

PUPIL PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE is an extra insurance through the school at very reasonable rate. Scoil Thomáis Parents' Association organises the collection of insurance fee for this each year. Parents will receive a letter offering the option to buy this extra personal accident insurance for your child which will cover your child 24/7 in the event of an accident during or outside of school hours for 2016/17 school year.

SING & SMILE: singing lessons for children of all ages starting on Wednesday 21st September in the Community Centre from 3pm onwards. Ages 7-12years. For bookings contact Sinead O'Connell @087 6876500 or emailsineadsing@gmail.com

Children's Parish Choir
The 10am children's choir invite new members to join. If interested please register any Saturday in the Church from 1pm during the choir practice time. contact Sinead @087 6876500 email sineadsing@gmail.com

After School Activities
A range of Afterschool Activities to include Sports, Music, Choir, Languages, Art, ICT will be organised for this term for 2nd-6th classes. An information note with dates and payments details etc will be sent home soon. Also GAA training for GIRLS football & BOYS football Jnr & Snr has started in preparation for the Cumann na mBunscol league. Thank you to the teachers who have volunteered to train school teams
Check on www.scoilthomais.ie for a full listing of activities.



FIGHTING WORDS WORKSHOPS

Fighting Words is a creative writing centre established by Roddy Doyle and Sean Love, located on Behan Square, Russell Street, Dublin 1 close to Croke Park. Each 4th Class accompanied by their teacher will participate in the literacy workshop on the following dates: Ms Healy's Class R.21 on Wed. 7th September, Ms Brennan's Class R. 25 on Tues 4th Oct & Mr Freemans Class R.26 on 8th Nov. This workshop provides a great opportunity for the pupils to develop their creative writing skills.

Log onto www.scoilthomais.ie for the latest school news

ARRANGING A MEETING WITH TEACHER?

Parents who wish to meet their child's teacher or the Principal are asked to put their request in writing to the school office for the attention of the Teacher/Principal. The letter should give a brief indication of the reason for meeting ie schoolwork, behavioural, social or home issues. Your letter will be forwarded to the Teacher/Principal and Geraldine or Roisin from the school office will contact you to arrange the meeting at a mutually suitable time. Meetings with teachers normally take place either before or after school.

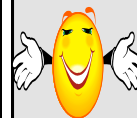


ICT Upgrade: News:

The newly refurbished computer room is up and running and classes from Senior Infants-6th will be timetabled to use this facility starting mid-Sept. Educational Software and apps have been installed on the new computers to support teaching and learning across all curricular areas. Special thanks to Scoil Thomáis parents for their support over the past few years as funds raised were used for the purchase of new computers. Furnishing and Fittings works were funded by the Board of Management. The school also acknowledges the work of TECHSURE who undertook the technical installation works.

Scoil Thomáis, Laurel Lodge, Castleknock, Dublin 15

Nuacht-Litir : September 2016



Welcome Back to school to all our pupils and staff.

We hope everyone will have a great year in school.

A special welcome to all our new junior infants who started school. **Reminder to parents** to please put your child's name on jumpers, coats etc so that they can be returned if lost.

From Wednesday 14th September Junior Infants are in school for the Infant day and will go home at 1.40pm.

All children must wear the school uniform to school each day with the school tracksuit to be worn on PE days.

Road Safety: All pupils and parents are reminded to follow the directions of the Lollipop Ladies (Marie & Vivienne) when crossing the roads coming to school and at home time.



Our Junior Infant Parent Evening will be held on Monday 26th Sept at 7.45pm in the school.

Parents of Junior Infants are invited to come to your child's classroom to meet teacher to learn about the Junior Infant curriculum for the coming year. The meeting will last about 45mins and there will be a cup of tea afterwards in the school hall for parents & teachers. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend. A letter will be sent home to junior infant parents confirming this date. Please do not bring children to this meeting.

School Mass in September

Pupils and teachers from 4th, 5th & 6th Classes will attend a special Mass in the Church on Friday 16th September at 1.15pm. The Mass will be celebrated by Fr Brendan to mark the new school year.

SACRAMENTAL DATES TO NOTE

First Communion Mass will be on Saturday 20th May 2017 at 11am & Confirmation for 6th Class pupils will be on Thursday 27th April 2017 at 11am in the Church.

Reminder to 6th Class Parents:

Please note that the closing date for applications for FIRST YEAR CLASS: Sept 2017 for secondary schools Castleknock Community College & Luttrellstown Community College is this Friday 9th September at 4pm.



A reminder that school starts at 9am each morning.

It is very important that pupils are in school on time each day. School gates open at 8.50am and parents/guardians should accompany their children to their class line. Pupils are asked to assemble in a orderly manner in the school yard to await collection by class teacher at 9am. Pupils should not play chasing games etc around the class lines. The BOM does not accept responsibility for pupils before 9am opening time. **School Entrance Doors close at 9.10am sharp. Pupils arriving after this time must enter at the School Office door.**



The Aistear Infant Education programme will continue this year for Junior Infant & Senior Infant pupils. Aistear is a programme which teaches infant children to develop many important skills and achieve learning targets through structured play activities.

