

The next meeting of Scoil Thomáis Board of Management will be held on Tuesday 25th September at 7.45pm in the school .
Board members please note

PUPIL PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE is an extra insurance through the school insurance policy at very reasonable rate. Scoil Thomáis Parents' Association organise the collection of monies for this each year. Parents will receive a letter offering you an 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 at a cost of €8 per child. The insurance will cover the period Sept 2012 to Sept 2013 and must be renewed each year.
A letter will issue to parents with details and application form.

Important Notice for 6th Class Pupils
A final reminder to parents seeking to enrol their child in either Castleknock Community College or Lutterlstown Community College for September 2013: the final closing date for receipt of enrolment applications is **Friday 28th September 2012** . For further information/enquiries please contact CCC at or LCC directly.
Enrolment Applications for both school were given to all 5th class pupils in Scoil Thomáis in June 2012.

The School Photographer will visit Scoil Thomáis **Monday 22nd October** to take individual and class photos of junior infants. Parents may also have family photos of pupils in other classes provided written permission is given to teacher. More information will be given to parents nearer the date.

Visit www.scoilthomais.ie for school news and information



Summer Maintenance Works approved and funded by Scoil Thomáis Board of Management were carried out during the summer included: Replacement of window blinds in classroom 1-8, Internal Plumbing Repairs to Classroom 19, Shelving in Principals Office, Painting of Infant Shared Areas and Toilets and water improvement works. The BoM plans to address the water ponding issues that arise on wet days at the Castleknock Rise entrance gate and also to widen entrance pathways etc at this gate which gives rise to much congestion each day.

ALERT TO PARENTS:
There has been a confirmed case of scarlet fever in junior infants room 9. An advice letter has been sent to all parents with children in this class as per HSE guidance. If you have concerns for your child please consult your doctor.

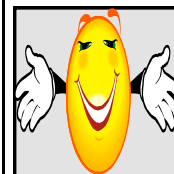
©Scoil Thomáis, 13th September

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
The First Communion Preparation Programme will begin with an Enrolment Mass on **Sunday 7th October** at 10am for Communion Children. The parish preparation is led by Catherine Coady with all parents invited to become involved in the Do This in Memory programme with their children. The school based preparation will be taught by our 2nd Class teachers from the Alive-O programme. We await finalisation of the dates for First Penance & First Communion and will inform parents as soon as possible



Scoil Thomáis, Laurel Lodge, Castleknock, Dublin 15

Nuacht-litir September 2012



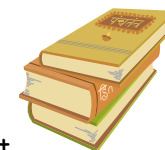
Welcome Back to school to all our pupils, parents and school staff. We hope everyone will have a great year in school. We extend a special welcome to all the new infants who started school.

Reminder to parents to please put your child's name on jumpers + coats so that they can be returned if lost. **From Monday 17th Sept. junior infants are in for the full 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.



A reminder that school opens at 9am each morning. It is very important that all children are in school on time each day.

Junior Infant Parent Evening will be held on Monday night 1st October at 7.45pm in the school. Parents of Junior Infants in Rooms 7,8, 9, 10 are invited to come to your child's classroom to meet teacher to hear about the junior infant curriculum for the coming year. The meeting will last about 45mins and there will be a cup of tea & refreshments afterwards for parents & teachers .
Parents are encouraged to attend this meeting. A letter will be sent to all junior infant parents shortly confirming this date.



After School Activities will start from 24th September for pupils in 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th Classes. A letter outlining activities for each class level has been sent home this week. There is a range of activities including sports, music, languages, book club and art. In addition training for GIRLS football (4th, 5th 6th) & BOYS football (5th & 6th) and Hurling/Camogie (3rd class) will be offered as well as school band and choir.
Please also see the school website **www.scoilthomais.ie (Parents Info section)** for a full list of activities for this term Sept–December

The AGM of Scoil Thomáis Parents' Association will be held on **Thursday 20th September at 8.15pm** in the school hall.
All parents are invited to attend.
A note has been given to all pupils about this meeting.



