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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 2017**

**NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2017**



Happy Halloween

## Nuachtlitir – Deireadh Fomhar 2017

**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 11 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 – Mr. McCarthy and Ms. Peters – while Ms. Flynn has moved to the mainstream from our ASD preschool. We also welcome Jackie O'Mahony (SNA) back to the mainstream school and Judith Purcell to our SNA team in the ASD preschool.

**Mid Term Holidays** – School will close for the mid-term break on Friday October 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:40 and will re-open on Monday November 6<sup>th</sup>. Happy Hallowe'en!

**Fire Safety Week** – Special mention to Carol Meehan who works with the Tipperary Fire Service for her recent visit to the school. Carol gave an excellent presentation about all aspects of their work.

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.

October has been a very trying month for two very **brave pupils** in our school. Both **Conor Cagney** and **Josh Beckers** have had serious surgery in the Children's hospital in Crumlin

**Green Schools** – We are in the middle of selecting new committee members so that we can start work on our next green flag for the school (Global Citizenship Marine Environment). Class teachers from 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> are, at present, holding class competitions with a 'green' theme. Once the committee has been selected work will begin!

**Cumann na mBunscol** – Well done to all our young footballers who have performed admirably in their recent U13 and U11 competitions. Following an excellent victories against Carrick on Suir CBS and



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Powerstown NS and a defeat to Ss Peter and Paul's we now progress to a semi final against Templemore which will be played after the Mid Term break. Special mention to Mr. Leahy who coached the team so well. Our young U11 side represented the school in the Roinn A blitz played recently in the Sportsfield. They won some of their games but unfortunately didn't progress to the next stage of the competition. It was a good learning curve for the boys who will bounce back. Our other U11 side will play in the Roinn A1 blitz after the Mid Term.

**Congrats to St. Mary's and Clonmel Commercial's** – The school would like to extend heartiest congratulations to both St. Mary's hurling club and Clonmel Commercial's football club on their recent county final victories. Their success has provided a huge boost to the boys of the school who might follow in the footsteps of their heroes in years to come. Best of luck to Commercial's as they tackle the All Ireland Champions, Dr. Crokes (Kerry), in the Munster championship on Sunday next in the Sportsfield.

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 Eoghan Woods who came fifth in Thurles, to Conor O'Loughlin 3<sup>rd</sup> and Danny Morris 5<sup>th</sup> in their races in Marlfield

**Musical** – The school has decided to put on a musical, '**The lion King**', later on in the school year. Dates and venue etc have yet to be finalised. Preparations and rehearsals will commence after the midterm break.

**Choir** – The choir have been very busy rehearsing for Christmas already. We welcome some new members. The choir will record the final few tracks for our CD in the week after the midterm.

**Céili Band** – This year sees the amalgamation of the Senior and Junior band. We have gotten straight back into the thick of it, learning likes such as 'Country Roads' and 'Let Her Go' by Passenger. The junior



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band has settled in extremely well and we are currently practicing for performances over the Christmas period. We have an array of instruments in the band including fiddles, tin-whistles, accordions, drums and the boys are excited and enthusiastic about our upcoming performances. After the mid-term break, new members will be joining the band learning a variety of different instruments. Members join the band in third class and for the first few months they give up their lunch break to learn new instruments and tunes. It is our aim to instill a love of music in the boys at a young age and to carry forward their love of music into their adult years. Over the next three years, they progress to become our senior members in sixth class, passing on a wealth of knowledge to new band members along the way. It is both rewarding and encouraging for all involved to watch the boys mature in their musical ability and knowledge. It is heart-warming to see past and present pupils who started their musical journey in St. Mary's C.B.S., join local musical groups such as Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann and Banna Cluain Meala. Watch out for us over the Christmas period.

Mr. Curran's 4th class took part in an English writing workshop in the museum. They examined a poem and then each boy wrote a cinquain poem.

Fundraising for charity – Over the last couple of months we have raised a total of €814 for our two chosen charities, Children's Hospital in Crumlin and The Evan Hickey Fund.

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

Secondary School Open Nights – In recent weeks we have had visits to the school from representatives of the secondary schools in the area. Both Coláiste Chluain Meala and Gaelcholáiste Chéitinn have already held their open nights while the High School CBS will hold their Open



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Night on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November. Application Forms will be distributed on the night and must be returned by Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November.

*School CD* - Over the past few months and during the last school year the choir and band have been busy recording tracks for a school CD. The CD will be released towards the end of November and will be on sale from the school at a cost of €10. It would make a lovely Christmas gift for family or friends so watch out for its release.

*Congrats to Ms. Power* on the birth of her baby daughter recently.

*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.

*Parenting - Supporting your child to build healthy friendships and relationships* - The Tipperary Branch of National Parents Council (Primary) presents an information session for Parents on *Supporting your child to build healthy friendships and relationships*. Venue: Horse and Jockey, Date: Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017 Time: 7.30pm - 9.30pm ADMISSION FREE All Parents welcome.

*Do This In Memory* - First Communion Preparation: Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> November at the 10.30am Mass. The young boys preparing for First Eucharist will be present at mass. *Communion Date* is Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April

*Confirmation Date* is Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March. 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 Mr. McCarthy's



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class. Special word of thanks to Melissa Mulhall and Baby Daithi who will be visiting the school regularly during the year as part of the programme.

*Our Lady of Fatima* – In recent weeks, Fr. Ailbe O'Reilly visited the school to tell the boys about the wonderful story of Our Lady of Fatima. The visit was organised by Fr. Billy. Thank you!

*Credit Union Talent Competition* – Congratulations to Luke Morrison, Caileann Morrison, Tadhg O'Donnell Jones, Sam O'Sullivan and Ciarán Cotter who performed excellently in the recent Credit Union Talent Show. Congrats to Luke who came 1<sup>st</sup> in his age group.

*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.



**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 a morning service 7.30am each morning.

Afterschool service each day until 6.15pm.

Following the recent budget a range of affordable childcare options are now available to parents with costs from as little as, €3 a day to qualifying parents.

Hot food is available daily at a cost of €2.50 with a choice of two options per day. Menu available on [www.busybeesclonmel.com](http://www.busybeesclonmel.com)

Our under 13's Tipperary community games chess team, will resume playing on Fridays in St Mary's 2.40-3.40 from next term new players welcome. Contact Vanessa on 052 6182548 or 086 0444202 [moriartyvanessa@yahoo.com](mailto:moriartyvanessa@yahoo.com) to book your place.



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### School Calendar 2017/2018

Mid-Term Break: Closed Monday 30<sup>th</sup> Oct. to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

inclusive – School reopening on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November

Christmas holidays: Closing Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec. at 12.25p.m.

Re-opening on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Mid-Term Break: Closed Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> & Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February

St. Patrick's Day: Closed Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> March

Easter Holidays: Closing on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2.40pm (Please note change of time)

Re-opening on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April

May Mid-Term week: Closed Monday 7<sup>th</sup> to Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May inclusive

June Bank holiday: Closed Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June

Summer Holidays: Closing Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June @ 12.25p.m.

- *In the event that there are unexpected prolonged closures during the school year e.g. due to weather, these dates may be adjusted. It is not expected that we will have to make up for the days lost due to Hurricane Ophelia*

