

# Clarecastle News



*"I have come so they may have life and live it to the full"*

June 2020

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Thursday August 27<sup>th</sup>**  
Start of the 2020/2021 school year

**Friday October 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
School closes for midterm break

**Monday November 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
School reopens

**Tuesday December 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
School closes at 12 noon for Christmas holidays

**January 6<sup>th</sup> 2021**  
School reopens

**February 12<sup>th</sup> 2021**  
School closes for Midterm break

**February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021**  
School reopens

**March 17<sup>th</sup> 2021**  
School closed for St. Patrick's Day

## A MESSAGE FROM THE STAFF

As our final term of the 2019-2020 school year comes to a close, we wish to pay tribute to our wonderful students. While the world changed dramatically last March, and learning as they knew it suddenly stopped, they came on board, continued to complete their assigned work each week and to partake in many practical activities to enhance their learning. Well done boys and girls! You should be truly proud of yourselves and how you embraced the new mode of learning that was so suddenly and unexpectedly placed upon your young shoulders. It has been a challenging time for everyone but our pupils have done a wonderful job in these past few months.



The motivation and dedication of our pupils could not have been possible without the unwavering resolve and commitment to home schooling from our parent body. Sincere thanks to all of you, the parents and guardians, who supported your child or children in their learning from home. While many of you continued your daily work at home, had to be at home due to the closure of your place of work, had to work from home or on the frontline, you

have been a wonderful support in these challenging times. We have always known that we are very lucky to have a wonderful parent body who have continuously given of their time to our school. That has truly been confirmed throughout this school closure – Thank you all!



As our government continues to lift restrictions and our country is beginning to return to the normality that we all knew, we wish you well and we wish you good health in the coming months. We hope that our country will remain as successful as it has been in overcoming the pandemic, and that our re-opening in September will be as close as possible to our experience of every other September throughout the years.

## THANKS TO OUR PARENTS ASSOCIATION

We have always known how fortunate we are to have such an active and supportive Parents Association. Their work to enhance the provision of education for all pupils in the school is very much appreciated. Thanks to all of those parents involved in the many initiatives and events that were held before the school closure. To mention but a few of your activities, thanks to those who organised and helped with Cash for Clobber, who invited and hosted

guest speakers and who continuously arrived on Friday afternoons to maintain the school library. These activities could neither have taken place nor have been so successful without your continued support. Sincere thanks to the parents who make all of this possible.

A special word of thanks goes to those members of the Parents Association whose youngest child will be leaving us to go to secondary school this year. Your dedication and commitment during your child's years in Clarecastle NS are, and have been, very much appreciated.



Last but not least, thank you for kindly sponsoring the hoodies for the outgoing Sixth Class pupils. This group of children, whose turn it was to be 'the big boys and girls' had to be so suddenly cut short, unfortunately missed out on their chance to organise and lead our annual School Sports Day and to get their school jumpers signed by teachers and fellow pupils, very much appreciate this generous and thoughtful gesture.

In order for all of this great work to be sustained, new volunteers are always needed and always welcome.



If you can make the time and are willing to get involved, come along to the monthly meetings in the new school year to see and to get involved in all of the wonderful work that is done for the school.

## THANKS TO THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Sincere thanks to the Board of Management for their commitment throughout the school closure and for their generous sponsorship of the online library facility, myOn.co.uk. This proved to be a great success in retaining our pupils' tradition of the reading and enjoyment of books.



## OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Our school is so fortunate to have the support of many volunteers from across the community whose contributions truly enrich the experiences of all pupils in our school.

The Board of Management, staff and pupils would like to say a massive **THANK YOU!** to all volunteers who so kindly gave of their time to benefit our pupils during the year. Thanks also to our sponsors who generously sponsored us during the year.



## SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHY



We are very grateful to John Power who, yet again, volunteered to take the photos for the school calendar last autumn. Thank You John!

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION



Our Second Class and Sixth Class pupils had been looking forward to their special day with family and friends when they would make their First Holy Communion and Confirmation.



The rescheduled dates for these special events will be communicated to families as soon as it is certain and safe to proceed with the ceremonies.

## BEST OF LUCK!

Every Success and best wish is being sent to our Sixth Class pupils as they depart for secondary school. Go n-Eirí Libh go Léir!



## HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

We wish you all a safe, healthy and enjoyable summer and look forward to welcoming our pupils back to school in September.



## School Calendar 2020/2021

Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2020	School re-opens
26 <sup>th</sup> October to 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2020	School closed for October Mid-term Break
2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2020	School re-opens
22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2020	School closes at 12 noon for Christmas Break
6 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	School re-opens
15 <sup>th</sup> February to 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	School closed for Mid-term Break
17 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	School closed for St. Patrick's Day
26 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	School closes at 12 noon for Easter Holidays
12 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	School re-opens after Easter Break
3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2021	School closed for May Bank Holiday
4 <sup>th</sup> June and 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	School closed for June Bank Holiday
25 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	School closes at 12 noon for Summer Break