

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

27th September, 2021

## Rule of the Week

I behave in a proper manner around the school

## THANKYOU and GOODBYE

This week will be a strange one for St. Thomas' SNS as it is Ms Máire Moloney and Ms Patricia Ryan's final week.

Both will be retiring after many years of service and commitment to the children of Jobstown. I think that you will agree that their sense of care and empathy for the children has been a massive component of St. Thomas' success over the years. It is one of the reasons why people speak about the school so fondly and warmly. They have always built relationships on positivity, care and encouragement. Both provided a safe, secure environment which ensured the full potential of each child could be reached.

There will be many plaudits going around this week and all of them will ring true. The school has been very fortunate to have had such special people working in their school for so long. We wish you both the best in your retirement and thank you from the entire school community.



## Assembly

Our virtual assemblies will take place this week. The pupils, like last year, will be able to see into the other classrooms from their standard. Teachers will have the very difficult task of picking just one Student of the Month, Sportstar and Gaeilgeoir na Miosa in their class. Winners will be announced during the week. The attendance winning class for Citywise will also be announced. The winning class will have a fun packed morning in Citywise consisting of Art, STEM and games.

## Contacting the School

You can make contact us by email at [info@stthomas.ie](mailto:info@stthomas.ie), by ringing Mairead the Secretary on 01 4526555, by ringing Lisa (HSCL) between 9.00-2.40pm on 083 0092792 or you can also send in a note with your child.

## Parents of 6th Class Pupils

Due to the enactment of the Admissions Act (2018) the admission to all schools will be slightly different this year. **Most post primary schools are accepting application forms for admission to their schools now.** Closing dates for receipt of applications for most schools is 23rd October. The dates may vary slightly from school to school so you will need to check with the school you have chosen for your child. You can do this by ringing the relevant school or by checking their school website for information about the application form and closing date. There is only a short time of **three weeks** to get the process completed. Schools must also publish an Admissions Notice letting you know how many places there are and when you will be notified about your child's application. Enrolment forms have been given out to children who said they are going to Mount Seskin Community College. These should be returned to MSCC by appointment.

## Absences

If your child has been absent for any reason just send in a note on their return. All absences must be explained as per NEWB guidelines.

## School Trips

5th and 6th classes will continue their trips this week to Rathfarnham Castle, St. Enda's Park and Citywise. These are some of the first trips the pupils will be experiencing since the restrictions have been lifted. We all understand the excitement and as a school are delighted to hear about what they have learnt. There are many more trips planned for pupils in 3rd and 4th in the coming months. Going on these trips depends on manners, respect and hard work in the class and yard. If a pupil receives a yellow card then going on these trips will be deemed a loss of privilege. We appreciate your support with regards to this.

## Wellbeing Wednesdays

We will be running Wellbeing Wednesdays for parents/guardians in collaboration with St Thomas Junior School and Mount Seskin CC. Activities will include Personal Training, Mindfulness, Gardening etc. If interested please contact Lisa Rohan on 083 0092792





## COVID

A brief summary of the changes to procedures are as follows:

From 27th September automatic contact tracing of asymptomatic close contacts is no longer recommended.

Pupils will no longer have to restrict their movements and those pupils who may be currently restricting their movements will be allowed to return to school from 27th September.

Automatic COVID19 testing of asymptomatic close contacts identified in a school setting will no longer take place. Testing will focus on clinically relevant symptomatic disease. Outbreaks in schools may still require children to be identified as close contacts, be referred for testing and restrict their movements.

The restriction of movements has been reduced to five days. Pupils will require one COVID test. It will no longer be the day 0 and day 10 tests.

If the pupil is identified as a household close contact and is not fully vaccinated or has had a confirmed COVID19 diagnosis in the last 9 months he/she will still need to restrict their movements and get a test.

They will be deemed a close contact if present overnight in the household of a COVID19 case while the case was infectious. This may be in their own home or if they attended a sleepover.

Public Health Advice remains the same if a child presents with COVID19 symptoms - self isolate and do not attend school.

## GAEILGE

Is fear cairde ná ór

Friends are better than gold



## VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Ms Rohan and our very committed Green School Committee are looking for parent volunteers to plan trees in our garden as part of the 'Stepping Stone Forest Plan' with South Dublin County Council.

WHEN: THURSDAY 4TH NOVEMBER

WHERE: SCHOOL GARDEN

WHY: TO HELP TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE

