

Nuachtlitis Mí Feabhra 2024



February Newsletter

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Dates for your diary:

- **First Confession:** Tuesday, March 12th 2024 at 5.30 pm in Our Lady's Queen of Peace Church, Coosan
- **First Holy Communion:** Saturday, 11th May, 2024 at 11 am in Our Lady's Queen of Peace Church, Coosan
- **Book Week:** (March 4th-March 7th)
- **Referendum:** The school will be closed on Friday, 9th of March for the referendum
- **Coicís na Gaeilge (04ú-15ú Márta 2024):** Beidh an scoil ag ceiliúradh coicís na gaeilge i Scoil Náisiúnta an Chúasáin i mbliana. Beidh a lán gníomhaíochtaí ar siúl i rith an coicís
- **Féile Ceoil:** will take place on March 14th. Our school choir (4th and 5th classes) will perform.. More information to follow.
- **St Patrick's Day:** School will be closed on Monday, 18th March.
- **Easter Holidays:** School will close on Friday, March 22nd at 12.30 and re opens on Monday 8th April

Staffing:

Ms. Waterstone (Junior Infants a) and Ms. Eagney (1st class b) have both commenced their respective maternity leaves. We wish you both well and the whole Coosan NS community look forward to hearing your wonderful news in the coming weeks. Coosan NS would like to welcome Ms. Claffey (Junior Infants a) and Ms. Kennedy (1st class b) to our teaching staff here. We hope you will be very happy in Coosan NS.

Confirmation 2nd of March 2024:

The Confirmation ceremony for the pupils in Coosan National took place on Saturday, 2nd of March, 2024. The whole school community was delighted to welcome our Patron, Bishop Paul Connell to celebrate the ceremony with our Parish Priest Fr. Pat Murphy and Fr. John. It was a lovely ceremony and a very special day, especially for all the pupils from Ms. Kelly's and Ms. McDonagh's classes and their families. The school would like to thank Bishop Paul, Fr. Pat and Fr. John for their support. A special thank you to Ms. Kelly, Ms. McDonagh, Ms. Elliot, Mr. Kenny, Ms. Harney, Ms. Crowley, Ms. Roche, Pauline, Ms. Holloway, Derek and everyone who supported in preparation for this special day. A sincere thank you to all the parents/guardians, grandparents and sponsors for your support also.

Nuachtlitir Mí Feabhra 2024



Confirmation Class 2024

Book Week 2024:

We hope to celebrate Book Week this year and we have a number of activities planned to celebrate this week. (March 4th-8th)

- We will have a Book Fair in the GP Room for this week.
- Orla McGovern (writer, performer and facilitator) will visit 6th classes for some interesting workshops.
- 1st-4th classes will enjoy a visit from members of Moate Library for storytelling and quiztime
- James Hannon, a past pupil of Coosan, a teacher in Summerhill NS and now a respected author will visit Coosan NS to read from his book and inspire a future generation of authors
- We will celebrate World Book Day (Thursday, March 7th) by having a "Dress Up as your Favourite Book Character Day/Non Uniform Day"
- Parents from Junior and Senior Infants will visit the classes every afternoon to read their favourite stories to the children.
- There will be reading activities in every class to celebrate Book Week.



"My Favourite Story" Junior/Senior Infants

Nuachtlitir Mí Feabhra 2024

Well done to the U11 quiz team of Neil Boyle, Dylan Cunningham, Robyn Mulvihill and Juan Olmedilla and the U13 quiz team of Aoibhe McEntee, Joseph Cleary, Luke Kolencheril and Bronagh Dooley who represented the school at Stage 2 of the Credit Union quiz in Moate Community Centre on Friday March 1st.



Our Fantastic Credit Union Teams !

Choir:

First Holy Communion will take place in Our Lady Queen of Peace Church next term (please see dates and times above). The Choir (4th and 5th classes) are preparing for First Holy Communion. We would appreciate it if the children from these classes were available to sing at this event. A treat has been promised to those who come along and support our Second classes on their special day! Thank you in advance for your support.

Change of Clothing:

At the beginning of the school year, a letter was sent out to all families requesting that a change of clothing in a clearly labelled bag be sent to the class teacher. This spare set of clothing will be used if your child has an accident and requires a change of clothing. There are a number of parents/guardians who have not sent in clothing as requested. We would really appreciate your support with this.

