



Scoil an Tamhnaigh

Toonagh, Fountain, Ennis,
Co. Clare

Roll No. 03898U

Tel: 065-6820143

3rd of June 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 June Newsletter.

COVID-19 Toonagh NS Response Plan and Procedures

Thank you to everyone for your adherence to our safety procedures and for following the measures the school has in place to ensure everyone's safety. The country is beginning to open up again and the adherence to infection prevention and control measures by all members of the school community is very important and much appreciated.

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.

School Tours/Outings

The teachers have organised a very nice tour for each class in June. Thanks to the Board of Management for paying for a large coach for each classroom so that the buses will only be at 50% capacity and the children will be able to sit in their pods. I'm sure the children will really enjoy their tours and it will be a very positive experience for them after what has been a very challenging year at school. Thanks to the teachers for organising these tours for the children. An Aladdin epayment request will be sent to you for each tour.

Sports Day

Our Sports Day will take place on Monday June 21st. The children will take part in the sports in their class bubbles we look forward hopefully to some good weather. Unfortunately this year, schools can't invite parents/family members on this day. Our Parents Association will provide fruit to the children on this day and they will also fund an Ice Cream Van! Thanks to our Parents Association for providing this.

Standardised Testing

Standardised testing took place recently in Maths and English. Please see attached an important letter about the Standardised Testing this year.

School Reports

The end of year school reports on your child's progress will be issued during the week of June 14th.

Book Rental 2021-22 (3rd- 6th Class)

The updated book lists for each class will be sent home with the school reports.

Book rental will be available again this year for pupils from 3rd-6th class and the details on the cost of this will be sent with the booklists. The book rental scheme offers excellent value and there has been a huge uptake each year. An Aladdin epayment request for the book rental fee will be sent in June.

Junior Infant Induction Day

The incoming Junior Infant girls will have their Induction Day at 2pm on Thursday June 17th and the incoming Junior Infant Boys will have their Induction Day at 2pm on Friday June 18th. The Junior and Senior Infant Classes will finish at 1.15pm on these days. Please ensure that your child is collected at the earlier time of 1.15pm. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions it is necessary to have two induction meetings this year to keep numbers at a minimum.

Internet Safety/Cyber Bullying Talk for Parents

The rescheduled presentation by Dr Maureen Griffin on the area of online safety took place last night via Zoom and it was well attended. Maureen will send on resources and information to the school for parents and pupils. We hope that those who attended found the presentation worthwhile and thank you to the Board of Management and Parents Association for funding this.

Hurling and Camogie

Our hurling and camogie league for the girls and boys in 3rd - 6th in May has been going well and the children are showing good improvement each week. This fun league continues in June until the summer holidays.

Ann McMahon will continue coaching hurling, camogie and fundamental movement skills for all classes every Friday in June.

Summer Uniform

During June children can wear shorts with their uniform if they wish to and hopefully we get some fine weather.

Parents Association News

The Parents Association are organising a collection of old clothes on Tuesday June 15th at 9-9.30am, 2-3pm and 6.30-7pm for anyone doing a clear out before the summer. Thanks for your support.

Ms. Brosnan

Ms. Brosnan will be finishing with us at the end of June. She has been a fantastic teacher in Toonagh for the last two years. She has been a great addition to our teaching staff and we thank her for all the great work she has done for the children and for our school. Any school will be extremely lucky to have her and we wish her very well in the future. We welcome back Ms Garrahy on a full time basis.

The teacher and class allocation for 2021/22 will issue along with the school reports.

Important Dates coming up

- **Friday June 4th & Monday June 7th**: School closed for June Bank Holiday weekend.
- **Tuesday June 15th**: Parents Association Clothes Collection.
- **Friday June 25th**: School closes for the Summer Holidays.

I wish you all a nice bank holiday weekend.

Gearóid Roughan

Principal

Standardised Testing

Dear Parents,

All primary schools have been instructed by the Department of Education and Science to complete standardised testing this year. Results of the standardised tests will be communicated via the end of year report cards. It is important to consider the results of these tests in the context of school closures over the course of the past 2 years due to Covid-19.

Standardised tests are only one method used by the Department and teachers to assess your child. The class teacher uses a broad range of assessment tools to evaluate learning and celebrate the achievements of your children.

The past 15 months of your child's schooling have been anything but standard. When evaluating and monitoring progress and attainment we do not focus solely on a test score. Now more than ever it is important that we manage our expectations and interpretations of test scores. Given the challenges posed by school closures it is reasonable to expect that there may be a drop in test scores.

It is important to bear in mind all the other achievements and accomplishments of our children since March 2020. They have shown themselves to be adaptable, courageous and above all they have shown a great resilience. They have navigated their way in and out of school closures and re-openings, each time returning to school full of enthusiasm and positivity. Well done to each and every pupil.

Yours sincerely,

Gearóid

