

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 22/10/24 [date].
- This review was conducted in accordance with the "Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement" published on the [gov.ie](https://www.gov.ie) website

Signed Francis Walsh Date 22/10/24

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed Michael Mulken Date 22/10/24

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*

Mathematics

- *Mathopoly*
- *Sum Swamp*
- *Equate*
- *Head full of Numbers*

Geography

- *Discover Europe*
- *Discover Ireland*
- *Snakes and Ladders*

ST. THOMAS' N.S.

NOVEMBER 2024 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 have decided on a new fundraising activity. We will be hosting a Bingo Night on January 17th at 7pm 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 peter-swellschool1944@gmail.com. If we can have the majority of prizes collected prior to Christmas, that would be great as there will be a short window after the holidays.

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 Show

Preparations are in full swing for our Christmas Show. Each classroom will be performing a play and there will be a great selection of Christmas carols included also. The show is taking place on December 11th at 6:30pm in the Joe Cooley Hall. To help with costs, we will be charging a €5 cover charge for adults on the night.

Enrolments

We are now accepting enrolments for the school year 2025/26. Please inform any neighbours who may not receive communications from the school.

Congratulations

A huge congratulations to Ms Moloney and her husband Justin on the birth of their baby boy Rian.

We are so happy for Emma and her family.

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 I ch 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

First Holy Communion will take place on May 10th at 12pm.

Best of luck to all our students receiving their sacrament.

Green Schools

Our flag for this year is Global Citisenship, Biodiversity & Food. We have completed a school survey based on this theme to detect how much is known on the subject. Students have also completed food and plant life maps of our school grounds. We will do another survey towards the end of the programme. We are encouraging families to buy local—food that is grown locally and has not travelled long distance to reach your table. We are also promoting growing vegetables at home, even on a very small scale

Gaelbhratach

Bhí mí gnóthach againn. Bhí tionól againn leis an scoil ar fad. Bhí seó faisin na Samhna againn agus rinne an Coiste Gaelach an jab. Bhí ceoltóirí againn sa scoil agus sheinn ár ndaltaí féin leo. Sheinn na ceoltóirí An Dreoilín dúinn agus rinne an scoil iomlán an damhsa. Tháinig an bhean ón nGaelbhratach ar cuairt chuig an scoil agus bhí sí an sásta leis nan obair a bhí déanta ag na páistí. Tá físeán á chur amach in aghaidh na seachtaine I ríomhphoist. Bheimís buíoch dá bhféadfaidís iad seo a chleachtadh sa bhaile.

Uniforms:

It would be great to see all students wearing their formal uniforms on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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 Ava Burke and Caitlin Mulkerrins who were chosen as winners by the Credit Union.

Awards

Student of the Month — October 2024

Congratulations to:

Nathan Curley, Sadie Neylon and Holly Chapman.

Award Wall—October 2024

"Friendship Awards" - were presented to :

Edith Donaldson, Emily Broughall and Méabh Stanford Kilkenny.

Random Act of Kindness—October 2024

Certificates were presented to:

Ava Burke, Jack Kelsey, Daithí McMullan, Michael Glynn, Charlotte Mulkerrins, Oisín Reilly, Joe Orford, Pádraig Neylon and Anna Burke.

Gaeilge

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

Stiofán Mac Spadden, Cara Cacciapuoti agus Noah Mac Thoirdealbhaigh.

Operation Christmas Child

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to our Christmas Shoebox Appeal. We had a great response and these gifts will bring a great amount of joy to the children who receive them. Please see our blogspot <http://stthomaspeterswell.blogspot.com/> for pictures.

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.

Voluntary Contribution

This years voluntary contribution request will be sent out in February. There will be an option to pay in instalments.

Halloween Fancy Dress

Fancy dress was held on Friday October 25th and the children had a very enjoyable day. It was great to see such a variety of spooky characters around Peterswell.

National Rehabilitation Centre

Thank you to all who contributed to and visited our Cake Sale for the National Rehabilitation Centre . A fantastic sum of €805 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. Well done to Ms Hanley and the Students Council on a great event.