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Mol an Óige agus Tíocfaidh sí

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*St. Mary's C.B.S.*

*Scoil Mhaire na mBráithre*

*Irishtown, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary*

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**NUAHTLITIR – DEIREADH FOMHAR 2018**

**NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2018**



Happy Halloween

## Nuachtlitir – Deireadh Fomhar 2018

**Welcome!!!** – At the start of each school year we notice a lot of changes. We welcome all our new pupils into First Class and to pupils who have joined other classes in the school. We also have 2 new children in Cherry Blossom ASD preschool. We wish last year's sixth class well as they start life in secondary school. We welcome new teachers – Ms. Swain, Ms. Walsh, Ms. Slattery– Ms. Peters has moved to the mainstream from our ASD preschool with Ms. Morrison moving in the opposite direction.

**Mid Term Holidays** – School will close for the mid-term break today, Thursday October 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:40 and will re-open on Monday November 5<sup>th</sup>. Early closure as a result of tomorrow's Presidential Election. Happy Hallowe'en!

**Parent Teacher meetings** – Our Parent teacher meetings will be held on the week commencing November 12<sup>th</sup>. All parents with two or more children in the school will meet their teacher on the Monday. Each teacher will set out times for parents with one child in the school after the mid-term.

**Curriculum Nights** – Many thanks to all the parents who came to our Curriculum Nights at the end of September. It was nice way to meet your child's class teacher and hopefully it benefitted you all. It is hoped that we will have something similar again next year.

Special mention to Con Traas and all at the **Apple Farm** who made a donation of apples to, not only our school, but to all the schools in our area. This initiative takes place annually and is greatly appreciated by all the schools.

**Cumann na mBunscol** – Well done to all our young footballers who have performed admirably in their recent U13 and U11 competitions. Hard luck to the U13s who bowed out of the competition despite good performances against Carrick CBS, Powerstown NS and Ss. Peter and Paul's NS. Special mention to Mr. Leahy who coached the team



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so well. Our young U11 side represented the school in the Roinn A blitz played recently in the Sportsfield. They played fantastically well on the day and qualified for the Co. Final against the Monastery CBS, Tipperary Town which will be played after Halloween. Our other U11 side will play in the Roinn A1 blitz after the Mid Term. Thanks to Mr. Williams for all his work coaching the teams.

Over the past few weeks some of the boys took part in Cross country events in both Thurles and Marlfield. All the boys performed terrifically. Special mention to Jack O'Brien who came second in his race in Marlfield. Maith thú Jack.

Choir - The choir have started practicing for Christmas already. We welcome a large number of new members - we now have 60 in total. The choir and band recorded their CD, Do you hear what I hear, for last Christmas - We have a limited number of CDs left and they are on sale from the school office at a cost of €10. It would make a lovely Christmas gift for family or friends. Huge thanks to Ms. Adamson and Ms. Collins for all their work with the choir.

Céilí Band - Well done to all the boys in the band for two great performances for our American visitors recently. We look forward to welcoming some new members after Mid Term and are excited for an upcoming Drumming workshop after the break. Huge thanks to Ms. Swain and Ms. Peters for all their work with the band.

Active Flag - The school has just commenced work on trying to achieve an Active Flag. A committee will be formed after the break with a series of different events and initiatives planned such as Active Schools' Week, active breaktimes and even a 'Triathlon Training Programme'!!! Keep an eye on our Twitter Feed - @stmmaryscbs - for updates on how we are getting on.

Mr. Curran's 4th class recently had a visit from Alan Early who presented 'Thor Blimey' - Secrets of the Vikings and their Gods: an interactive Viking game show in the classroom recently. It was a



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planned trip to the Library but with the weather turning bad Alan decided to bring the show to the school. This was just one of a number activities Mr. Curran's class were involved in this term.

Ms. Healy and Mr. Williams' classes recently visited Clonmel Library to a workshop by Sábhbh Devlin about her book – B'í ag spraoi liom.

Fundraising for charity – Over the last couple of months we have raised approximately €750 for our two chosen charities, The Make a Wish Foundation and The Emma Lacey Trust.

This week the fourth, fifth and sixth class boys went to see the Back to the 80s– the musical put on by the fifth year students of the High School CBS and The Presentation Secondary School. Well done to all involved.

Ms. Power's class have been very busy during term one working on persuasive writing and the topic 'Homework should be banned!' and an Art and Craft activity called 'A Haunted House'. Maith sibh a bhuachaillí

Garda Visits – Our 6<sup>th</sup> Class boys travelled with their teachers, Ms Traas and Ms Stewart, to Moyle Rovers GAA centre where An Garda Síochána put on a wonderful exhibition of their services. The boys learned a lot from the day and built up a good rapport with the gardaí. Thanks to Garda Claire Murphy for organising.

Thanks again to Claire and her colleagues who have visited the school on a number of occasions in an effort to clamp down on negative behaviour outside of the school. They have been doing regular checks outside the school.

Computer Workshops – Researchers from the Department of Computing at IT Tallaght have received funding to investigate students perceptions of Computer Science. The team will carry out the research by delivering Computer Camps at primary schools



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around the country. Over the coming months, pupils in all of our classes will have the opportunity to take part in a session tailored to their age and ability. The focus will be on developing computational thinking and skills. These workshops commenced today with 6<sup>th</sup> class.

