



**Congratulations**  
to Scoil Thomáis Senior Boys' Football Team who won the local Fingal League. The boys played brilliantly and showed great team spirit as they defeated reigning champions Scoil Bhríde BNS with a score of 2:10 to 2:06 in a thrilling final in Somerton. The team is coached by teachers Mr Freeman & Mr N Gurhy. Well Done Boys.

#### PARENTS' ASSOCIATION NEWS

There was a good attendance of parents at Scoil Thomáis Parents' Assoc. AGM held in the school hall on Wednesday 5th October. A full report was given by PA Chairperson, Jason Sweeney on the range of PA activities and support for the school over the past year. Special thanks to outgoing Secretary Siobhan Boyle and outgoing Treasurer Niamh Collins for all their work on the PA Committee. The PA committee for 2016/17 will be finalised at the next PA meeting on Monday 7th November.

#### INTERNET SAFETY WORKSHOP

Mr Doherty's & Ms O'Leary's 5th Classes will have a workshop on cyberbullying and internet safety with facilitator Ger Brick this **Tuesday 25th October**. This has been organised as part of our Anti-Bullying Awareness Programme. School staff will also attend training on the topic.



*Junior Infants were busy planting daffodil & tulip bulbs last week along the grass area outside Rooms 7 & 8.*

*We look forward to seeing the lovely flowers in Spring time. The Bulbs were supplied by the Parents Association. Over the past few years lots of spring bulbs have been planted along the school perimeter walls.*

#### REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Scoil Thomáis school choir under the direction of teacher Ms Galligan will sing at the Annual Remembrance Service for bereaved families in Connolly Hospital on the afternoon of **Friday 11th November**. The choir and Ms Galligan will travel to and from the event by bus. The school wishes to acknowledge the support of Jim Leddy Bus Hire who will provide bus transport free of charge for this event.



#### SCHOOL BOOK FAIR

The School Book Fair will take place from mid November to coincide with the Parent-Teacher Meetings. Further news about dates and times etc will be available after mid-term. We encourage parents to visit the Fair and browse and buy from the range of lovely books for all reading levels.

#### VISITORS TO SCOIL THOMÁIS

A large group of Principal Teachers from South Korea visited Scoil Thomáis on 12th October to learn about the Irish Education system. They visited classes to see aspects of the primary curriculum in action. Thank you to the staff and pupils who welcomed our visitors so warmly.

©Scoil Thomáis - 24th October 2016

Scoil Thomáis, Laurel Lodge, Castleknock, Dublin 15

## Nuacht-Litir Halloween 2016



School is Closed for Mid-Term from Monday 31st October - Friday 4th November 2016.

School reopens on Monday 7th November at 9am.

We hope that all school families will have an enjoyable and safe time over the Halloween Break.



#### Maths Week in Scoil Thomáis: 17th-21st October

Last week there were lots of extra maths activities in all classes. On Monday senior classes enjoyed a workshop using Izak9 maths learning cubes to solve problems with pupils in groups working out answers.

Classes were also involved in a variety of maths trails during the week. There were maths puzzles and games posted on the walls throughout the school to encourage mathematical thinking.

Some classes learnt Scratch Skills during computer time this week. Again this year the Estimation Competition was popular with the winners to be announced later this week. Look at the school website for brain teasers and solutions. Thanks to teacher Ms Deirdre Travers who organised Maths week activities.

**CONFIRMATION 2017:** The Parish is seeking to recruit 2/3 parents or interested adults for the Confirmation Preparation Team. This Confirmation Team supports the work of the 6th Class teachers by co-ordinating the You Shall Be My Witness Programme and prepares the Confirmation pupils for the Saturday evening Confirmation Masses. The team also helps in the training of adult volunteers for Faith Friends. **In order to keep these programmes up and running the Parish urgently needs parents/adults to help out this year.** If interested please contact parent **Gonne Barry @ 087/2033557 (after 6pm) to discuss.**



Our Halloween Bake Sale last Friday 21st October was a great success. The sale raised a total of **€1,630** which will be used to fund

school sports activities and for ICT resources for the benefit of all pupils. Again many thanks to those parents who helped at the sale and to all the great 'homebakers' who contributed lovely goodies for the sale. Pupils in all classes enjoyed choosing cakes to bring home. The PA are grateful to **GET FRESH & SWEENEYS BUTCHERS** who supplied tubs and trays for the bake sale.

**GARDA SCHOOLS PROGRAMME**  
Community Garda Alex McDermott  
visited all 4th, 5th & 6th classes on  
Tuesday 11th October to talk about  
Road Safety and Halloween Safety.



Scoil Thomáis Athletes were  
in action this month as the  
first race day in the Fingal  
Athletics League took place  
in Porterstown on Tuesday 18th October.  
Trials were held across the senior classes  
for the athletics squad. Well done to all  
the boys & girls who represented the  
school so well. Also thank you to the  
teachers involved in training the squad.  
Further race events take place later in the  
school year leading to the race day finals  
in May in Morton Stadium Santry.

