



St. Thomas' S.N.S. Newsletter



24th January 2022

Rule of the Week

I have respect for people and for property

COVID

It feels as if the country reached a huge milestone on Friday evening with the announcement that restrictions were to be lifted for the first time in nearly two years. The cost of the last two years to the mental health of all of us has been significant and any light at the end of the tunnel is to be welcomed. The protective measures that are already in place in Schools and Early Learning facilities will remain in place until 28th February 2022.

How will the easing of restrictions and flight back into normality affect the children? Despite the air of excitement I would respectfully suggest that there is a need to proceed with caution. We may not all be on the same page when it comes to how we dealt with the pandemic restrictions and therefore to rush the process of reintegration may be different for all of us. There will still be some of us who will be anxious about the spread of Covid and it's important for all of us that we remember that in spite of our happiness with the announcement on Friday.

The main cost of the pandemic for children has been the impact on their social and emotional development. Like getting physically fit, this needs to be done gradually and with patience. We will all need to reintegrate into the post covid world and allow ourselves time to adjust and find our level. We in the school, will support the children and you with patience, time and compassion to re-establish the skills that we will all need to navigate a non pandemic world.

Covid has presented the staff with many challenges and has forced them to adapt to numerous changes that were unfamiliar to us as a staff. It has affected our professional workspaces as well as our personal lives with families and friends. During my time in the school all staff members have been nothing short of amazing in their professionalism, dedication and hard work for the children of Jobstown. You as parents and guardians have been outstanding in your support. Thank you!! Now with an end in sight we can plan on getting the full mechanics of the school operating and continue the exceptional growth of the school.

Website/Twitter Feed

Please continue to use the school website and Twitter account as they are an ideal forum for sharing school news and updating the school community on activities, events and successes. I encourage you to go the website regularly to keep informed (www.stthomas.ie). If you are not following us on Twitter please do so, **the aim is to have 500 followers by the end of term 2**

School App

So far 129 parents/guardians have installed the Eolas Parent App on their phone to keep up to date with their child's progress and receive updates from the school. We have postponed the €50 euro raffle so that we can help those who are having difficulty installing the app on their phone. If you need help installing the app on your phone please email:
helpdesk@stthomas.ie

School Uniforms/Bags/

We will be really pushing school bags, homework, uniform and punctuality in the New Year. Maintaining high standards across the board will be the theme across all streams this term.

Contact the School/HSCL

You can make contact with us by email info@stthomas.ie, by calling Mairead in the office on 01 4526555 or by ringing Julie (HSCL) on 083 0092792 (between 9.00am and 2.40pm). Alternatively you can send in a note with your child

Kindness/Wellbeing Week

Kindness/Wellbeing week will take place the week of the 7th of February. More information to follow in the coming weeks.

Parking/Electric Scooters

Please be careful if you have to use the front car park. They are strictly for teachers in the Junior and Senior school but if you do need to enter via the front gate please be careful. Again electric scooters are not allowed on school grounds

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Online Safety/Device

Last week the pupils took part in the Barnardos online safety classes which were made available to you as parents. We feel that awareness and knowledge of online dangers and correct etiquette are very important for the children as they navigate through their lives. We hope it was of benefit to you and your children.

This week we are asking you if you allow devices in your child's bedroom at night time? Research has shown there are a couple of issues with looking at devices in the evening. Firstly, the bright blue light emitted by devices has a tendency to make us more alert, rather than help us sleep. The advice is to avoid screens for 2-3 hours before bedtime (that's for adults as well as children). Using devices in the bedroom usually means using them away from adult supervision. This can be a problem as your child could be bullied online, either in social media groups or when playing games online, and you might not be aware of what is happening. They can also be exposed to content which may be inappropriate or frightening for them.

Since Christmas there have been a number of incidents across all years in relation to mobile phones. We as a school are giving the issue of the children bringing mobile phones to school serious thought. It will be discussed at the next B.O.M meeting.

Grandparents Day

Grandparents and children have a special connection that is proven to both make grandparents live longer, and also make children more emotionally resilient. Grandparents Day is an opportunity to treasure that connection and spend some quality family time together. Grandparents lavish their children and grandchildren with an endless supply of love, gifts, and sweets which they always seem to have on them!!

On Thursday the favor is returned as grandparents are invited to the school to be honored and receive gratitude for their strength, kindness, nurturing, and wisdom. After a long absence it is a pleasure to say that Grandparents Day will be held in the garden from 11.15am- 12.15pm. So far, 38 grandparents have registered to attend our Grandparents' Day celebration in the school garden on Thursday 27th January from 11:15am to 12:15pm. Please register your attendance in advance using the link that was sent out by text message or via our school website.



Students of the Month

Well done to all the Students, Sportspersons of the Month and Gaeilgeoir Ní Míosa listed overleaf.

It is a hard decision for the teachers as all the children are so good.

Student of the Month

Name	Student of the Month	Sportsperson of the Month	Gaeilgeoir na Míosa
Mr Daly	Lewis Sweeney	Jake Bradley	Ethan Reilly
Ms Dillon	Heidi Laffan	Michael Akinola	Noah Barker Cooper
Mr Carroll	Eve Clancy	Kameron Redmond	Newton Igboanusi
Ms Murphy	Dakshata Tyagi	Michael Wall	Savannah Maughan
Ms Connolly	Cameron Conlon	Jemima Obamwonyi	Charlie Collins
Ms Daly	Onorina Bakari		
Ms Sargent	Kathleen Donoghue		
Ms McLoughrey	Hannah Burns		
Ms Gill	Conor Byrne	Sophie Byrne	Clodagh Loftus
Ms Graham	Bella O Connell O	Emmanuel Gabari	Jamie Dunne
Ms Quirke	Amber Lynn O Reilly	Adam Morrisson	Ryan Maguire
Mr Mangan	Kyle Kiernan		
Ms Collins	Callum Greene	Caoimhe Murphy	Chloe Delaney
Ms Treacy	Daniel Akinola	Danish Skorjjs	Bradley Earley Paul
Ms Guinan	Eljake Villanueva	Pedro Simoes Fer-	Ross McCabe
Ms Bramhall/ Ms	Aoife Dingle		
Ms Glasheen	Molly McCarthy	Mickey Connors	Damian Afenkhená
Ms Griffin	Hannah Dore	Feranmi Alarpe	Sean Reel
Ms Wilson	Dylan Heapes	Ciara Hanley	Dean McGovern
Ms Lawlor	Cayden Brennan	Lee Murphy	Kayla Cassidy
Mr Brennan	Lorraine Deegan		
Ms English	Daniel Donoghue		
Mr McGrory	Mickey Connors		
Mr Kilbride	Jayshawn Barrett	Kyle McNamee	
Ms Seagrave	Layla Connors	Alannah McSweeney	