

St. Comgall's N.S.

Connors, Clones, Co. Monaghan

Enjoy a spook-tacular Hallowe'en, with spine-chilling treats that are healthy to eat!

Hallowe'en Attendance: The first termly attendance presentations were made on the day of the holidays. We congratulate our **be-witching and fang-tastic** ghouls and spirits in both classrooms who achieved full attendance since our September return! As can sometimes happen, some pupils felt unwell during *Term One* and took the wise decision to stay at home to rest. However, we know that you'll be back to full attendance during *Term Two* ... Keep up the great effort!



Happy Hallowe'en High Jinks! Last Friday we dressed up and enjoyed 'socially distanced' fun and frolics out on the yard with 'Snap Apple'. Congratulations to Noah and Ethan who managed to bite the biggest pieces out of their healthy apples in the senior classroom. However, we also ate and enjoyed lots of Hallowe'en treats too!!



First Holy Communion 2021 preparations will be coordinated *remotely* by Fr. John McKenna for the foreseeable future. Fr. McKenna has briefly visited the school to speak with teachers, but due to Covid-19 restrictions, will not engage in classroom activities until the present Lockdown has eased. We thank Fr. McKenna for his pastoral guidance and wish Kayla, Ava, Cara, Donnchadh, Daire, Fionnán and Gareth well on their faith journey as they prepare for this sacrament.

Our Parent Association held its first remote AGM on Monday, 12nd October for the new academic year 2020-2021! Thanks to our Chairperson, Susan McCaffrey, for co-ordinating this meeting. We are grateful that last year's elected members are committed to serving on our P.A. Committee for the coming year.

* One topic discussed during the meeting was our Christmas play. Unfortunately, current restrictions prevent us from hosting this annual school activity. Nevertheless, we will continue to do little drama classroom activities with the children and next year we'll be back on stage!!

* We appreciate that restrictions also prevent the P.A. Committee from selling tickets for the Christmas raffle - the possibility of scheduling a fundraising activity later on in the year would be warmly welcomed and facilitated.



Recycling: I would like to thank parents for your support with our recycling efforts. We will continue to collect clothes this year but due to Covid-19 restrictions and the requirement to avoid storage of clothes on school premises, we will have to organise future 'drop offs' and collections of clothes on selected dates only.

During our first term of 2020-2021

Maths Week Ireland 2020 took place from 10th October – 18th October. On Friday 16th our senior classes participated remotely with 100 other schools around the country in the 'Mega Quiz' via Zoom link. It was super fun and an enjoyable way to challenge ourselves, to improve numeracy and to test our mathematical skills. A great learning experience!



Gaelic Football: Thanks to Anne McKenna and Monaghan GAA County Board for facilitating another very enjoyable 2020-2021 coaching programme. The focus at all times was on fun, participation and skill development, being mindful at all times of 'social distance' considerations. Hand hygiene and equipment hygiene was strictly adhered to at the end of each session. An important fitness start to the school year!



Calendar of Events



November 4th 2020 A reminder that school will close at 1:30pm to facilitate a Staff Meeting regarding school activities and ongoing Covid-19 requirements and recommendations.



November 8th – 15th 2020 Some *Science Week* activities will be explored remotely with classes through digital and blended formats. The focus will be on how science can improve our lives in the future, and in the present. In particular, activities will look at how science can help us make positive choices regarding the environment, our health and the quality of our lives. Exciting and engaging sessions await...



From November 9th – 15th 2020

The Shoe Box Appeal continues to be a worthwhile initiative in our Christmas preparations. This year the new *Team Hope website* www.teamhope.ie allows people to build-a-box, personalise it by uploading pictures / images and selecting items to be included in the shoebox donation. Thereafter, items will be purchased in partner countries and delivered straight to the hands of children affected by poverty. We support this initiative and hope you will continue to support it too.



November 11th 2020

Parent / Teacher Meetings will be held after school via *Microsoft Teams* links on Wednesday 11th November. As always we will endeavour to facilitate meeting times that are convenient for both parents and teachers. Appointment times will be sent out after we return from midterm. A reminder that meetings will be kept to allocated time schedules to discuss your child's/ children's progress. Further meetings may be organised at later dates to deal with any other issues.

Hallowe'en Break ~ St. Comgall's N.S. will be closed on the following days; from Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October, 2020. It will re-open at 9.20am on Monday 2nd November 2020. Finally, we would like to wish you all ... **spooky #thrills**, during a happy and safe holiday!



Enjoy a happy and spooky Hallowe'en from St. Comgall's ghouls and witches!!!



Catriona Donnelly (Principal)