

# *Nuachtlitir Mí Na Samhna 2023*



## **November Newsletter**

Dear Parent(s)/Guardians,

**Official School Opening:** Our official school opening will take place on December 14th, 2023. In school, we are busy preparing for this special occasion. We wish to involve everyone in this important community event. There will be a whole school Mass for all pupils at 10:30am in Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Coosan celebrated by Fr. Pat Murphy on the morning of the official opening. Following the Mass, all pupils, with the exception of our 6th classes, our Student Council and Junior Mayors will go home at 12:30pm. The official opening ceremony will take place at 2pm in the GP Room. Bishop Paul Connell will officially open our new school. Following the official opening ceremony, the GP Hall will remain open from 4-5:30pm for anyone who wishes to come in and share in the celebrations. Light refreshments will be served.

### **Christmas Jumper Day:**

This year we will have two non-uniform days during December. The first of these will take place on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December in aid of the 'Ronald McDonald House'. 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 15<sup>th</sup>, 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, 22<sup>nd</sup> 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.

### **Frankie Keena visits our Sixth classes:**

Councillor Frankie Keena came to our school and spoke to the Sixth classes about the Junior Mayor Initiative for School. We would like to thank Frankie for his time and also congratulate our two Junior Mayors- Bailey Dunning and Yosuf



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## **Christmas Annuals:**

Christmas annuals are available to all pupils to purchase from Tuesday 5/12/23. The cost per annual is €3.50 made payable to your child's class teacher in an envelope marked with your child's name and class.

Please note, no orders will be accepted after Tuesday 12/12/23.

## **Christmas Cards:**

Christmas cards orders have been dispatched to your child since Friday 1/12/23-thank you for your support. Late orders should be received by Mid December. More details to follow.

## **Board of Management:**

The new board of management has commenced it's term. It will convene it's first meeting before Christmas. Our new board members are: *Fr. Patrick Murphy, Stephen Cunningham, Marie McLoughlin, Eoin Ronaldson, William Flood, Helena Kelly, John McGlynn and Noelle O'Donnell.*

## **School Self-Evaluation:**

Our school's new focus for SSE beginning this year is Wellbeing. The school has started the process this term and will involve everyone in the school community pupils, parents/guardians and school staff in this new cycle over the coming months. The school will provide more information in due course.

## **School Fees:**

- **Swimming:** Pupils from Coosan NS will attend swimming lessons similar to last year. The charge per pupil will be €50.
- **Art & Craft:** We would like to thank all who have paid the fee of €50 per pupil and remind any family who has not done so to please do so at your earliest convenience.
- **Basketball:** We would like to thank all who have paid the fee of €20 per pupil and remind any family who has not done so to please do so at your earliest convenience.
- **Voluntary Contribution:** 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.**

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## **Uniform:**

Please note the following regarding your child's uniform and appearance at school:

- Pupils must come to school in full uniform, clean and tidy.
- No jewellery is allowed except a watch, single pair of small earrings (i.e. ear studs or sleepers, one in each earlobe).
- Facial piercings are not permitted.
- No make-up or fake tan may be worn.
- Pupils with long hair are expected to wear it tied up, in a neat and tidy fashion (not obstructing vision), with no unnatural colours allowed.
- Shorts of an appropriate length and a single colour in keeping with the school uniform are permitted especially when the weather is nice.

## **Parent/Teacher Meetings:**

Our Parent/Teacher Meetings took place on 22nd & 23rd of November. Thank you for your support.

## **Lámh Sign**

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 team are competing in Division 1 of Cumann na Mbunscol, Iarmhí this year. Our games are now 15 players a side. The division 1 group consists of five other schools including Coosan NS. We have had a great start to the competition this year. We played St. Colman's, Mullingar, Holy Family, Mullingar and St. Etchen's, Kinnegad recently and have secured victories in all of these matches. St. Kenny, Kilpatrick will be our last group game. We will fulfill this fixture early in the new year. Thanks to all the boys for putting in such a great effort to date.

Coosan's Girls Gaelic Football team made a winning start to their Division 2 Cumann na mBunscol campaign. The girls have been training every Monday in great numbers and all their hard work showed as they played an excellent game against Moat NS. The girls will continue to train through to the new year when the rest of their campaign will continue. Thanks to all the team for their dedication to date.

