



St. Teresa's Newsletter September 2025

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that we are at the end of September already. As usual it has been a busy time getting settled back in with lots of activity over the last few weeks.

Congratulations to everyone on settling back so well into the new school year.

- A very warm welcome to the following children who have joined us in Junior Infants: Leon Murphy, Nathaniel Keogh, Caolán Healy, Grace Kelly, Lilly-May McKeon, Conot Taaffe, Teagen McCloskey, Kaiden McCloskey, Grace McGoldrick, James Costello, Nicole Jinks, Theo Cadden, Bláthnaid Murrin, Isobel Kenny & Aimee Ajesh, to Maia Leahy who has joined us in 3rd Class and to our new teaching staff Ms. Lorraine Howley & Ms. Grainne Kelly.

Activities that have taken place/will take place include:

- **School Garden:** Under our Education for a Sustainable Future grant, we are delighted to share with you that over the summer, our school garden has been developed. We look forward to planting some wild flowers and spring bulbs over the coming days and weeks along with many other things. Many thanks to Ultan Mc Gowan for completing the works
- **Teacher Artist Partnership (TAP) Residency:** Junior & Senior Infants are taking part in a Creative Youth Initiative, namely a TAP Residency (Teacher Artist Partnership), with artist & sculptor Andy Parsons. This is a Department of Education led initiative and is administered by the National Arts in Education, Tralee Education Centre and Sligo Education Centre. This will take place over the next few weeks up to mid-term.
- **Music Generation** lessons with Fiachra Cunningham began on Thursday, 11th September. Pupils from 3rd & 4th class are thoroughly enjoying their ukulele lessons whilst 1st & 2nd Class are participating in Discover Music Programme. 5th & 6th class will commence their ukulele lessons and Junior & Senior Infants will begin their Discover Music Programme after Christmas. A payment link has been set up on Aladdin.
- **Tag Rugby Blitz:** Well done to the children from 3rd & 4th classes who took part in a Tag Rugby Blitz in Cleveragh on Tuesday, 16th September. A great day was had by all. Children from 5th & 6th are looking forward to their Tag Rugby Blitz on Thursday, 9th October.
- **Super Valu Athletics Fest & School's Cross Country 2025:** Well done to the children from 5th & 6th class who completed at ATU Sligo on the 25th of September and to the children from 3rd - 6th classes at Rathcormac on Saturday, 27th September. They were absolutely fantastic. A massive thanks to Ms. Corcoran, Clair Stallard & Kitty Conlon for all the training and preparing the children for both the Athletics and the Cross Country after school.

- A special mention must go to Aoibhín and Rose McLoughlin, 6th Class, who have qualified for the **Connacht Primary Schools Cross Country Competition** which will be held in Loughrea, Co. Galway on Saturday, 18th October. We are extremely proud of them and wish them the very best of luck.
- **Ag Súgradh le Chéile** programme for Junior & Senior Infants takes place on **Friday, 17th October 2025**. Many thanks to Ms. McHugh for organizing it.
- **Halloween:** We are inviting all children to come to school in their **Halloween costumes** on **Friday, 24th October**. We ask children not to wear any masks on the day to avoid frightening the younger pupils.
- **Parent – Teacher Meetings** are taking place on the week of the 10th November. **Please note that the school will close at 2:40pm Tuesday, 11th November and Thursday, 13th November** to facilitate the meetings.
- **Additional School Closures:** A reminder, as previously notified, the following dates are:
 - Thursday, 11th December: Child Protection Training for all staff;
 - Wednesday, 4th March 2026: Primary Curriculum Training for all staff;
 - Wednesday, 27th May 2026: Primary Curriculum Training for all staff;

Please be advised that as a result the school will be closed on these days for all pupils.

- **Hot Meals:** Please also note that there will be no hot meals on the following dates:
 - Friday, 3rd October 2025
 - Friday, 17th October 2025
 - Monday, 20th October 2025;
- **Christmas Carol Service:** Everyone is welcome to join us on **Tuesday, 16th December at 1pm** to help us all get in the Christmas spirit.
- **Swimming lessons** have been booked for 3rd & 4th classes for the last term for 6 weeks – further information will follow after Christmas.
- **First Confession** will take place on **Tuesday, 24th March 2026**.
- **First Communion** will take place on **Saturday, 16th May 2026**.

A Few Reminders:

- Education Welfare Act: Under the terms of this Act, all absences of children from a school must be explained in writing by Parents/Guardians. Absence notes should contain the following information:

- The name of the pupil.
- The reason for the absence.
- The date of the absence.

The note can be emailed to the school or sent in their homework diary.

The school must retain these explanations for inspection by the Education Welfare Officer. Please note that under the Education Welfare Act, if any pupil is absent for 20 days or more in any school year (September – June), the Board of Management and Principal are compelled to notify TUSLA.

- Many thanks to all those who have sent in payments so promptly. I would be grateful if any outstanding monies could be paid as soon as possible.
- No Invitations: Parents are asked to refrain from sending birthday invitations into school for distribution.
- School Uniform – We ask that children wear their **full school uniform, with crested jumper and plain navy tracksuit bottoms/skirt/trousers, every day.**
- Please remember that, as per our healthy eating policy, **treats are only allowed on a Friday,** and as the word suggests, are to be **small 'treat' size.**
- The next menu for the Hot School Meals will be sent out in the coming week. Please check your email for it. Choices need to be collated and returned to the supplier promptly. Orders will not be accepted after the closing date and time.
- Please note, due to Ms. Kearins' secondment to Oide, for this school year, our DLP is Ruth Sweeney and our DDLP is Annette McHugh.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Ruth and all the Staff.