

November Newsletter

Dear Parent(s)/Guardians,

Christmas Jumper Day:

This year we will have two non-uniform days during December. The first of these will take place on Friday 13th December in aid of 'Barnardos'. Staff and pupils will embrace this initiative.

All funds raised will go towards this worthy project. Children will be asked to bring in whatever they deem appropriate in lieu of school uniform on this day. Parents/Guardians will be able to contribute. You can contribute to this worthy cause as you drop your children to school on December 13th, as staff will have buckets outside as you drop your children to school. We look forward to seeing you in your festive gear!

Our second non-uniform day will be Friday, 20th December, the day we get our Christmas Holidays. There will be no charge on this day. On both days children will have the option of wearing full school uniform, casual clothes or Christmas jumper. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Friendship Week:

During Friendship week, we focused on the 'Mind Me, Mind You' programme which is designed in line with the SPHE curriculum to support teachers in building the foundations of good mental health education. Lessons in areas such as 'kindness', 'respect', 'resilience' and 'anti-bullying' were delivered. Our pupils also really enjoyed buddying up with different classes to make and give friendship bracelets, to pair-read and to go on nature walks.

Barnardos Wellbeing Project:

As part of our ongoing commitment to the area of wellbeing in our school, some of our classes are participating in the Barnardos National Well-being project. The aim of the programme is to support the wellbeing of the children and families in our school community by supporting them to connect to their heart (their feelings) body (their bodily sensations) and mind (their thoughts) through fun activities that involve movement and breath work.

Christmas Annuals:

Thank you to all the pupils who have ordered the Christmas Annuals from their teachers. The cost of the Christmas annual was $\in 3$. Annuals have now been ordered and will be dispatched once they arrive.

Christmas Cards:

Christmas cards orders should be with us in early December. They will be dispatched to your child/ren on delivery. Thank you for your support with this initiative.

School Fees:

- <u>Swimming:</u> Pupils from Coosan NS will attend swimming lessons similar to last year. <u>The charge per pupil will be €50.</u>
- Art & Craft: We would like to thank all who have paid the fee of €55 per pupil and remind any family who has not done so to please do so at your earliest convenience.
- <u>Basketball:</u> We would like to thank all who have paid the fee of €20 per <u>pupil</u> and remind any family who has not done so to please do so at your earliest convenience.
- <u>Voluntary Contribution</u>: In Coosan NS, we are very privileged to have such a wonderful new school building and fantastic grounds. The challenge the school faces both now and into the future will be in maintaining these wonderful facilities as well as running the school in the normal manner each school year. For this reason, the school is asking for a voluntary contribution from each child of €50 capped at €100 per family. This is not compulsory and any contribution will be very much appreciated-thank you!

Payment for all of the above can be made on the Aladdin Connect App or to the office.

Parent/Teacher Meetings:

Thank you for your support at our recent Parent/Teacher meetings

<u>Lámh Sign</u>

We continue to learn a new Lámh sign each week. So far we know:

Hello, good bye, thank you, You're welcome, Sorry, friend, School and Happy Christmas.

Please ask your child to teach these signs so we can all learn as a community together, Thank you for your support

Sport:

Gaelic Football:

Coosan Boys' Gaelic Team:

Well done to the Boys GAA team who had a great win against Loughegar this week and are closing in on qualification for the semi finals in the new year. Well done to all involved.

Coosan Girls' Gaelic Football:

Well done to the Girls GAA team who have qualified top of their Cumann na mBunscol group and will progress to the semi-finals in the new year. Well done to all involved.



Basketball: The children in our 1st classes, our 4th classes, our Senior Infants and Ms. McCormack's class are currently receiving basketball coaching.

Swimming: Pupils from our 6th classes are currently attending swimming lessons in Athlone Regional Sports Centre on Tuesday mornings. Their swimming lessons will finish on Tuesday December 17th. Our 3rd classes will commence swimming lessons then from January 8th - February 25th. Please ensure your child brings all necessary items.

"Santa and the Three Piglets:

Junior and Senior Infants, First, Ms. McCormack and Ms. Whyte's classes visited Tuar Ard Theatre, Moate to see "Santa and the Three Piglets'.

The children really enjoyed this event!

Supervision of Pupils:

Please note that the children are supervised from 9.20am-3pm each school day. The school grounds are open to the pupils but we cannot accept responsibility for children arriving before the official opening of the school or remaining on the grounds after school. On wet mornings pupils are admitted and supervised from 9.10am.

Health & Safety:

In the interests of all pupils health and safety we kindly ask everyone to remember:

If pupils are unwell, please do not send them to school, consult your GP, follow public health advice and inform the school so that we can support your child in the case of a long period of absence and when they return to school.

