

News Letter December 2021



Principal's Message

The run up to Christmas is well and truly here in Clongeen NS. There are lots of excited children (and staff) who are really looking forward to the Christmas break. I wish to thank you all for your cooperation in relation to Covid-19 restrictions. As a parent myself, I fully understand the worry and strain that it has put on families.

I really want to thank you all for working with us as we keep our school safe.

I wish you all a safe and happy Christmas.

Ms Cullen

Policy updates:

The following policies have been updated and ratified by the Board of Management and are available to view on our school website:

- Child Protection
- Anti-bullying Policy

The next two policies which we will be updating are our Code of Behaviour and Critical Incident policies.

Tag Rugby

On Wednesday 1st December, our fifth and sixth class travelled to New Ross rugby grounds for a tag rugby blitz. Weather conditions were not the best, but this did not dampen the spirits of our crew. A special mention to Ryan Whitty in sixth class who showed great leadership as the children trained and prepared for the day. His knowledge of the game and his leadership was really needed as this was a new sport for most children. The organisers of the blitz were very impressed with the standard of players that our school had

and they are keen to recruit new players all of the time. Well done to all - we are very proud of you all.



Clongeen GAA

Our local GAA club organises a very successful training session every Friday morning at 8.15am. This is available for all students. A massive thank you to the coaches who give up their free time to promote sport and exercise in our school. We have noticed in the classrooms that the children are full of life on Fridays, and that exercise is a great way to begin your day. Thank you Clongeen GAA for this and for the maintenance of our goals on the field.

Wexford GAA

Wexford GAA schools coaching programme has been running in our school, with the focus on football. Unfortunately, due to staffing levels, coaches have been unavailable to us in November and December, but we have been promised that they will return in the New Year. The children love getting out with Nigel the coach and we look forward to his return.

Swimming update

We have organised swimming lessons to begin on Wednesday 12th January 2022 and are hopeful that it will go ahead. However we will be guided by public health advice and Department recommendations.

School Money collections

Please see the money tab on your Aladdin App to show money paid so far for collections this year. Reminder below:-

Book rental /Admin –Junior to 2nd class €40 / 3rd up to 6th €50

Insurance €9 - Completed.

Swimming €65 total to be paid before Christmas Break

Milk €16 total to be paid before Christmas break, so that the order can be in place for school return in Jan.

Parent/teacher meetings

Parent/teacher meetings will be held week beginning 24th Jan. These meetings will take place over the phone with your child's teacher. Each phone call will be 8-10 minutes. You will receive a notification from your child's teacher with you day and time. Our preference is to meet parents face-to-face, however with the challenges facing our schools at the minute, we wish to minimize any risk of spreading the virus.

Parents Association

Our Parents Association are organising a Christmas Raffle again this year. We encourage everyone to support this raffle as it is a major fundraiser for our school. Each family received a sponsorship form last week, and as you can see, the prizes are great too. Raffle tickets should be returned by this Friday and the draw will take place on Monday shortly after 12, in the school. Our Parents Association is very important to our school. If you wish to become a member, or involved with our parents group in any way you can, please contact Phyllis 087 9966185, and you will be added to the 'what's-app' group.

Parking

We urge you all to take extreme care when collecting and dropping your children. The bus area is designated for the bus only in the evenings. Under no circumstances is it safe to park in the bus area, behind the bus area or directly in front of it. It is a 54 seater bus and needs adequate space to pull in and out. Please use designated parking spaces, or park safely parallel to the wall. The disabled parking space is for permit holders only. Please consider visitors and/or staff with disabilities. We also ask you to ensure that your children move quickly from the parking area either to their cars or walk onto the footpaths.

Communication

Our updated Aladdin connect is the main form of communication. All notifications will be sent via Aladdin. We will be adding a new feature shortly which will enable the option of making payments online. In terms of speaking with your child's teacher, this is as always no problem. You may make an appointment via the office, or email

principal.clongeenns@gmail.com

Monthly awards

We are promoting the following areas in terms of rewards on a monthly basis:

Hand-writing, Kindness and Irish speaking

Below are our award winners for November. Huge congratulations to all of our November award winners. Maith sibh!



Communion and Confirmation

The dates for our First Holy Communion and Confirmation have been set and updated onto our school calendar.

Communion: Saturday 21st May 2022

Confirmation: Thursday 7th April 2022

Shoebox appeal

The people of Wexford have contributed 6,539 gift-filled shoe boxes for those less fortunate. We are delighted to have contributed to this great cause. Well done to all the boys and girls, along with their parents/guardians who took the time to gather items for their shoeboxes.

Christmas at Clongeen N.S.

We welcomed the news last week from government, that Santa is exempt from government restrictions and he is free to travel. He will be visiting our local shop on Monday 20th and each class will have the opportunity to go over with their teachers to see Santa. Our Parents Association and local shop have worked together to make this happen. We have been working hard to ensure that Santa won't miss us; by decorating our school inside and out.

At the front of the school, you will notice a Christmas display. This has been a combined effort involving staff, parents, and children. Thank you to everyone who has worked together to make our school look so festive. A special mention to our parents and grandparents who worked with our students on home projects. Parents/guardians are welcome to view our display and our Christmas art exhibition on Thursday and Friday evening at pick up times. (1.40pm infants and 2.40pm all students). Parents can view the art from the yard as it is displayed on the windows.

Santa's post-box

Our postman will be collecting the letters to be delivered to Santa on Friday 17th December



Christmas Jumpers

Children will be allowed to wear their cosy jumpers on the last week of school, (Mon-Wed). As is tradition, a €2 donation from each child will be given to Crumlin Children's hospital as a gift from us all.

Christmas Mass

All classes have been invited to attend mass this week. Our senior classes have been working with Fr Boggan to prepare some meaningful readings for our special masses. When you visit the church over the Christmas period, you will see the Jesse Tree which is a school/church activity.

***On behalf of the staff and Board of Management of Clongeen NS,
we wish you all a wonderful Christmas and
we look forward to welcoming our children back on 6th January.***