



# St. Thomas' S.N.S. Newsletter



21st September 2020

## Holy Communion/Confirmations

To say that we are all disappointed that the First Holy Communion and Confirmation has been postponed is a complete understatement. We do understand that it is very disappointing for you and for the children who were due to receive the Sacraments this week.

Unfortunately the Government brought us to Level 3 and there was nothing that could be done. Fr. Pat and the Parish Team will rearrange the dates as soon as they can when it is safe to do so. We will make an extra fuss of the children in this week.

## Keeping Everyone Safe

We continue to ensure that we are all playing our part in ensuring everyone's safety in school. We have clear procedures in place re. physical distancing, hand hygiene and the use of face coverings. Anyone coming into the lobby or the school must wear a face mask. Visitors to the school are kept to a minimum, are pre-arranged and by appointment. A contact tracing log must also be kept.

Children will stay in their pods until after Halloween when they may change. The children are working very hard in school and doing lots of work. The behaviour is excellent and each teacher has their own reward systems.

## Code of Behaviour

Our Code of Behaviour and Anti Bullying Policy are still relevant. These are available on our school website

[www.stthomas.ie](http://www.stthomas.ie)



## Hand Hygiene



There is no need for children to bring in their own hand sanitisers to school. We have sanitisers at every entry point and in all classrooms. Staff and children practice hand hygiene (washing/sanitising) their hands when they come into the school building, after they use the bathroom, after sneezing, before they eat.

## Face Coverings

The HSE have said that face coverings are not recommended for children under the age of 13. Young children may not be able to follow the [advice for wearing a face covering correctly](#). But they should wear a face covering if their doctor or healthcare worker advises this. For example when attending a hospital clinic.

## Pupil Personal Accident Policy

If parents would like to take out insurance on their children it can be organised through the school insurance company who offer a Pupil Personal Accident Policy. This is an additional insurance and you do not have to take it out but many parents do. For the sum of €4.80 your child will be covered for any accidents in school. For €7.20 they will have a 24-hour cover for any accidents both in and out of school. If you are interested please let us know and we will send an application form home with your child. If you have any queries please contact Lisa HSCL on 083 0092792. All forms must be filled in and returned with payment by Friday 25th September.

## Mobile Phones

In general pupils should not bring mobile phones to school. However, if they really need one for after school it must be handed up to the teacher in the morning. Phones cannot be left into the office this year. The school will not accept responsibility for phones lost, stolen or damaged in school. If a pupil has a phone out during the day it will be confiscated and must be collected by an adult.

## Diarrhoea

If your child has diarrhoea, they should stay at home and not go to school until they have not had diarrhoea for 48 hours. You and the rest of your family can continue your normal routine. You do not need to restrict your movements as long as you are not ill.

## Contacting Parents

During this period you will all understand the importance of us being able to make contact with you. As well as texting we will also make contact by email.

If you haven't already given us your email you can do so by emailing the office on

[info@stthomas.ie](mailto:info@stthomas.ie)