



# Scoil an Tamhnaigh

Toonagh, Fountain, Ennis,  
Co. Clare

Roll No. 03898U

Tel: 065-6820143

29<sup>th</sup> of March 2023

Dear Parent(s),

There are a number of items I would like to bring to your attention this Easter Newsletter.

## **School Closure for New Curriculum Training**

Schools are requested to close for a full day in Term 3 for staff training on the New Curriculum. Toonagh NS staff will have this training day on Tuesday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, therefore the school will be closed on this date.

## **School Attendance update**

Term 2 of the 22/23 school year will conclude at the end of this week. The daily attendance rate in our school continues to be very high at 94% (this time last year the attendance rate was 90%). Naturally, some pupils will have a higher absence rate if they suffer an illness during the course of the year. A reminder that schools are obligated & required to notify Tusla if any pupil misses over 20 days during the year, regardless of the reason(s). Therefore, it is important that the reasons for absences are accurately recorded daily on our school Rolla. We thank you for providing this information via a note or via email to the class teacher.

## **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Congratulations to the pupils of Ms. Garrahy's 2nd class who made their sacrament of First Reconciliation in Dysart Church on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> of February. Thanks very much to Ms. Garrahy, Fr. Damien and Fr. Martin for the very nice ceremony. The children also did very nice art work for this sacrament.

## **Holy Communion School Choir**

Our school choir practise each week and it is great to hear this singing throughout the school again, which was very much curtailed during the Covid-19 Pandemic. The choir are practising at present for the Holy Communion Ceremony which takes place on Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup> @1pm in Dysart Church. Children from 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Class are part of our choir and we ask that these pupils be available on this date where possible for our choir, which is a very important part of our school. More details closer to the date. Thanks for your support on this.

## **Seachtain na Gaeile agus Lá Glas**

'Seachtain na Gaeilge' was celebrated from Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> - Thursday the 16<sup>th</sup> of March. During this week the children made an extra effort to speak Irish outside of their classroom and they learned traditional dances and songs which they performed during our Céilí Mór on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>! There was great colour on Thursday March 16<sup>th</sup> for our Lá Glas and also on this day our musicians played lovely music for us at our Céilí Mór. Thanks to all our teachers for the activities they did with the pupils during Seachtain na Gaeilge.

## **National Spring Clean-up**

On Tuesday March 28<sup>th</sup> all classes in the school took part in a clean-up of our community. We registered with an Taisce and received supplies. Pupils & staff took an area each to collect litter & waste around the school environment and community.

Ms. Browne's class cleaned up all around our school grounds, Ms. Garrahy's class cleaned up in the Beech Grove Estate, Mr. Eustace's Class cleaned along Toonagh Road, Ms. Cullinan's cleaned all back along Toonagh road from the school to the cross. The children really enjoyed taking part in this clean-up and were delighted to help our local community. All litter collected is being brought to the Inagh Landfill facility. You can photos on our Instagram page.

## World Down Syndrome Day

The children enjoyed celebrating World Down Syndrome Day on Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>. To raise awareness the school children wore odd socks or loud socks coming to school on this day and they celebrated the differences that makes us all unique. They also took part in the Down Syndrome Clare colouring competition and congratulations to the prize winners from this competition who received very nice prizes from Down Syndrome Clare. €191 was raised for Down Syndrome Clare and thank you very much for your generosity.

## Active School's Week

This will take place the week after our Easter holidays, Monday April 17<sup>th</sup> – Friday April 21<sup>st</sup>. During this week the children will take part in sporting and healthy activities throughout the week. There will be visiting coaches and the children always enjoy our Active School's week. Children will wear their school tracksuit during this week.

## Enrolment for 2023/24 and Future Years

If you know of a parent with a child of a school going age in the next year or two, we would appreciate if you would inform prospective parents about Toonagh NS. We will be happy to meet with any parent who wishes to see our school and facilities. Parents can email Noelette to receive an Application Form for Enrolment. Application forms can also be downloaded on our website [toonaghns.com](http://toonaghns.com). Thank you.