Pupils in all Fifth & Sixth Classes enjoyed  
learning Tag Rugby Skills over the past five  
weeks as part of their PE curriculum with  
coaching from the Lenister Rugby Union.  
Local GAA coach Paul Hudson is teaching  
GAA skills to Senior Infant & 2nd Classes as  
part of their PE curriculum.



School Photographer  
Philip Murray was in the  
school on Friday 30th  
Sept & on Friday 7th  
October for photos for

Junior Infants and for school family  
photos. Proofs of the photos have been  
sent home this week. Parents who wish to  
order copies of the photos should return  
their order form and money to teacher  
immediately. All photo money and orders  
should be sent into the school by this  
Friday 28th October. (midterm)

The next meeting of Scoil Thomáis Board of Management will take place on  
Tuesday 15th November 2016 at 7pm in the school. BOM members please note.

Don't forget to check out the school  
website [www.scoilthomais.ie](http://www.scoilthomais.ie)

### Fundraising Raffle 2016

The school is currently organising our  
annual Fundraising Raffle which will take  
place on Friday 9th December 2016.

All funds raised go to replace the  
gymnastics equipment for PE lessons for  
the benefit of all pupils. A book of Raffle  
Tickets (€10 value) will be sent home  
with each pupil in early November. Each  
school family is asked to support this  
fundraiser and buy at least one set of  
tickets. Additional tickets can be sold to  
family and friends. There are lots of  
great prizes to be won again this year.  
Sold tickets stubs and raffle money must  
be returned to the school by 2nd Dec.

### NOTE TO PARENTS

**The support of parents & business  
interests greatly helps with the Raffle.**  
**We are seeking donations of prizes for  
our raffle ie gifts, vouchers, hampers  
or cash prizes from parents,  
local business interests or employers.**  
If you or your workplace can offer a  
prize please contact Geraldine in the  
office to arrange. Donations of  
prizes etc will be acknowledged.

Staffroom News: Congratulations to  
teacher Ms Creighton and her  
husband on the birth of a baby boy  
in late September.

**A sum of money was found on the  
school grounds in early October.**  
**Fur further Information please  
contact Geraldine or Roisín in the  
school office**



### Junior Boys Football:

Teachers Mr J Gurhy &  
Mr Ryan have organised a  
school league for the 3rd  
& 4th class boys. Well done to all  
the boys for their enthusiasm for the  
games which are played during yard  
break times. The boys had their  
first challenge match against  
St Patrick's NS Distwellstown last  
Thursday in Somerton and will play  
another game against Scoil  
Olibhéar this Thursday 27th  
October. Thank you to the parents  
who come to support the boys at the  
Somerton matches.

**Girls' Football:** The Cumann na mBunscol  
matches are over for the Girls but skills  
training continues on Mondays after-school  
on the Green with teachers Ms Victory,  
Ms Moran & Ms O'Sullivan. The girls also  
have a training session on Wednesdays at  
lunch break with GAA coach Paul Hudson.

### PRIMARY LANGUAGE INSERVICE

There will be no school for pupils on  
Wednesday 14th December as directed by  
the Department of Education & Skills..  
Teachers will be attending a Training Day  
for the new Language Curriculum which is  
being introduced into primary schools later  
this school year.



**Head Lice:** Please continue  
to check your child's hair  
regularly. If your child's  
hair is affected please  
treat it immediately with  
medications which are available from the  
chemist. Fine combing your child's hair  
also ensures that hair is kept clear from  
head lice infestation



### SCIENCE WEEK 2016 14th—19th Nov.

During this week  
pupils in 1st & 6th  
classes will be involved in a LEGO  
Challenge Workshop in school organised by  
Engineers Ireland. Each pupil is asked to  
pay €4 toward the cost of the event. Pupils  
will enjoy hands on building with LEGO®  
models using science skills.  
5th Class pupils are competing in the Intel  
Mini Scientist Exhibition and will be busy  
preparing their group projects over the  
coming weeks under the direction of their  
teachers.

**Parent—Teacher Meetings**  
**for Scoil Thomais parents are**  
**scheduled for Wednesday 23rd &**  
**Thursday 24th November from**  
**2.45pm onwards. Parents will**  
**receive an appointment date and**  
**time to meet with your child's**  
**teacher/s after midterm. It is very**  
**important that all parents attend**  
**these meetings to discuss your**  
**child's progress at school.**

### Enrolment Dates for Junior Infants Class Sept 2017

Parents may come to the school  
on either **Monday 23rd, Tuesday**  
**24th or Wednesday 25th**  
**January 2017 from 9am to**  
**10.30am** to fill in application  
forms etc for enrolment.



**For the attention of**  
**5th & 6th Classes**  
**A Foráige Junior Club**  
**has been set up in**  
**Castleknock Community**  
**Centre, Laurel Lodge.**

*Foreige Clubs are a great place for kids  
aged 10-12 to meet up in a safe  
environment, make new friends and  
get involved in activities*  
*The Funky Foreige Club meets on*  
*Thursdays 6.30—7.30pm*  
*All pupils are encouraged to join.*