

*Scoil Cholmcille*  
*Mount Hanover*  
*Newsletter*



**Welcome to the first edition of the 2023/2024 Newsletter!** This newsletter will be issued monthly. Once again, a very warm welcome is extended to the new pupils and their families! I hope that you all will be very happy here in Mount Hanover NS.

**Parents Association:** The parents association in a school works with the principal, staff and board of management to build effective co-operation and partnership between home and school.

**What the PA (Parent Association) did for the school last year? (A short summary!!)**

- Toy Show Disco
- Church Gate Collection
- Clothes Recycling drive
- Easter, Christmas and Halloween raffles and treats for the children
- First Holy Communion Reception & treats for the children
- Graduation treats and hoodies for the 6<sup>th</sup> class children
- Sports Day treats
- Art workshop for all children
- Ice cream for everyone

As you can see the PA have been busy bees helping to make our school as welcoming and friendly for everyone on a daily basis. They are supporting the children's school life so they will all have great fun building great memories and even stronger relationships with their friends. Please do lend your support in whatever way you can!!

The first fundraiser of the year is a **Clothing Drive**. Is it time for a clear out? If so, please bag up your items (clothes, shoes, bags) and drop them to the school from October 2<sup>nd</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>. It's a simple as that!

**Assembly:** Our September assembly took place today. Well done to the following certificate winners:

**Pupil of the Month:** Katie O'Brien, Bobby Condron, Cillian Narcisse, Sadie Mehegan, Emilee-Rose Crosby, Jack McGuinness, Gracie Curley, Isla Freyne, Siobhán Briscoe, Emma Moore, Alex McEnteggart, Tom Kelly, Lennon King, Quinn Manley, Isabella McArdle & Dylan Ryan.

**Handwriting Awards:** Kaiya Cannon, Hugo Harvey, Zach Mullen, Lucy McArdle, Petra Smyth, Aoife Cannon, Leigh Doyle & Blaithín Byrne.

**Gaeilgeoir na Míosa:** Conal Cannon, Aoife Mullen, Nathan Maguire, Katie McEnteggart, Daniel McGuinness, Amber Devine, Amelia Maguire & Noah Devine.

**School Admissions:** Please note the following dates for school admissions:

We will begin accepting applications for the 2024/2025 school year on **Monday October 9<sup>th</sup>**. The application period will remain open until **November 6<sup>th</sup>**. Applicants will be notified of the decision on their application by **December 4<sup>th</sup>**. Applicants then have until **December 18<sup>th</sup>** to accept the offer of admission. **Please note that this is for applications the 2024/2025 school year only.**

Please see our school website for further information and for application forms:

<https://mounthanoverns.ie/school-enrolment/?swcfpc=1>

**School Photographs:** Anyone wishing to place an order should follow the instructions on the envelope enclosed and return it to school by **Wednesday October 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Uniform:** Children should wear school tracksuit on **designated PE days only**. **Full school uniform should be worn on all other days.**

**Design-a-Card:** Our school is participating in a unique fundraiser with [www.designacard.ie](http://www.designacard.ie). Each child will get the opportunity to design their own Christmas card, a sample of which will be sent home giving you the option to purchase packs of cards or any of the optional extra Christmas gifts if you wish. The design is to be completed inside the square on the template. Any artwork outside that area will be lost. When the students are finished their designs please return them to the class teachers.

**Templates are to be returned to the class teachers by Thursday October 12<sup>th</sup>.**

**Swimming Lessons:** As discussed at the PA coffee morning, swimming lessons are to return. Lessons for **1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> class** will begin on **Thursday November 9<sup>th</sup>** for a 6 week block. Swimming is part of the PE curriculum and it is something which we have not been able to do for many years. The lessons will be at a cost of **€56 per child** regardless of weeks missed/absent. There will be an online payment link generated and you will have the ability to pay this in instalments if you so wish.

**Birthday Invitations/Treats:** The school encourages parents to be mindful of other children and their feelings if you are inviting a select few to a birthday party. We ask that you distribute birthday invitations in private and outside of school. This is to avoid unnecessary upset to children. We also ask that you do not send treats/cakes into school to mark your child's birthday as we cannot distribute them.

**Parent Teacher Meetings:** Please note the following dates for these years' parent teacher meetings:

**Tuesday October 17<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday October 24<sup>th</sup>.**

Children from 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> class will go home at **2.15 pm** on these days to facilitate the meetings. Infant home time remains unchanged. A timetable has been issued by each class teacher with your allocated slot.

**Primary Maths Curriculum:** The Department of Education has published a new maths curriculum for children in primary and special schools. The curriculum sets out what children will learn in maths in every school. The aim of the new curriculum is that children see maths as important and useful to their everyday lives. If you want to read more about this change, and find supports for parents, see: <https://www.gov.ie/en/policy-information/027ad-primary-curriculum-framework/?referrer=http://www.gov.ie/primarycurriculum/>