

# NUACHTLITIR Samhain & Nollaig 2021

## Upcoming Half day School Closures:

**Fri Dec 10<sup>th</sup>:** School will close at 12pm on this day to facilitate staff training in the Primary Language Curriculum.

**Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec:** School will close at 12pm on this day. Pupils will have a 'fun festive non-uniform' half-day. Following the Christmas holidays, school will reopen on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022.



## Coronavirus COVID-19

## Recent Updates for Parents/Guardians to note:

- From November 29<sup>th</sup> it is envisaged that **Antigen tests** will be made available to children in the school who are deemed close contacts of a positive case. More information will be issued to the school this week from the Department of Education & will be communicated to parents/guardians promptly.
- Please **keep your child at home if he/she is displaying Covid-19 symptoms**. Click [HERE](#) to read up to date advice for parents in relation to Covid.
- If your child is displaying **Covid symptoms in school you will be contacted to collect him/her**. Your cooperation in this matter is vital as it helps to minimise the risk of infection within the school.
- Keeping classrooms well ventilated is important for the circulation of clean air and will result in colder classrooms at this time of the year. **All children should wear suitable warm underclothes** (vests) and may also wear a warm jumper/fleece etc in class if necessary. Make sure that your child is wearing suitable warm coats and hats for outdoor times.
- Please ensure to wear a **face mask** when dropping or collecting you child(ren) to school.

## Enrolment

### Junior Infant ENROLMENT 2022/23

**Applications for September 2022 enrolments** will be accepted (by post or to the school office) from 6<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> January 2022. All applications must be accompanied by supporting documentation as listed in the Admission Policy. Scoil Thomáis Admission Policy, Annual Admission Policy and Admission Application Form will be available to download from the school website from December 6<sup>th</sup> 2021.

Our **STUDENT COUNCIL** are busy at work having met already twice in November. We look forward to new members joining from 5<sup>th</sup> in the upcoming elections!



Our **Annual Fundraising Raffle** will take place on **December 17<sup>th</sup>**. A selection of fabulous prizes will be up for grabs kindly donated by local businesses. If you, or your business, would like to sponsor a prize, contact Geraldine in the office. Each pupil will receive a book of 6 tickets (€2 each or 6 for €10). Your support is greatly appreciated!

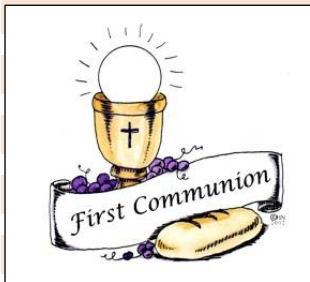
Many thanks to all the families who supported our Christmas card initiative organised by the Parents Association.

Our Halloween Sponsored walk was a great success, raising €1,149.25.





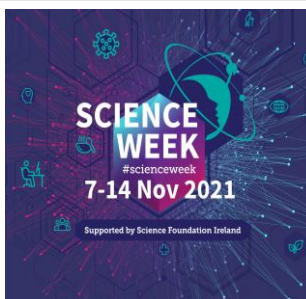
In December, all of our classes will get to experience the **The Helix' Red Riding Hood Panto** from the comfort of their own classrooms! The girls and boys will get to join Red on her adventures through the magical pantosphere. Will she finally realise her true destiny and save Fairy tale Land from the clutches of the darkness.....?! We can't wait to find out! Thank you to the Parents Association who have kindly sponsored this cost.



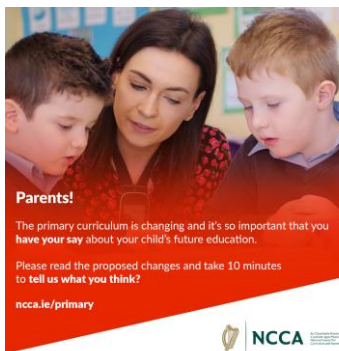
Wishing our **Communion classes** in Rm 13, Rm. 15 & Rm.16 the very best of luck as they receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion on December 4<sup>th</sup>. The girls and boys First Confession was held recently in the church with their parents and Fr. Damien & Fr. Brendan.



**Board of Management Agreed Report** from its' November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting: BOM approved the purchase of Literacy resources (infant education). Ratified the following policies: Admissions Policy 2022/23, Annual Admission Notice 2022/23, Child Safeguarding Statement & Teacher Leave of Absence Policy 2022/23. Approved the purchase of new pupil chairs in all classes arising from relevant DES funding/grant.



**Science Week** was celebrated over the week of November 7<sup>th</sup> throughout the school with many classes undertaking exciting Science based experiments and learning lots of science facts! Special mention to 6<sup>th</sup> class Rm.19 who came 3<sup>rd</sup> in RTE's Science Week Quiz: Pick your Brain. What a great achievement! Other examples of the great work in classrooms can be viewed on our school website. The Annual Science Fair for 5<sup>th</sup> Class could not take place again this year due to Covid restrictions.



**Parents! Do you know that the Primary Curriculum is changing?**

What children learn and how children learn in primary school is changing. The proposed changes aim to enhance children's learning in school and provide for even more relevant and meaningful learning. You can find the proposals [HERE](#).

As a parent, it is important that you have a say in shaping your child's future learning. Consultation will close by the end of February 2022. You can have input and tell the NCCA what you think [HERE](#)

All of our pupils are invited to take part in the **Annual Christmas Art competition** running in the school over the coming weeks. Entries can be completed on A3 paper using any of the following materials: crayons, chalk, pastels, paint, pencils or markers. Closing date is Wed December 15<sup>th</sup>. Best of luck!