Sports:

- **Swimming:** 3rd Classes will commence swimming lessons from next Tuesday March 7th.
- **Fundamentals:** Junior and Senior Infants are travelling to TUS every Thursday and Friday for 6 weeks to learn and develop their Fundamental Movement Skills
- **Basketball:** Basketball continues on Mondays and Wednesdays with Paddy Mullaly
- **Hurling:** The schools boys hurling team will begin competitive action soon when they play Scoil Chroí Naofa, Rochfortbridge in the 1st round of the Cuman na mBunscol competition
- **Gaelic Football:** Our boys team played a friendly match against Cornafulla N.S. in preparation for our final Cumann na mBunscol group game in March
- **Soccer:** Spar 5's competitions:
 - Boys:** Two teams involved in the Athlone Regional Spar 5s competition in March 2024 in Willow Park. Best of luck to all involved.
 - Girls:** Two teams involved in the Athlone Regional Spar 5s competition on March 7th in Willow Park. Best of luck to all involved.

Nuachtlitis Mí Feabhra 2024

Sports Partnership with Our Lady's Bower:

Coosan NS recently commenced a sports partnership with Our Lady's Bower. A teacher from Our Lady's Bower is supporting the teachers in Coosan NS to deliver particular strands of the P.E. curriculum, such as gymnastics and outdoor adventure activities by providing specialist support and strand specific equipment. The feedback from experiences to date has been very positive from pupils and teachers. Coosan NS is very appreciative to Our Lady's Bower for the opportunity to collaborate professionally in the best interests of the pupils in Coosan NS.

Smart Devices:

Mobile phones and any other smart devices in general are not allowed in Coosan NS, in the interest of all pupils and staff's safety and wellbeing. If any parent needs to contact their child, they can contact the school office on 0906478356. In the event of an emergency, the school will contact parents/guardians to alert straight away. Please inform the school office if there has been any changes to your contact number, email or address.

School Insurance and Child Safety:

Please note that the children are supervised from 9.20am to 3.00pm each school day. While, of course, the school grounds are open to the pupils, the school cannot accept responsibility for children arriving before the official opening of the school or remaining on the school grounds after school.

The Student Council:

Our student council has been brainstorming ways in which students can take an active role in keeping our school grounds litter free. The council will support classes in timetabling litter picking in a safe and hygienic manner. Council members will continue to remind the classes they represent of the importance of recycling where possible.

Recently, the student council delivered another successful broadcast of student's news, celebrating all of the special achievements of their classmates.

Parking at the School:

We are most concerned about parking at the school at 'drop off' and 'collection' times. We ask all parents/guardians to bear the following in mind to make the school grounds and school environs as safe as possible at these times:

- Please reverse park at all times.
- There is no parking in the Drop Off Zone
- Please Do Not Park in the Staff Car Park at any time
- If you are 'dropping off' your child(ren), please use the drop off zone only. Parking in this zone is not permitted
- Please respect the Disabled Parking places at all times
- Please park responsibly on the public road and please do not park at the Hillquarter junction.
- Please respect the pedestrian crossings

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation

Nuachtlitir Mí Feabhra 2024

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.
- School tours: Fees for school tours this year will be placed on Aladdin in March this year.
- 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 school office.

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.

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.

Nuachtlitis Mí Feabhra 2024

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.

Time-Keeping:

School starts in Coosan N.S. at 9.20 am and it is very important for every child's educational benefit that they are present at this time. Thank you for your support.

Parents' Association Update:

The Parent Association is looking forward to our upcoming bake sale on Tuesday the 13th February. All buns, cakes etc donated will be much appreciated. We are still in need of help on the day if any one is available please WhatsApp Caoimhe: 0872958341 " Cash for Clobber" will take place next month on the 12th March. Perfect timing for a Spring clear out of clothes! Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday 6th February at 8.30 pm and we encourage parents to come along to a meeting for a cup of tea to see what's involved. We always love to see new faces.

If anyone wishes to join the Parents Association Whatsapp group please email coosanschoolpa@gmail.com and we will happily add you!

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more updates.

Le gach dea-ghuí

Ms. S. Cunningham

Principal

Coosan N.S.