

Scoil Cholmcille, Mount Hanover

February 2024

Newsletter

School Calendar:

- **First Confessions** will take place on **Saturday March 9th** in Duleek Church at **2pm**.
- **St. Patrick's Day Closure:** Monday March 18th.
- **Easter Holidays:** School closing at 12 noon on Friday March 22nd. Re-opening on Monday 8th April at 8.50 am.
- **First Holy Communion** will be celebrated on **Saturday May 18th at 12 noon**.
- **School Tour:** Navan Adventure Centre – Tuesday June 4th 2024.
- **6th Class Graduation:** Friday June 14th.
- **6th class Tour:** Monday June 17th.
- **Summer Holidays:** School closing at 12 noon on Friday June 21st 2024.

Sports in School: The boys and girls GAA and soccer teams are back in action. The 5-a-side FAI Soccer competition takes place in the MDL on **Tuesday March 5th** for the boys and **Tuesday March 12th** for the girls.

The GAA teams are competing in an East Meath School league and they have monthly games in this competition.

Assembly: Congratulations to our certificate winners for this month. The winners were as follows:

Pupil of the Month: Conal Cannon, Aifric Curran, Isla Connor, Hugo Harvey, Joe Durkan, Eddie Fitzpatrick, Seán Wang, Adam McEnteggart, Amelia O'Brien, Dara Deasy, Saoirse Curran, Oscar Cudden, JJ Hanratty, Holly Carroll, Casper Cudden & Evie Lynch.

Handwriting Awards: Arthur Keane, Alex Browne, Louis Mullen, Gracie Curley, TJ McGuinness, Shane Woods, Amelia Maguire & Isabella McArdle.

Gaeilgeoir Na Míosa: Katie O'Brien, Kevin Mokl, Cody O'Brien, Lucy McArdle, Peter Crosby, Seán Connell Cudden, Sadhbh Kirwan & Blaithín Byrne.

Denim Day: **Denim Day for Dementia** takes place nationwide on **Friday, 1st of March! We are getting involved this year.** We are asking everyone to **wear their denims** on **Friday, March 1st**, and donate to support families impacted by dementia. Collection boxes will be in school on the day. Please support this very worthy charity by giving whatever you can.

Standardised Testing: Please note the following dates for this year's standardised tests (1st – 6th class children):

Drumcondra Spelling Tests: February 27th & 28th

Drumcondra Reading Tests: May 8th & 9th

Drumcondra Maths Tests: May 28th & 29th

A standardised test is used to measure a child's achievement in English reading and maths compared to other children throughout the country at the same class level or age level. The English reading tests give information about how well your child can understand what he/she has read. The tests do not gather information on your child's written or spoken English. The maths test finds out how well your child can use numbers for different purposes and solve maths problems. The results of the tests will be communicated to you in the End of School Year report.

School Visits: On Monday we had a visit from Minister Helen McEntee and Cllr Sharon Tolan. They spoke with the 5th & 6th Class about their roles and responsibilities. They then had a tour of the school and the grounds. I also spoke with Minister McEntee about social and local issues. It was a very enjoyable visit. Thank you to Joe Collins, our Chairperson of the Board of Management, for arranging the visit.

Agri kids: On Wednesday February 14th, we had a visit from Alma from Agri Kids. Alma visited all the classes and spoke about farm safety. It was a really fun and interactive workshop. More information and games/activities can be found here: <https://www.agrikids.ie/>

Confirmation: Congratulations to our 6th class students who received the sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday February 20th. I hope that you all had a lovely day with your family and friends.

Hot school Meals: As previously announced, our expression of interest in the hot school meal scheme was accepted. Our chosen provider is **'The Lunch Bag'**. It will be at no extra cost to you. The suppliers will have an app where you can log on and choose what meal you would like for your child. They cater for dietary requirements and provide a detailed breakdown of the nutritional context of the meals. Details regarding the app and how to download it will be circulated via email and Class Dojo over the coming weeks. It is hoped that the meal scheme will be up and running after the **Easter holidays (April 8th)**. Due to the hot school meal, from April you will only have to pack a piece of fruit and a drink for your child's lunch. The hot meal will be provided for the second break (12.30 pm).

School Tour: Please find below the payment link for this year's school tour to Navan Adventure Centre: <https://www.aladdin.ie/p/6180051006521344>

Payments can be made in full or in installments - **minimum deposit payment of €5 per child** required by **March 1st**.

Please pay in full by May 24th.