*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 4th classes are currently attending swimming lessons in Athlone Regional Sports Centre on Tuesday mornings. Please ensure your child brings all necessary items.

## **Sixth Classes attend Musical in Local Secondary School:**

Sixth classes travelled to Dean Crowe Hall to see Athlone's Community College present the musical 'Beauty and the Beast'. The children really enjoyed the show and we are very grateful to Athlone Community College for the kind invitation.

## **Elfie Saves Christmas & "The Land of a Hundred Hills":**

First and Second classes visited Tuar Ard Theatre, Moate to see "Elfie Saves Christmas".

The children really enjoyed this event!

Third classes will visit "The Land of a Hundred Hills" in the Roscommon Arts Centre next Friday and are really looking forward to it also.

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## **Heritage Week:**

We focused on the theme of 'Our School in the Past'. We delved into some stories written by past pupils of Coosan N.S and created some of our own for future generations! Pupils enjoyed 'show and telling' their objects from the past. We had some interesting items! A History specialist 'Aidan Dockery' visited 4th,5th and 6th class pupils. A range of topics across Irish history were explored and pupils were given the opportunity to view some interesting artefacts. An enriching experience was had by all. Thanks to Ms. Beirne for coordinating this event for the children.

## **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.

When dropping/collecting your child/ren please drive forward to the furthest point in the Set Down area in order to facilitate other parents/guardians and prevent a build up of traffic both on school grounds and on the main road.

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 (11am-12 noon) on Thursday 21st of December. All proceeds go towards the Parents Association.

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### New Members of staff:

We would like to welcome Ms. Fiona McCormack to our permanent teaching staff and Ms. Ruth McGrath to our SNA staff. We hope you are very happy in Coosan School.

### Credit Union Art Competition:

Well done to our Sixth classes who took part in Athlone and Castlerea Credit Union Art Competition. Amy Farrell won 1st place in the 11-13yr Category and Aoibhe McEntee won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the 11-13yr Category. Comhghairdeachas libh !



### Parents' Association Update:

Our Parent Association Christmas activities are now well underway. Santa and his elves will be visiting the children on the 18<sup>th</sup> December.

We will be holding our annual Christmas raffle and tickets will be distributed to the children on 4<sup>th</sup> December.

We look forward to parents and guardians supporting this fundraiser.

The Parents Association would like to wish the school the best of luck on the Official Opening

Our next meeting will take place on the 5<sup>th</sup> December at 8.30pm and we encourage parents/guardians to come along to a meeting for a cup of tea to see what's involved.

Le gach dea-ghuí

***Ms. S. Cunningham***

Principal

Coosan National School

*Please see Christmas Activities below*

# *Nuachtlitis Mí Na Samhna 2023*

## Christmas in Coosan National School

Date in December	Activity
Monday November 27th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1st/ 2nd and SEU classes go to Tuar Ard to see "Elfie Saves Christmas"</li></ul>
Friday December 1st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Christmas Draw Tickets</b> become available from PA</li></ul>
Friday, December 8th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3rd Classes travel to Roscommon Arts Centre to see " The Land of a Hundred Hills"</li></ul>
Thursday, December 14th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Christmas Mass in Church at 10.30 am. Children will travel by bus</li><li>2-4pm Official School Opening in GP Room</li><li>All classes except 6th and Students Council finish at 12.30 pm</li></ul>
Friday, December 15th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Christmas Jumper Day !</b> Proceeds to Crumlin Hospital</li><li><b>Final Day for Christmas Draw</b> tickets to be purchase</li></ul>
Monday, December 18th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Parents' Association</b> Annual Draw in the GP Room @11.30 am.</li><li><b>Santa visits Coosan School</b> with his 3 elves</li></ul>
Tuesday, December 19th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Swimming 4th</li><li><b>Christmas Draw Prizes</b> collected from GP Hall</li></ul>
Thursday, December 21st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Carol Singing in Golden Island Shopping Centre Fourth Classes 11am-12 noon</li></ul>
Friday, December 22nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Holidays at 12 noon.</li><li>Non-Uniform / Christmas Jumper Day (no fee)</li></ul> <p><b>Go raibh maith agaibh</b> <b>Nollaig Shona Daoibh go léir !</b></p>