*Green Schools* – Thanks to the Green School Committee for their continued hard work. We recently won a prize for ‘Most Consistent School in the Clonmel Municipal District’ in the Tipperary Co. Co. Environmental Awards 2018. A certificate and cheque for was awarded to the school. We are currently working hard to achieve the Green Flag for Global Citizenship Marine Environment.

*Secondary School Open Nights* – In recent weeks we have had visits to the school from representatives of the secondary schools in the area. Open nights are being held at present with the boys given details as we get them. Please speak to your son regularly about these open nights as in some of the schools it is essential that you attend the open night. It is also essential that you complete and return the application forms on time!!!

*Congrats to Ms. Flynn* on the birth of her baby daughter Lucy today.

*Jewellery* – Due to health and safety reasons children may not wear rings or earrings. Children who wear them will be asked to remove them and parents can collect them from their class teacher at the end of the day.

*Do This In Memory* – First Communion Preparation masses are ongoing. The young boys preparing for First Eucharist will be informed of the dates once we get them from Fr. Meehan and the committee with the boys expected to be present at these masses.

*Communion Date* is Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2019.



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Confirmation Date is Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April. Masses of preparation will take place during the year. The boys will be informed of the dates of these masses in school once we get them.

Roots of Empathy – This year Paul Scully will facilitate the *Roots of Empathy* programme with the third class boys in Ms. Moroney's class. Special word of thanks to Niamh Molloy and Baby Éala who will be visiting the school regularly during the year as part of the programme.

Credit Union Talent Competition – Congratulations to Luke Morrison (3<sup>rd</sup> class), Michael O'Dwyer and Jacob Joby John (1<sup>st</sup> class) who performed excellently in the recent Credit Union Talent Show. Congrats to Luke who came 1<sup>st</sup> in his age group and went on to be awarded the best overall performer in the show. Mait thū Luke.

Speech and Drama with Ms Loh – The boys have had lots of fun with treasure trails and 'Speeded-Up-Fairy-Tales' during their weekly Speech and Drama class.

School Healthy Lunches policy – St. Mary's CBS has a Healthy Lunches Policy. In recent weeks this policy has been reviewed. All parents are expected to fill their child's lunchbox with this policy in mind. We make the following **suggestions**: Protein filled sandwich / pitta bread (e.g. cold meat, tuna, egg mayonnaise, cheese, salads, coleslaw etc.), Healthy drinks (e.g. water, milk and natural fruit juice), Yoghurts, cheese and other dairy products, Cereal Bars and Crackers, Scones and plain buns (no icing), Fruits and vegetables. On Fridays children may bring one treat of their choice. The following items are **not permitted** as part of our Healthy Lunches policy: Chewing Gum, Fizzy Drinks, Chocolate, Crisps, Sweets.

Code of Behaviour – The school policy on behaviour places a big onus on the children to take responsibility for their own actions. We have asked the boys that "If somebody does something to upset,



anger or hurt you, then you must make this known to a member of staff.” We would ask all parents to remind their children to do this also. Any boys who are disrespectful or deliberately ignore instructions of staff members will be sent to detention. We expect full support of all parents in the school’s efforts to create a happy and safe learning environment.

In recent weeks we have been focusing in a particular way on boys remaining quiet in their lines and in the corridors. It is having a huge impact in that boys are now entering school much calmer and ready for their classwork. It is also allowing them time to reflect. Recent scientific research suggests that even short periods of quiet time can lead to increased sleep, happiness, and self-confidence, as well as improved academic performance.

**School Uniform Policy** It is compulsory for boys to wear the school uniform each day. They are asked to wear the tracksuit on PE days only and the full school uniform on all other days!!! The school uniform consists of grey trousers, Navy v-neck jumper with grey V and the crest, sky blue shirt and navy tie. The school does not insist on a particular supplier or make of clothing. For PE a Navy sweatshirt with school crest, plain navy tracksuit pants and a sky blue polo shirt **must** be worn (NO football jerseys!!). Children who don’t wear the correct uniform will face sanctions. Please label all items of the School Uniform.

### **Busy Bees After School and Breakfast Club**

We at Busy Bees are delighted to be completing our first term in St Mary’s. We would like to thank everyone for all the kind support and well wishes to date.



We offer an Afterschool service each day until 6.15pm.



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Contact Vanessa on 052 6182548 or 086 0444202  
[moriartyvanessa@yahoo.com](mailto:moriartyvanessa@yahoo.com) to book your place.

### Calendar

Term 1

Mid-Term Break: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> Oct to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov

Christmas holidays: Closing on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Dec

Term 2

Re-opening on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

Mid-Term Break: Mon 18<sup>h</sup> Feb to Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb

St. Patrick's Day: Closed Mon 18<sup>th</sup> and Tues 19<sup>th</sup> Mar

Confirmation Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Apr

Easter Holidays: Closing on Fri 12<sup>th</sup> April

Term 3

Re-opening on Mon 29<sup>th</sup> April

May Bank holiday: Closed Mon 6<sup>th</sup> May

Communion Sat 18<sup>th</sup> May

June Bank holiday: Closed Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> June

Summer Holidays: Closing Fri 28<sup>th</sup> June

*In the event that there are unexpected prolonged closures during the school year e.g. due to weather, these dates may be adjusted.*