COFFEE MORNING

in aid of the local
St Francis Hospice in the
Community Centre on
Thursday 15th September from
9am to 12 o'clock. Please come
along and support.



IMPORTANT NOTICE PARKING NEAR THE SCHOOL

**Please do not obstruct
the school entrance
gates at any time when dropping
and collecting children.**



**Please do not obstruct driveways
especially on Castleknock Vale Road.
Do not park on yellow Stay Clear Lines.**
Parking restrictions at the school gates
ensure the safety of all parents and
children entering and leaving the school.

Thank you to all parents who paid school
supplies money in June for art, photocopying
ICT and rental of school books. All pupils
have now received copies and other stationery
supplies for the new school year.



SCHOOL BOOK RENTAL

The school has expanded the
range of school books that
are rented to pupils under our
book rental scheme. Parents

and pupils are reminded that all rental
books including class readers, novels and
maths books (5th & 6th) must be kept in
good condition during the school year.
Rental books will be collected from all
pupils in June 2016.

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE:

**Rental Books that are unnecessarily
damaged, torn etc will incur a fine of
€5/10 per book to help cover the costs of
replacement. Please speak with your child
about the care of the books.**

Staff Updates : We welcome the following
teachers to Scoil Thomáis this year:

Mr N.Gurhy (6th) Ms Brennan (4th),
Mr Ryan (3rd), Ms McCarthy (3rd) ,
Ms A . Kelly (1st), Ms O'Donnell (Jnf),
Ms O'Sullivan (SEN).

We also extend best wishes to teachers
Ms McLoughlin & Ms Leonard who have
secured teaching appointments in the West.
Congratulations to teacher Ms Smith on the
birth of a baby boy in late August.

Congratulations to teacher Ms (McManus)
O'Neill on her summer wedding and also to
teacher Ms Keogh who got married
recently

A Big Thank You to the hardworking school
staff who worked during summer holidays to
make sure that the school was ready for pupils
and staff coming back. Eamonn, our caretaker
looked after the school very well undertaking
many painting jobs as well as maintaining our
school gardens and other necessary DIY jobs.
Cleaning staff, Pauline and Regina ensured
that the school was spik and span for the
return of the pupils and staff.

Secretaries Geraldine & Roisin were busy in
the office over the summer preparing for the
new school year and welcoming new pupils.
Thanks also to SNAs: Marie, Pauline, Kay
& Ger who helped with school preparations in
early July and at the end of August.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT NEWS

The BOM funded the deep cleaning of many
areas in the school over the summer including
the pupils toilets and shared areas as well as
classrooms and corridor areas. All external
windows were also professionally cleaned.
Additional classroom furniture was purchased
for the Drama Room which is now Classroom 16
for Ms McCarthy's 3rd Class.

The car park lines were upgraded as well as
providing additional ground signage in the yard.
The BOM also purchased a soundfield system
for classroom 17 and additional window blinds
were installed in the school hall.

**The Board of Scoil Thomais will meet on
Tuesday 27th September at 7pm in the
school. BOM members please note.**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM)
of Scoil Thomáis Parents' Association
will be held on **Wednesday 5th October**
at 8.30pm in the school hall.

Parents are invited to attend and become
actively involved in supporting the school
and your child's education.



**Swimming for 1st & 4th Classes is
currently being organised by teacher
Ms J Kelly. Sessions will commence
on Thursday 29th Sept. for a seven
week term for the classes involved.**

Swimming lessons form part of the
aquatics programme of PE curriculum.
All children are expected to participate
in the lessons which take place in
Coolmine Pool. **The fee for swimming this
year is €55 per child and this covers bus
transport, pool and instructors fees.**

All classes involved must pay for
swimming by **Friday 23rd September
using our online payments system.**

There is an option to pay the fee as
instalments of €27.50 over a 2 monthly
term. An information letter was sent
home this week to all pupils in 1st & 4th
classes with payment details etc.

Please pay online and return the swim
permission letter to teacher immediately.

**We are looking for Parent Volunteers
to assist teachers in supervision at
the pool so please let the school
know if you can help on some /all of
the swim days.**

**Parent-Teacher Meetings have
been scheduled for
Wednesday 23rd & Thursday 24th
November 2016 from 2.45pm.
More details after mid-term.**

Up to date Address and Phone No.

Please make sure that the school office has
the current address and
phone numbers for your child
in case the school needs to
contact parents/guardians



Each pupil has been given an

UPDATE FORM 2016/17

*to update phone numbers, minders,
and addresses etc. We are also
requesting email addresses for parents
to compile a school emailing list for
important messages. The form also
invites parents to give an email address
for the Parents' Association mailing
list. Please return this form
immediately to your child's teacher*

School Calendar 2016/17

A full list of holidays for the coming
school year is available on the school
website www.scoilthomais.ie

NUT ALLERGY ALERT

**Please note that pupils should not
bring nut based foods to school for
snack/lunchtime.**

There are pupils in various classes with
nut allergies and nut based foods can
trigger serious allergic reactions for these
pupils. All parents are asked to
co-operate with this policy for the health
and safety of all pupils. Parents in
Rooms 1, 2, 11, 12, 26 are asked to pay
particular attention to non-nut based
foods when preparing lunches.