## Teach Spraoi Open Day

Teach Spraoi Pre-School which is located across the road from the school are having an open day on Saturday April 15<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 12pm. They also provide before and after school care. Please spread the word of their open day and see poster attached to this newsletter.

## School Sport

- **Hurling and Camogie Training after Easter:** Starting Monday April 17<sup>th</sup> Camogie training will be on in Ruan GAA Field and from Thursday April 20<sup>th</sup> Hurling training will be on in Ruan GAA Field from 3.00-4.00. Children in 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> that would like to attend will leave school at 2.40. Parents are to make arrangements to bring the children to Ruan. Our hurling and camogie teams will also be starting their competitions after Easter. Thanks to Ms. Cullinan, Mr. Eustace and Mr. Barry who are coaching these teams after school.
- **FAI Soccer Tournament:** Well done to all the boys and girls from 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> who took part in the FAI soccer tournament recently in Lees Road. Our girls and boys have qualified to the County Finals to be played at a later date.

## Parents Association News

- **Clothes Collection:** The final clothes collection of this school year will be held on Thursday May 18<sup>th</sup>. Contributions of any unwanted clothes, belts, shoes, towels, curtains and bags would be greatly appreciated. Drop off times are: Morning: 9a.m. to 10a.m., Afternoon: 1.45p.m. to 3p.m. Evening: 6.30p.m. to 7.30p.m. Please spread the word and thanks for your support.
- **School Tour Buses:** The Parents Association will fund the cost of all buses for each school tour in Term 3. This will help greatly with reducing the cost of the school tours and thanks very much to our Parents Association for this kind gesture.

## Important Dates coming up

- **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> of March:** Non-uniform day (€2 donation) for World Autism Day.
- **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> of March:** School closes at 12.30 for Easter Holidays.
- **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> of April:** School reopens after Easter.
- **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> of April:** Active School's Week, children wear their school tracksuit this week.
- **Monday May 1<sup>st</sup>:** School closed for May Bank Holiday.
- **Tuesday May 2<sup>nd</sup>:** School closed for Staff Training Day.
- **Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup>:** First Holy Communion in Dysart Church @1pm
- **Saturday May 27<sup>th</sup>:** Confirmation in Ruan Church @ 11am
- **Thursday May 18<sup>th</sup>:** Clothes Collection
- **May 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>:** Standardised Testing English
- **May 30<sup>th</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup>:** Standardised Testing Maths

*I wish you all a very happy Easter and thanks very much for your support this term.*

*Gearóid Roughan*

Príomhoide



If you want your children to climb trees, roam in a meadow, make mud pies, get to know the names of trees, flowers and birds? Sow a vegetable garden, wild flowers in a meadow? Munch on apples, pears and plums from our own orchard? **Teach Spraoi is the place to be.**

We operate a homework club collecting the children from Toonagh school each day on our school rope at 14.00 & 15.00.

Healthy meals are provided in a beautiful rich diverse nature setting provided by well qualified, passionate, kind, empathetic staff.

Places are limited. We would simply love to speak with you and fill you in on our splendid nature setting just a 5 minutes drive from Ennis, Corofin, Kilnamona, Ruan, Barefield and in our own lovely wood beside Toonagh school.



- We are fully insured.
- Registered with Tusla, Dept., of Children. Dept of Environment.
- Compliant with all legislation.
- We facilitate all government funded schemes Ecce, Ccsp, NCS.

## OPEN DAY

Open Day will be held early April to experience this beautiful natural setting. Please contact Nóra to book your place. We look forward to seeing you

[www.teachspraoi.ie](http://www.teachspraoi.ie)

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*'Look deep into nature and you will understand everything.'* Albert Einstein

- Open 8.00am to 18.00pm 5 days a week
- Open 48 weeks a year to facilitate full day care
- We facilitate the ECCE early years program
- The National Childcare scheme
- All our staff are highly trained and have a passion for nature led education.

siolta  
The National Quality Framework  
for Early Childhood Education

Aistear



[www.teachspraoui.ie](http://www.teachspraoui.ie)