We have children with a variety of allergies attending our school. The school kindly asks that treats are not sent in for the whole class as a birthday celebration and wish to remind everyone that foods with trace elements of nuts are not allowed due to severe nut allergies in our school.

Chewing gum is not permitted in Coosan N.S.. The school would appreciate the support of parents/guardians in ensuring that it does not come into school-Go raibh maith agaibh.

Traffic Safety:

We appeal to all drivers to be mindful and respectful of pupils using the pedestrian crossings. Please continue to give them the right of way.

Please adhere to guidance shown on the school car park signage to ensure you are parking in the correct location.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

It is fantastic to see so many pupils cycling/walking to school. Please advise your child to be careful and not take unnecessary risks when cycling/walking to and from school and to avail of the school bike racks.

Carol Singing:

Fourth classes will be Carol Singing in Golden Island Shopping Centre (10.30-11am) on Thursday 19th of December.

They will also visit Sonas Nursing home on December 4th and entertain the residents with Christmas Carols

New Member of Staff:

We would like to welcome Ms. Michelle Menton to our SNA staff. We hope you are very happy in Coosan School.

Congratulations

We wish to congratulate Ms. Arthur and her husband on the safe arrival of their daughter, Bea. Comhghairdeachas libh!

We would also like to congratulate Elsie Rooney Farrell who will perform on the Late Late Toy Show this year. Elsie is in Mr. Keogh's 4th class. We are looking forward to seeing Elsie's performance on December 6th. Maith thú Elsie!



Well done Tara McLoughlin in Ms. O'Donohue's 5th class who came 2nd in The Credit Union Art competition.



Parents' Association Update:

Our Halloween Disco was a huge success again this year. Teachers, staff, parents, the wider community and the children themselves gave their time, talents and creativity (and even sandwiches!) to make it such an unforgettable night for all.

Next stop Christmas and the Parents' Association is busy preparing for Santa and his elves' annual visit to Coosan NS.

We will have a truly seasonal Christmas raffle, this year, generously donated from local businesses. Something special for everyone!

And of course our PA elves are busy preparing for the wonderful Coosan School Christmas display.

Please come to our last PA meeting of the year on Tuesday the 3^{rd} of December. Have a cuppa and a chat and see what we have planned for the year! All welcome.

Please contact Olivia on 0862679441 if you have any questions about the PA or want to join the volunteer list.

Le gach dea-ghuí

Mr. S. Cunningham

Principal

Coosan National School

Please see Christmas 2024 Activities below

Date in November/ December	Activity
November 22nd	Pauline placing order for Christmas Annuals
Tuesday ,26 th November	10.15am Christmas Show Santa and the 3 Little Pigs. Tuar Ard Moate, Pick up at 9.30am - First Classes (1 Hour Show) Arrival back to school:12 noon. 11.45 am Christmas Show Santa and the 3 Little Pigs Tuar Ard, Moate Jun Inf and Sen Inf and SEU, (1 Hour Show) Pick up at 11am Arrival back to school: 1.30pm approx.
Friday, 29th November	School closed for General Election
Tuesday, 3rd December	Barnardos Celebration 09:30 Ms. Crowley's and 14:00 Ms. Kennedy's
Wednesday, 4th December	Carol Singing in Sonas Nursing Home at 2 pm (4th classes)
Friday, 6 th December	• Christmas Performances: JI - 11.30am Ms. Casey & Ms. Crowley SI - 12.15am Ms. Curran & Ms. McElvaney
Tuesday, 10 th December	• Christmas Performances: 5 th -10am-Ms. Lantry and Ms. O'Donohue 1 st -12.00pm-Ms. G. Kelly and Ms. Kennedy
Wednesday, 11 th December	• Christmas Performances: 2 nd - 10.00am Ms. Walsh & Ms. A.Kelly 3 rd - 11.30am Ms. Beirne & Ms. Thompson 4 th - 12.15pm Ms. O'Carroll & Mr. Keogh
Thursday, December 12 th	Christmas Performances: 6 th 10.15am - Ms. O'Flynn & Ms. McDonagh SEU - 12.00-12:15pm Ms. Whyte & Ms. McCormack
Friday 13 th December	Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Barnardos

	11.45am - 6 th Class Performance for school
Monday, 16 th December	Parents' Association Annual Draw in the GP Room @11.30 am.
	• Santa visits Coosan School with his 3 elves (9.30am-1pm)
Tuesday,17 th December	Christmas Draw Prizes collected from GP Hall
Thursday, 19 th December	Carol Singing in Golden Island Shopping Centre 4 th classes @ 10.30am
Friday December 20 th	 Holidays at 12 noon. Non-Uniform / Christmas Jumper Day (no fee)
	Go raibh maith agaibh Nollaig Shona Daoibh go Léir