



Scoil Naomh Chaitriona

Newsletter - March

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Dear Parents

This week we were delighted to welcome back Mr. Kelly and his Fifth and Sixth class to Scoil Chaitriona. The school hadn't felt the same without them and it's so nice to once again hear the sounds of busy classrooms and even nicer, the sound of children playing together on yard.

Children and staff are all delighted to be back and feel happy and safe in school. We have all been doing our best to readjust to the routines and structures of school life. Some will take longer than others to readjust but we have wellbeing programmes and supports in place which should benefit all. I promise that we will do our utmost to give our children a fun and pleasant final term.

Important Dates for March

- **Monday 1st March** – Junior Classes and 2nd - 4th Classes return to school
- **Monday 15th March** – 5th and 6th Classes return
- **Wednesday 17th March** – School Closed for St. Patrick's Day
- **Friday 26th March** – Easter Holidays (3.00pm) – School reopens Mon 12th April
- **Birthdays** – Happiest of Birthdays to Shay (7), Daire (9), Reilly (9), Luca C (10), who celebrate their special day this month. Enjoy!



COVID-19 Safety Measures

As you are all aware, the case numbers for COVID have stayed frustratingly high and the new variant has proven to be very transmissible. It is therefore so important that we continue to be vigilant and keep up our efforts in the fight against COVID. Please remember to do the following:

- All adults **MUST** wear a mask or face covering on school grounds.
- Please don't arrive to the school grounds before 9:10 am. Children are welcome from 9:10-9:30am.
- Please do not stay longer than necessary on the school grounds during drop off and collection.
- Please remember to social distance (2 Metres).
- Remind children that they should not bring in any unnecessary items from home – toys, games etc.
- After any absence -Please fill in a Return to School Form which you can find on our website [or click here](#) (if reading online).

We are very proud of our efforts to date in keeping the school safe and virus free and we hope to enter into the Easter break with a clean bill of health. Thank you for your co-operation.

News and Upcoming Events

Sacraments (Communion and Confirmation)

The sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation have been deferred due to the pandemic. Fr O’Fearraí has informed me that there is no definite indication as to when churches will reopen for public worship. It is his hope that the Church will reopen again to the public by May and that the sacrament of Confirmation could be celebrated Mid – June and First Confessions and Communion later that month. At this stage it is impossible to make any plans or set any dates.

In the meantime the class teachers will continue to help the children prepare for these sacraments and parents can help in preparations with daily family prayer and by joining in to Sunday mass via St. Patrick’s Webcam.

Fr. Cathal has also recommended parents and children view [“The Little Way Sunday School”](#) on YouTube – short videos based on Sunday readings which are produced in the Diocese of Raphoe.

Those preparing for First Confessions/ Communion should watch [“Come to the Table of the Lord”](#) on www.iCatholic.ie



Seachtain na Gaeilge

We celebrated Seachtain na Gaeilge over the last two weeks in Scoil Chaitríona by learning some fun songs and poems. The Junior Room learned a lovely song about Leprechauns and Ms O’Reilly’s class recreated a very impressive version of the Cup Song in Irish. It will be posted soon on our school website.

Well-Being

Mary McHugh will be working on the LifeSkills programme with Mr Kelly’s classroom, which aims to promote emotional health and wellbeing, each Monday over the next 9 weeks. If you haven’t already please return your permission slip so your child can take part.



Works on the Playground

We are hoping to have our playground resurfaced and new fencing put up around the school grounds over the Easter break. This will make the playground a safer and more enjoyable environment for our children. From Thursday 25th the Market Yard entrance will be closed until after the Easter break.

Teaching Practice Student

Laoise Gallagher has joined us in the Junior Room as she carries out her Teaching Practice. She has been teaching two lessons a day and will continue to do so until the Easter break. She is very popular among all our pupils who are enjoying her fun lessons and a break from me!