The **Aistear Infant Education** programme will continue this year for Junior Infant & Senior Infant pupils. Aistear is a programme which allows the children to develop many important skills and achieve learning targets through structured play activities. It requires a lot of specialised play based equipment. Last year Scoil Thomáis invested a lot of money to equip the junior infant classes with all the necessary play materials. This September we have purchased Aistear equipment for senior infants from money raised at our school fundraising walk. The children are really enjoying this aspect of their education. Many thanks to Ms Kelly, Room 6 and her team of teachers for all their hard work in purchasing, cataloguing and distributing all this new equipment to the infant classrooms.



Address and Telephone Numbers

Have you moved house during the summer !!!
Please make sure that the school has updated address and telephone numbers in case of emergency. Please inform Geraldine in the office. *Also please let us know if you have changed your phone numbers especially mobile numbers !!!*

School Holidays 2012/13

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

Halloween Mid-term

School closed for the week:

Monday 29th October to Friday 2nd November

School will re-open on Monday 5th November at 9am.

Swimming for 1st Classes & 4th classes is currently being organised. This is part of the aquatics programme of PE curriculum. All children are expected to partake in the lessons which take place in Coolmine Pool. Children who opt out of swimming must have written permission from parents and must be taken home at swimming time. More details shortly.



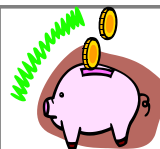
IMPORTANT NOTICE PARKING NEAR THE SCHOOL

Please do not obstruct the entrance gates at any time when dropping & collecting children, Do not park on yellow Stay Clear signs. Parking restrictions at the school gates ensure the safety of all parents and children entering and leaving the school. Please note cars are not allowed in the school playground for safety reasons.

School Security is a priority and we ask that all the school community be vigilant to ensure that the school premises is respected and safe. If you see anything suspicious (especially in the evening time) please alert the local Gardaí at Blanchardstown Station
Telephone: 6667000



We are looking for empty jam jars for holding water during painting time in all classes. Children are asked to bring in spare jam jars to teacher please.



Thank you to all parents who paid school monies for art and photocopying supplies in June. There are a small number of parents who have outstanding payments due. Please ensure that payments are finalised by the end of September. This money is used to provide for art materials and photocopy materials etc for pupils in all classes. The school is pleased that almost all pupils returned to school with all their school books for their new classes. All children should have all necessary books so that school work begins immediately. This school year all children at each class level who partake in Religion Class will be provided with the Alive-O books on loan from the school.

A Big Thank You to all the school staff who worked very hard during the holidays to make sure that the school was ready for the children coming back. Our cleaning staff Ellie & Vironica in July and Ellie in August worked hard to clean all the classrooms and corridors, shared areas and toilets areas etc. Thanks also to caretaker Eamonn who looked after the DIY needs of the school—he also painted four shared areas over the summer. We also thank Geraldine, our very busy school secretary who has been working hard over the summer in the office to prepare for the new term.

All of our teachers and SNAs returned to school on Wednesday 29th August to prepare and plan for the new school year before pupils returned on 30th Aug.

Pupils in Ms Brady's 4th Class Room will be invited to help with a **BAKE SALE** in early October to raise funds for the D.15 Hospice organised by pupil Emma Rodjic. A note will issue to the class soon.



Castleknock Community Centre host a Coffee Morning on Thursday 20th September from 9am to 1pm in aid of Dublin 15 Hospice. Please come along and show your support for the Hospice

Staff News: We welcome Ms Dunne to Scoil Thomáis, she will be teaching first class this year. We congratulate Ms Travers on completing her diploma in Special Education last June. Ms Diffley will be undertaking a special education course this year and will be attending college from mid- September to mid October. Her classes will be taught by Mr Bredin for the next few weeks.

MMR Vaccinations for Junior Infants. Consent forms from the HSE were distributed to all pupil in Rooms 7, 8, 9, 10 this past week. please sign and return to teacher asap if you wish your child to have his/her vaccination administered through the school.

For this School year 2012/13 all staff meetings will be held 'outside of school hours' as provided for in the Croke Park Public Service Agreement. Scoil Thomáis Parent-Teacher meetings have been scheduled for mid-February 2013.