



# *Scoil an Tamhnaigh*

*Toonagh, Fountain, Ennis,  
Co. Clare*

*Roll No. 03898U*

*Tel: 065-6820143*

October, 2022

Dear Parent(s),

I would like to bring the following to your attention in this October newsletter:

### **Parent Teacher Meetings:**

Parent/teacher meetings this year are scheduled for Monday November 21<sup>st</sup>, Tuesday November 22<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday November 23<sup>rd</sup>. The meetings will be face to face and the date and time of your meeting will be sent home next week.

### **Halloween Dress-up Day:**

On Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> of October children may come to school in Halloween Costume/Fancy Dress. Weather permitting the children will take part in a Halloween parade on our Astro Turf pitch after lunch. All children, whether in costume or not will receive some Halloween treats from the school and hopefully this will be a nice end to the first half term for them.

### **Team Hope Christmas Shoe Box Appeal:**

The children of Toonagh N.S. are again supporting this worthwhile project. Many thanks for your continued generosity. You will receive the details this week along with the labels for the shoeboxes. Labels are also attached to this newsletter. The final day for donation of shoeboxes will be Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> of November.

### **Christmas Annuals:**

Orders may be placed for Christmas Annuals again this year and the order forms will be sent home soon. When the order forms are received, please send back the order form and correct amount to your child's teacher. Each sibling that wants an annual must send back their own form and money to their own teacher. Noelette will have more details on this soon.

### **School Planning and School Self Evaluation (SSE):**

Each year, schools have to review one area of our teaching and learning for School Self Evaluation (SSE). We are reviewing the area of wellbeing in our school and reviewing the strategies that we have used over the last number of years to promote wellbeing and resilience amongst our school children. Surveys on wellbeing were sent home to parents last week and thank you for filling these out.

At our recent half in half out staff meeting we planned for our SSE. We are also reviewing our English subject plan and we reviewed our Science equipment. This term the school subject area we are updating on our school plan on is English.

### **New Spellings Programme:**

We have changed our spelling programme in the school. We are using the Jolly Phonics Word lists throughout the school. Please ensure that your child practises their prescribed spellings each night.

### **Active Schools Programme:**

As part of our Active School's Programme and our Active Flag, we have organised 'walking and talking' before school starts each morning. The children are enjoying this wellbeing and exercise activity in a safe environment. Thanks to Mr. Eustace and the staff for coordinating this enjoyable healthy activity each morning. During this year we will be reapplying to renew our Active School School Flag.

### **Donations of Toys and Books:**

Whenever families are doing a clear out of books or toys we would welcome donations of intact and undamaged toys and suitable complete jigsaws. We are especially on the lookout for construction toys such as DUPLO LEGO and K'NEX. Our infants take part in structured play called Aistear and if you are doing a clear out of any toys suitable for this play time Ms. Browne will accept them.

We are trying to increase our stock of Accelerated Reader (AR) books for our new library. If you are doing a clear out of books at any stage that are on AR we will use them for our library. Thank you.

### **Party Invitations (Infant Classes only):**

Invitations to parties may be distributed in the Junior and Senior Infant Classes at school. However, in all other classes, we would ask that you issue invitations to children outside of school time, as it can cause upset and disappointment to some children if they don't receive an invitation. We hope you understand this situation and we appreciate your consideration in this matter.

### **School Sport:**

- **Cross Country:** Well done to all the boys and girls from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class who took part in the North Clare Cross Country competition in Lees Road. All the children acquitted themselves very well and a number of children have progressed onto the County Finals on Tuesday November 15<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Ms. Garrahy, Ms. Cullinan and Mr. Eustace for training our runners for this event.
- **Gaelic Football:** Our Boys and Girls football team have training on Mondays and Thursdays after school. They are taking part in the Cumann na mBunscol Football blitzes this term and we wish them well in these competitions. Thanks to Ms. Cullinan and Mr. Eustace for training our footballers.
- **Hurling and Camogie Blitz:** Our girls and boys in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class recently took part in the St. Flannan's College hurling and camogie blitz with 15 local primary schools taking part. They did very well on both days. Ms. Cullinan and Mr. Roughtan were very proud of their efforts and the skill they displayed.

### **New Wall Mural:**

The new wall mural in our main yard has been complete. We are delighted with how it has turned out. It represents school life in Toonagh NS and it also represents life and places in our wonderful community. Thanks very much to local artist Nicola Moloney for her great work on the mural and well done to 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class who assisted Nicola.

### **Christmas Concert:**

The children are really looking forward to our Christmas Concert returning this year. It will take place on Thursday December 8<sup>th</sup> starting at 7pm.

### **Parents Association News:**

- **Clothes Collection:** Thank you very much for supporting the Parents Association Old Clothes collection. It was a great success and €600 was raised. This will help with the purchase of important school resources which we need to buy for each class. We are currently investing in more novels, Accelerated Reader books and Science equipment.
- **Calendar and school photos:** The Parents Association have been busy taking photos for the 2023 school calendar. They are taking individual, siblings, class & month photos and creating a calendar. More details will issue soon.
- **Book Fair:** It will take place the week before our Christmas Holidays, Monday Dec 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday Dec 16<sup>th</sup>. The PA will issue further details at a later date.
- **Recent AGM:** Thanks very much to the parents who have volunteered to help out with the PA this year.

**Important Dates coming up:**

- **Friday October 28<sup>th</sup>:** School closes for Halloween mid-term break. Halloween Dress up day!
- **Monday November 7<sup>th</sup>:** School reopens after Halloween mid-term break.
- **Monday Nov 21<sup>st</sup>, Tuesday Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Parent Teacher Meetings.
- **Thursday December 8<sup>th</sup>:** Christmas Concert starting @7pm.

*I wish you all well for the rest of the month and thanks for your continued support.*

*Gearóid Roughan*

Principal

- Cut out your label.
- Tick the relevant age box.
- As the back of the label is sticky, moisten and stick to the top right hand corner of your box (using tape if necessary).

**TEAM HOPE™**  
 | Helping vulnerable children overseas

**TEAM HOPE**

**BOY**

My box is for:

**2-4** YEARS     **5-9** YEARS     **10-14** YEARS

**TEAM HOPE**

**GIRL**

My box is for:

**2-4** YEARS     **5-9** YEARS     **10-14** YEARS

Moisten this side



**James - eSwatini (Swaziland)**

James has never had socks. Now he has three pairs! They will keep his feet warm because even in Africa it gets cold at night.

Moisten this side



**Olga - Belarus**

When we gave Olga her shoebox, she jumped up and down with excitement, squealing with delight. Olga told us, "Miracles do happen! Dreams really do come true!"