

Principal's Update cont'd//

Half Day November 19th

On Friday November 19th the school will close for pupils for a half day to allow for staff training in the new primary language curriculum. This is as per guidelines from the Department of Education. We will be in touch closer to the time with the exact closing times as we have to do it on a staggered basis.

Finally, we have had a very successful first half term in the school. All our pupils but especially our new junior infants and new pupils throughout the school have settled in so well and are now well used to the routine of the day.

We are delighted that 3rd and 4th classes made their FIrst Holy Communion this month and the 2020 and 2021 sixth classes 2021 sixth classes made their confirmation in September. We are very proud of them all.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Aaron and Oliver Rowney—highly commended in the Nationwide Texaco Art Competition, Well done to you both!

That's all for now.

Have a lovely midterm!

Kind regards

Mary Downes

Vol. Contribution

Our e-payment is now up and running on Aladdin Connect for the collection of our Voluntary Contributions. We appreciate it is a busy time for families and on behalf of the Board of Management we would like

to say thank you for your generosity.



Post Primary

Earlier this month, application forms from the pupils in Sixth class who hope to transfer to Post Primary Schools in the Deanery area were processed and forwarded to the Deanery Secretariat. We wish all the girls and boys in Mr. Burke's and Mr. Flynn's classes all the best in their final year with us and in their Post Primary education next year.



School Safety/Parking



As you know, local residents, many of whom have no direct involvement with our school, i.e. have no children attending at present, have supported our

Voluntary One Way Traffic systems at opening/closing times in the interest of road safety. A few of these residents are concerned that a tiny number of our parents have parked cars across driveways at these times meaning that the occupiers of the house cannot get in or out of their driveways. Please observe due consideration in this regard at dropping off / collecting times so that Gardaí are not called

Thank you for your co-operation in this.



Halloween Safety

Parents, Halloween is a time of great fun but we ask all our girls and boys to be aware of the danger of bonfires and also to take care on the streets after dark. You might remind your child that Hallow'een can be a very difficult time for elderly people living alone and also for dogs. This is especially the case regarding Guide Dogs for blind and visually impaired people. When Guide Dogs become distressed and fearful

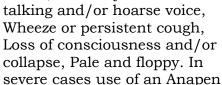
they are no longer able to work effectively and may have to be taken away from their blind owner. Please discourage the use of fireworks on streets or near houses. Any bonfires should be adult supervised in open areas such as parks or fields. 5th & 6th classes were visited by the gardai earlier this month to discuss Halloween Safety.

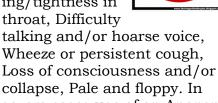


Nut Free School

There has been an increase in the number of our pupils with nut allergies of varying degrees of severity (at time of writing 10 children). Parents of children in the classes involved are requested to refrain from including nuts/nut by-products/ eggs as part of their child's school lunch. Parents of affected children —please ensure

that a recent coloured photo and recommended procedures to be followed are given to teachers at the start of the school year. Nut allergies are serious -Mild to moderate Allergic reaction -swelling of lips, face and eyes, hives or welts, tingling mouth, abdominal pain, vomiting. Severe Allergic reaction - Anaphylaxis—Difficulty/ noisy breathing, Swelling of tongue, Swelling/tightness in





NO NUTS!

Child Protection

As you know our school Child Protection Safeguarding Statement and information notices with regard to the Child Protection Designated Liaison Person (Mary Downes) and the Child Protection Deputy Liaison Person (Aisling Heerey) are displayed on the the school reception area (adjacent to the office of the School Secretary) and have been posted on the school's website-

www.howthprimaryschool.ie Copies of the school's CP Safeguarding Statement are also available on request. We are grateful for the input

from parents during our recent review of the Safeguarding Statement and continue to welcome suggestions on how our Child Protection procedures in Scoil Mhuire might be improved.

DLP and DDLP have undertaken Child Protection training as have school personnel/Parents' Association. New staff and/or others who may not yet have completed CP training are encouraged to do so at regular intervals. Teachers include Stav Safe/Social, Personal and

Health Education (SPHE) and Relationship and Sexuality (RSE) modules in their planning and are made aware on a regular basis of the responsibilities as Mandated Persons. Teachers also communicate with the children in class to discuss Child Protection areas

such as safety/ attendance/ bullying etc

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School Calendar 2021/2022

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

Thursday	14th October	Meeting of the Teaching Staff	
Monday	25th - Friday 29th Oct (inc)	Mid term Break	School Closed
Thursday	18 th November Meet	ing of the Teaching Staff	
DECEME	BER/JANUARY		
Thursday	16th December	Meeting of the Teaching Staff	
Wednesday	22 nd December	Start of Christmas Holidays	Half Day
<u>Thursday</u>	23rd Dec - Wed 5th Jan(inc)	Christmas Holidays	School Closed
Thursday	27 th January	Meeting of the Teaching Staff	
FEBRUA	RY:		
Monday	21st Feb - Fri 25th Feb (inc	e) Mid term Break	School Closed
MARCH:			
Thursday``	3 rd March	Meeting of the Teaching Staff	
Thursday	17 th + Fri 18 th March	St. Patrick's Day	School Closed
APRIL:			
Friday	8 th April	Start of Easter Holidays	Half Day
Monday	11th - Fri 22nd April (inc)	Easter Holidays	School Closed
MAY:			
Monday	2 nd May	Public Holiday	School Closed
Thursday	5 th May	Meeting of the Teaching Staff	
JUNE:			
Friday 3rd/M	on 6th/Tues 7th June	School/Public Holiday	School Closed
Thursday	9 th June	Meeting of the Teaching Staff	
Thursday	30 th June	Start of Summer Holidays	Half Day
Friday	1st July	Summer Holidays	School Closed



