

Thank you to all school families and friends who supported this fundraising raffle. A total of **€6,400 was raised from ticket sales.** This money will be used fund the purchase of new gymnastics equipment for PE classes. Scoil Thomáis wishes to acknowledge the support of many local business interests and school supplies companies who donated prizes for the raffle.

Special thanks to Geraldine & Rosin in the school office their help and to Eamonn for collecting many of the prizes. Also thank you to Jason Sweeney, PA for his assistance with the raffle.

Fundraising Raffle 2016 Winners

Techsure	Laptop	Evelyn Glynn
Philip Murray, Photographer	Photo Vouchers X 5	D.Brady, A. Byrne, S. Lin, L. Herbert, V. Chua,
All Windows Blinds	€250 Voucher	Siobhan McMahon
Andy Mullen Print	€50 Blanch Voucher	Paula Brady
ACS Cleaning	€100 cash	Niall Murphy
CJ Fallon	€100 cash	Sophie Lee Cheong
Folens	€50 Voucher	Tina Forbes
J Nason Therapist	€45 Voucher	Tracey Malone
Vaugh Tech	Samsung Tablet	Vejas Visniauskas
K & E Office	€100 cash	Daniela Iftodi
School Kit	€100 cash	Bindia
ABAL Educational	desk and chair	Harold Oziegbe
Merrion Security	Hamper	Eoin Friel
Castleknock Hotel	Dinner for two	Ryan McDonagh
Castleknock Flowers	€50 voucher	Emily Lee Cheong
Okra Green	Dinner for two	Bianca Clopotaru
Mc Sport	€100 voucher	Jake McPartlin
D15 Locksmiths	€100 voucher	Mursil Murtaza
Collage Hair	€20 off vouchers	Dylan McGoldrick
Centra	Case of wine	Sharon Long
Sweeneys Butchers	€25 voucher	Nancy O'Gorman
ODC chemist	Gift hamper	Yasmine O'Connor
Kavanaghs Pub	Bottle of Gin	Francis O'Donnell
Carpenter Pub	2 bottles of wine	Rena Cushion
Spar Carpenterstown	2 bottles of wine	Linda Reilly
Go Kids Go	Admission x4	Lyla Flood
Body Connection	€20 voucher	Debbie Devine

There were also lots of seller prizes for pupils including books, selection boxes, games etc.

SECONDARY SCHOOL: A new Secondary school under the patronage of the Edmund Rice Trust will open in Sept 2017 to serve the area of Carpenterstown/Castleknock.. This will be a Catholic non-fee paying school for local boys and girls. Enrolments are now being accepted for this school for 1st Year Class for September.

An Information Meeting for Parents will be held on Monday 16th January 2017 at 8pm in St Patrick's School Distwellstown. For more information log onto www.erst.ie

©Scoil Thomáis: 20th December 2016

Scoil Thomáis, Laurel Lodge, Castleknock, Dublin 15

Nuacht-Litir: Nollaig 2016



Scoil Thomáis will close for Christmas holidays on **Thursday 22nd December at 12 noon** and will re-open on **Monday 9th January 2017 at 9am.** Ms Mc Garry & Ms Ryan and all our school staff wish Scoil Thomáis families a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

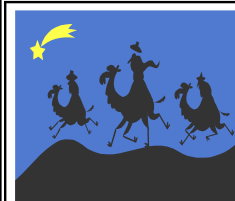


Scoil Thomáis Parents' Association says thank you to Scoil Thomáis families for the food items contributed for their Annual Food Appeal for Vincent de Paul on Tuesday 13th Dec. Volunteer parents packed the food into boxes for transportation to the local St Vincent de Paul office. The food will go to deserving families in the locality.

Scoil Thomáis Christmas Carol Service will be held on Wednesday 21st December in Laurel Lodge Church at 1.15pm with the school choir and classes from 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th.



Parents/Guardians are invited to join school staff and pupils in the church for Christmas carols, prayers & reflections led by Fr Brendan. The seats towards the front of the Church are reserved for the classes and school staff therefore parents and visitors should sit in the non-reserved seats. Classes will return to school for home time as usual after the Carol Service. On Tuesday we will have a final rehearsal for the Carol Service with 1st & 2nd Classes attending on this day. Thank you to teacher Ms Kerrigan for co-ordinating the service and also to all our teachers, and pupils in 3rd 4th, 5th & 6th classes for their preparation for the service.



