:peterswellschool1944@gmail.com)

School Mobile: 085 8747269

*Merry Christmas*

## Christmas Plays

We are really looking forward to our Christmas Show on December 11th in The Joe Cooley Hall. Each classroom will be performing their own play. Doors open at 6pm with Ms Nolan's play starting at 6:30pm. Cover charge of €5 on the night with U16's free.

## Pioc is Puc

Thank you to Robbie Murray who has donated a set of his specially designed Pioc is Puc hurleys to our junior room. These are a great introductory device for children starting to learn the skills of hurling.

## Olympic Handball

Well done to our 5th and 6th classes students who took part in the preliminary rounds of the Galway Olympic Handball competition recently. Both teams were terribly unlucky not to qualify with the girls reaching the final of their competition before losing to a strong Ballinderreen team. The boys were equally unlucky losing out to a golden goal against Oranmore.

Our 5th class students will have another opportunity to represent the school in the upcoming U12 championship with 3rd and 4th competing in the U11 competitions.

## Healthy Lunchbox Policy

**St Thomas NS operates a healthy lunch policy.**

Each child should have a lunch which is substantially healthy in nature

The following items are **not** permitted:

*crisps, cheese strings, fizzy drinks and chewing gum.*

Please be aware that quite a lot of lunch items available are 'dressed-up' as healthy, nutritious foods but which in reality are laced with sugar and other additives. We appeal to your common sense in this regard.

## Important Dates to note

|               |                                  |
|---------------|----------------------------------|
| December 3rd  | Montessori Concert               |
| December 11th | Christmas Show                   |
| December 20th | Closing at 12pm for Christmas    |
| January 6th   | Reopening                        |
| January 17th  | Bingo Night in Cooley Hall @6.30 |
| Feb 11th      | First Confession                 |
| Feb 20th-21st | Closed for Mid-Term              |
| Sat 10th May  | First Holy Communion             |



## **Attendance: Nov 95.1%**

It is vital for your child's success and progress at St. Thomas's, especially in preparation for Secondary School, that your child's attendance is both regular and punctual.

\* Family trips/holidays should be organised to coincide with school holidays where possible, please.

\* Absences should be explained in writing to the pupil's teacher at the back of the diary. (Medical Certs. may be required)

\* The National Educational Welfare Service is notified in the event of a child being absent for 20 days or more, in the course of any one school year.

## **Green Schools**

We had a renewal visit from Mark Molloy Green Schools Senior Officer to discuss what we have been doing for our Flag Global Citizenship Food & Biodiversity. We are also working on Sustainability Goals 2, 3, 11, 12, 13 and 15. He was very impressed with all we have done in terms of planting, growing, litter & waste, sustainability, reducing, re-using and recycling. We are now ready to submit our application for the award early in the New Year. We are trying to reduce the products we use that contain palm oil. Please read your food labels and try to find an alternative to palm oil products. In the meantime, try to have a Green Christmas., enjoy nature and care for our wonderful planet.

## **Awards**

### **Student of the Month — November 2024**

Congratulations to:

**Daithí McMullan, Sadhbh Lynskey and Finn Hughes.**

### **Award Wall—November 2024**

**"PERFECT PENMANSHIP AWARDS" :**

**Ava Burke, Caitlin Mulkerrins and Jack Lynskey.**

### **Random Act of Kindness—November 2024**

Certificates were presented to:

**Jack Kelly, Iarla Burke, Grace Broughall, Josiah Donaldson, Patrick Deely, Ella Quinn, Culann Pigott and Manus Mulkerrins.**

## **Gaeilge**

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

**Fiadh Ní Loinsigh, Cillian MacMathúna agus Áine de Búrca.**

## **Gaelbhrtach**

Bhí mí gnóthach againn. Chuireamar amach físeán in aghaidh na seachtaine le frásaí beaga Gaeilge. Freisin bhí lá Gaelach again ar scoil agus rinneamar iarracht Gaeilge a labhairt ar feadh an lae. Tá carúil na Nollag á dhéanamh again. Beidh comórtas póstaer na Nollag á dhéanamh againn. Bhí cigire sa scoil le gairid agus cheap sí go raibh caighdeán na Gaeilge an ard sa scoil.

## Food for the Needy

We have started a box of non-perishable food for those in need in the local area. Please give an item or two to your child to bring into school for this very worthy cause. This box will be collected from the school on Friday December 6th.

## Test Copies

All students from 1st-6th class complete Friday tests. Please ensure that these copies are signed by parents when students bring them home on either Friday or Monday evenings.

## IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS

### Board Games:

[www.familyeducation.com/fun/board-games/best-classic-board-games-kids](http://www.familyeducation.com/fun/board-games/best-classic-board-games-kids)

### Educational Apps:

<https://www.irishexaminer.com/lifestyle/arid-30824758.html>

### Books

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/category/reading-lists-for-primary-school-pupils/>

### Dismissal

Classes 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> please collect at 2.58pm  
Classes 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> please collect at 3.05pm.

## Pupil Safety

Pupils need to be reminded of the need to be safety conscious when out and about during the winter period. If dark, please wear a Hi Vis jacket in the morning.

We are delighted that changes to the safety lights approaching our school are moving forward.

## Buddy Reading

Our buddy reading has been a huge success again this year. It is great to see our students developing a love of reading. Please continue to encourage this at home.

## Bingo Night

We are all looking forward to our Bingo Night in January. We hope you will all be able to attend. Thank you to all families who are selling tickets. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. If anybody has any prizes they wish to donate, we would be delighted to receive them.

## Team Hope

Thank you to all families who contributed Christmas Shoeboxes for the Team Hope appeal this year. They will bring a lot of joy to the children who get to open them.

