

26<sup>th</sup> of October, 2017

Dear Parent(s),

### **Dates for the Diary**

- The school will close for the Mid-term Break on Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> of October at 3p.m. and re-open on Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Parent/teacher meetings this year are scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of November. The school will close at 2:45p.m. on these days and buses will operate at this time. You will be issued with an appointment time by your child's class teacher after the Mid-term Break.
- The school concert will be held on Thursday (7<sup>th</sup> December) at 7.p.m.

### **Friends for Life**

We will begin to introduce the 'Friends for Life' programme with 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes shortly. 'Friends for Life' is a school-based anxiety prevention and resilience building programme developed by Dr. Paula Barrett in Australia. The World Health Organisation cites 'Friends for Life' as the only evidence-based programme for anxiety in children that is effective at all levels of intervention (WHO, 2004). Friends programmes helps students to develop resilience by teaching them effective strategies to cope with, problem solve and manage all kinds of emotional distress, including worry, stress, change and anxiety. Skills learned throughout the programme help students both now and in later life. A letter will be circulated to parents of pupils in these classes with further information.

### **Parents of Junior Infants**

We are delighted that all the Junior Infants have settled in so well at Toonagh N.S. and to further promote their independence we suggest that you allow your child to walk into their classroom on their own in the morning. This will help develop their confidence & self-reliance.

### **Operation Christmas Child**

This school will participate in Operation Christmas Child again this year. This is an international project sharing the true meaning of Christmas with millions of poor and sick children around the world. The enclosed information sheet explains how it works. The boxes need to be in the school no later than Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November. A number of extra leaflets are available at the school.

### **Educate.ie Christmas Annuals**

It's that time of year again where orders may be placed for Christmas

Annuals with Educate.ie. The cost of each Christmas Annual is €3. Attached please find order forms. All orders and monies need be returned to the school by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> of November.

*No orders can be taken after this date. If paying by cheque please make it payable to Educate.ie*

### Trip to Glór

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Classes attended 'Things that go Bump in the Night' on Thursday the 26<sup>th</sup> October in Glór. All pupils in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> will attend. The event was free and the Board of Management sponsored the cost of the bus.

### Cumann na mBunscol

Recently, our boys football team competed in a blitz with Mountshannon/Lakyle N.S. and Feakle N.S. The boys played very well and lost out to a strong Mounstshannon/Lakyle team before being narrowly defeated by Feakle. Well done boys - we are very proud of you!

### Halloween Party

A 'Halloween Party' will take place in Toonagh Hall on Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, from 6p.m. to 8p.m. All children are welcome to attend in fancy dress. There will be a €5 entry fee for each child. All proceeds for the night will go to Crumlin Children's Hospital. Any donations of home baking would be appreciated for the event.

### School Website/ Twitter

Please check our school website [www.toonaghns.com](http://www.toonaghns.com) or our Twitter page @toonaghns to keep up to date with the news and events ongoing in our school.

Le gach dea-bheannacht,

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Donnchadh Kelleher  
Príomhoide

Please Sign, detach and return to the class teacher:

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I acknowledge receipt of newsletter (26<sup>th</sup> of October, 2017).

Parent(s)/ Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_