### **CALENDAR 2021-2022**

Christmas Holidays: Closing Wednesday, 22nd December 2021 at 12.15 p.m. and re-opening Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup>January 2022.

February 2022 Mid-term Break: Closed Monday 21st February 2022 to Friday 25th February 2022

Closed Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup>March 2022- Public Holiday.

Easter 2022: School closing Friday, 8th April 2022 at 12.15 p.m. and reopening Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

Closed Monday, 2nd May 2022-Public Holiday.

Closed Friday, 3rd June 2022

Closed Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022-Public Holiday.

Closing Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup>June 2022 at 12.15 p.m.

# **Arrangements for antigen testing of asymptomatic close contacts in primary schools**

The Department of Education and the HSE, working in collaboration with the Department of Health, have developed a programme in which antigen tests will be made available to the children in a primary school pod, where a child in the pod has had a PCR test that detected COVID-19

Where two or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 occur in a class, within a seven-day period, outside of a single pod, antigen testing will be offered to the full class.

The tests will be sent to the children's parents by the HSE.

Parents/guardians of a primary school child, who has been confirmed as having COVID-19 following a PCR test, are asked to inform their school's principal. The school principal will then inform the parents of other children in the pod of a confirmed case. No personal details of the child will be shared. These parents will be provided with the option to receive free antigen tests for their child, which they will be able to order for delivery to their home.

It is not mandatory for children to participate in antigen testing. Children who are in a pod where a child has tested positive for COVID-19 can continue to attend school, whether they participate in antigen testing or not, provided that they are not experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.

School principals will not be required to gather evidence of participation or of antigen test results.

Information materials for parents will be shared with schools and publicised directly to parents early next week. The HSE will immediately commence preparation for this programme to be made available. The programme will commence on or before 29 November.

# Community Notice Contact Kelly on 087-0514380



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# SCOIL ÍDE NEWS

www.scoilide.ie

061 345495

November 2021

#### **WELL DONE**

ACE awards are given to pupils who excel in school life through Attainment, Community Spirit or Effort.

Well done to our November ACEs.

VI: Nolan: Josh Daly

VI: Heaney: Thomas White VI: Boland: Oisin Kinehan

#### **Internet awareness**

Since September a team in school has been working on a plan to raise online awareness throughout the school community of children, parents & guardians and teachers.

We understand that children use their devices and computers to learn, to play and to socialize. The most important thing is to set clear boundaries on screen time and set a good example.

It is also important to think about what your child is doing online and who they are doing it with rather than to just consider arbitrary rules about time.

We ask parents to consider the following approaches at home

Term 1: Action: Households will operate a digital sunset. No devices an hour before bedtime so children can get a better quality of sleep. The device should be left with parents when children go to bed.

### **Bike Shelter**

As you may have seen, we recently installed a bike shelter in front of the senior building on Corbally Road. This was funded by the Green Schools programme with the aim of encouraging more active travel to school, the benefits of which are cleaner air, less CO2 emissions, more exercise and enhanced well-being for our pupils.

In Scoil Íde, the majority of our pupils live within a two kilometer radius of the school, so we have lots of potential to cut down on car usage and get more of our pupils cycling. Every child has the right to walk and cycle to school safely. However, with virtually no cycling provision on the roads around the school, it sadly remains too dangerous for young cyclists to travel to school on their own. As an interim measure, we would welcome parents to accompany their children by bike to school if they wish.

Children should enter through Gate C on the Corbally Road, lock their bikes and exercise good cycling etiquette to and from school. We hope that in time we will need to extend our bike parking facilities with many of our pupils coming to school on two wheels.

This development should compliment our Safer Routes to Schools initiative which parents were surveyed about recently.



#### **Online Book Fair**

Every second year Scoil Íde hosts a book fair. We benefit from these bookfairs because we get credit to the value of 50% of the books sold during the week. We usually use this credit to refresh our class libraries. This year the book fair will be facilitated by Tara Books in Kilcolgan and will be held online instead of taking place in the hall. Parents will receive an email which will include login details for the 'Scoil Ide Book Fair run by Tara Books.' They can view and purchase books online. These will then be packed up, labelled and returned to the school for children/parents to take home.

It will run from Monday November 29th until Tuesday 7th December.

































# **Voluntary Contribution**

The Voluntary Contribution e-payment link was sent to parents at the start of the month. The suggested amounts are €100 for one child or €150 for more than one child or whatever you can pay. This <u>voluntary contribution</u> allows us to purchase specialised equipment and resources for programmes such as Literacy Lift Off and our STEM initiatives. We greatly appreciate your financial support and are dependent on it to continue to provide the children of Scoil Íde with the progressive education that they need and deserve. This year, we will focus the funds raised on developing a MakerSpace Studio in our Science Room.

#### **JUNIOR INFANT APPLICATIONS 2022**

Applications for the Junior Infant Intake for 2022 are steadily coming in .

In September 2022 we will be able to take in 3 classes. If you or your neighbours have children due to start school, we advise that you / they log on to www.scoilide.ie and make the application. All offers of places are made in accordance with the Enrolment Policy of Scoil Íde. This is available to view and read on our website www.scoilide.ie

# **Secondary School Common Application System**

The completed Application Form, accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope, should be submitted to the Principal at the Number 1 School of your choice.

Early submission of forms is advisable, but in any event, forms must be submitted no later than 12.30pm, Monday, 10th January 2022

Please note that the responsibility for making an application rests with the parent/guardian .

### **Team Hope's Christmas Shoebox Appeal.**

The Christmas Shoebox Appeal is an annual campaign where thousands of individuals in Ireland donate shoeboxes filled with gifts to be given to children affected by poverty in Africa or Eastern Europe. It is an opportunity to share a little joy and excitement with children who live in circumstances where these can sometimes be in short supply.

We were delighted to be in a position to play our part once again this year and we thank everyone who supported such a worthy cause.

