



Scoil an Tamhnaigh

Toonagh, Fountain, Ennis,
Co. Clare

Roll No. 03898U

Tel: 065-6820143

22nd of April 2021

Dear Parent(s),

I hope that you and your families continue to be safe and well. I would like to bring the following to your attention in this April Newsletter.

COVID-19 Toonagh NS Response Plan and Procedures

All schools are now fully reopened since April 12th and the important safety measures we have been adhering to in Toonagh NS will remain in place for this term to ensure the safety of everyone in school. Some points of note:

- **Ventilation** procedures are in place in every classroom by opening windows fully when classrooms are not in use (e.g. during break-times). Windows will be partially open when classrooms are in use.
- **Physical Distancing** continues inside the school building and children are in pods in their classrooms. Classes have designated play areas at break and lunchtime and are not permitted to mix with other class groupings.
- **Hand Hygiene:** Our pupils continue to use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day which is provided and set up around the school.
- **HSE return to school form after absences:** Please note that after any school absence, the HSE return to school declaration form must be completed and returned.
- **Morning Drop off:** The school will be open to receive children from 9.05 am each morning and children are not to come onto the school grounds/yard until the school doors are open.
- **Car parking and traffic:** Please keep the area directly in front of Toonagh Hall free of parked cars at all times so that cars and our school buses can turn here. This will help greatly to minimise congestion in the morning and evenings.
- **Pupils experiencing any of the following symptoms should not attend school:**
 1. Temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or more.
 2. Any other common symptoms of coronavirus such as a new cough, loss or changed sense of taste or smell, or shortness of breath.
 3. Been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus
 4. Been living with someone who is unwell and may have coronavirus.

The Covid-19 Response plan and safety procedures for our school are working well at present and thanks for your cooperation.

Internet Safety/Cyber Bullying Talk

Dr Maureen Griffin will give a presentation to the parents of Toonagh NS on the important area of online safety for children on this **Tuesday April 27th @ 7.30 pm via Zoom**. Dr. Maureen Griffin specialises in the in the area of online offending and education/training in safety online.

The Zoom link for this presentation is <https://zoom.us/j/93051601414>

The meeting I.D. is 930 5160 1414. The invitation is to all parents in the school. The link will be live from 7.15pm onwards on Tuesday night. Thanks to the Parents Association and Board of Management for funding this.

Active Schools Week

We are currently working on the renewal of our Active School Flag. This is challenging this year due to the guidelines in schools in relation to Covid-19. We will have **Active Schools week from May 4th to 7th** and this is a key part in the process for reapplying for our Active School Flag. During this week the pupils will take part in organised fun and physical activities each day in their class bubble.

Standardised Testing

The Dept. of Education has informed schools that Standardised Testing in Literacy and Numeracy is to go ahead in this school year. Standardised Testing for classes 1st – 6th will take place in May. Literacy Testing will take place on **Tuesday and Wednesday, 11th and 12th of May**. Numeracy Testing will take place on **Tuesday and Wednesday, 25th and 26th of May**. The Early Literacy and Numeracy Test for Senior Infants will take place on these dates also.

School Calendar for 2021-22 school year

A copy of the school calendar for the next school year is attached to this newsletter. Toonagh NS will reopen on August 30th after the Summer holidays.

Parent Association News

- **Clothes Collection Fundraiser update**

The Parents Association would like to say a huge thank you for supporting the clothes collection. It was the biggest clothes collection ever in Toonagh (2700kg in weight) and raised €1080. The Parents Association will also make a donation of €300 to Toonagh Hall and Sports Complex which has no major source of income presently and our school children get great use from the facility. Thank you to all the parents who also helped out with the organisation of this important fundraiser.

Important Dates coming up

- **Tuesday April 27th @7.30pm**: Dr. Maureen Griffin Internet Safety Talk for parents
- **Monday May 3rd**: School closed on the Bank Holiday.
- **Tuesday May 4th-7th**: Active Schools week.

Yours Sincerely,

Gearóid Roughan

Principal

Toonagh N.S. Calendar 2021/22

School Opens:	Monday, 30 th August.
October Mid-Term:	25 th October – 29 th October (inclusive)
Christmas:	School Closes on Wednesday, December 22 nd @ 12:30p.m., re-opens on Thursday 6 th January 2022.
February Mid-Term:	February 21 st – 25 th (inclusive)
St. Patrick's Day:	Closed Thursday 17 th March and Friday 18 th March.
Easter Holidays:	Close Friday 8 th April @ 12:30p.m., re-open Monday 25 th April.
Confirmation:	TBC
Holy Communion:	TBC
May Bank Holiday:	Monday, 2 nd May
June Bank Holiday:	Closed Friday June 3 rd , reopens Tuesday June 7 th .
School Closes:	Wednesday 29 th June @ 12:30p.m. for Summer Closure.

This is the calendar for the 2021/22 school year with the main dates and closures decided. The school will need to close for half day 2/3 times during the year for a staff meeting and curriculum planning (usually one each term), when we have these dates we will notify you.