Nollaig Shona daoibh go léir agus Áthbhliain faoi mhaise ó gach duine i Scoil Thomáis



Scoil Thomáis Christmas Art Competition was organised by art co-ordinator teacher Ms O' Leary. Pupils in all classes were invited to submit art work based on any aspect of the Christmas theme. The Classes and their teachers came to the hall this morning Tuesday 20th December to view a selection of the art work submitted and to sing carols and songs. There were lots of fantastic art entries at all class levels and Well Done to everyone who took part in this year's competition. Winners at each class level were presented with their prizes in the hall. The prizewinning pictures will remain on display in the school hall until this Thursday morning.

Classes were busy rehearsing Christmas themed plays over the past few weeks. Christmas Plays and Songs were performed for parents as scheduled on Friday 16th & Monday 19th December. Thank you to the teachers and SNAs involved for their work in preparing the Christmas performances and to parents who organised nativity costumes, props etc for the pupils. Pupils and teachers were delighted to see so many parents come to the school on the above dates to support the children.



BOM News

The Board of Management ratified the following policies at its recent December Meeting
Supervision of Pupils Policy &
Leave of Absence Policy 2017
The next scheduled meeting of Scoil Thomáis Board of Management will be at 7pm on Monday 13th February 2017.

For all the latest school news and the current newsletter: log onto **www.scoilthomais.ie**
Continued thanks to teacher Ms O'Keeffe for her ongoing work in updating the school website.



Congratulations to 5th Class pupils Conor Roche, Araon O'Reilly & Louis Price pictured at the Mini Scientist Regional Finals in early December. Their project on PHOTOSYNTHESIS was selected as one of just 24 projects to go forward to the INTEL Mini Scientist National Final in DCU on 3rd February. This is a great achievement for the boys, their parents and teachers and for the school.



INVITATION FROM THE COMMUNITY CENTRE **CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING.**

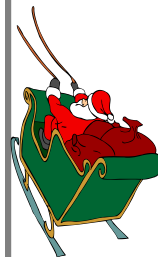
The staff in the Community Centre will **'serve'** you seasonal Coffee & freshly brewed Tea, with a selection of sweet treats!
Thursday 22nd December
from 9am to 12pm



FOOD DUDES HEALTHY EATING PROGRAMME

will be rolled out in Junior Classes from 17th January for 16 school days and in Senior Classes for 8 school days. On each Food Dude Day pupils will have a selection of fruits & vegetables to taste and enjoy. Classes will receive the Food Dudes Food packs fresh each day supplied to the school by Glanmore Foods. This initiative is funded by the Dept of Education and Bord Bia.

Special Message from Santa !



Santa has been in touch by email and reminds all Scoil Thomáis children to be in bed early on Christmas Eve. Santa will be visiting homes in Laurel Lodge and Dublin 15 with presents for all the boys and girls. Don't forget to leave out some carrots for Rudolph and some nice food for Santa!
MERRY CHRISTMAS from Santa



IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PARENTS

Have you a child for Junior Infants Class — September 2017 ?

Enrolment for Junior Infants in Scoil Thomáis will take place on the following dates:

Monday 23rd, Tuesday 24th & Wednesday 25th January 2017 from 9.15—10.30am

Enrolment applications will be only be accepted for children who have reached their 4th birthday by the 30th of April 2017

Parents seeking to enrol their child for Junior Infant 2017 class must come in person to the school on one of the above mornings, complete an application form and provide the following documents to complete your application. :

- *PPS Number (required by Dept of Ed)*
- *Birth Certificate*
- *Baptismal Certificate (if Catholic)*
- *Proof of residence ie two recent utility bills (within 3 months)*

Please consult the enrolment policy for a list of acceptable documents for proof of address (mobile phone & waste bills are not acceptable)

Parents are reminded that the BOM reserves the right to verify addresses for all applicants. Therefore inaccurate information could invalidate an enrolment application.

Scoil Thomáis Enrolment Policy 2017 is available on the school website under ABOUT US/SCHOOL POLICIES section.

INTERNET & SOCIAL MEDIA SAFETY FOR CHILDREN

Parents are reminded to be vigilant about internet and social media safety for their children at home. Children can be especially vulnerable to cyber bullying when online. Parents should keep a close eye on what their children are posting online and check phones regularly and set rules at home about proper use of mobile phone and apps for communication. Children need to be aware that inappropriate messages posted online will remain as a digital footprint forever even if deleted.

Safety Rules for Children—What to do if you see unsuitable material on your phone ?

1. Don't respond and don't reply.
2. Save a copy of whatever has made you feel uncomfortable.
3. Tell someone immediately

Parents may find the following websites useful **www.webwise.ie** – see parents section for practical information and advice for parents. See also **www.internetsafety.ie** which is the website of the office for Internet Safety of the Dept of Justice and Equality.