Scoil Cholmcille, Mount Hanover October 2026

Welcome to the October edition of our school newsletter. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a relaxing Mid-Term Break. School reopens on **Monday November 2nd at 8.50 am.**

Happy Halloween Everyone!

School Sports: Well done to our boys and girls GAA teams who competed in the Cuman na mBunscol competitions this term. We are very proud of both teams and how they represented the school. Thank you to Ms. O'Donnell for all her hard work in preparing the team, organizing matches and everything that goes into coaching. Thank you also to Mrs. Kennedy and Colin Crosby for their support.
Congratulations to our boys' team who qualified for the Semi-Finals for their fourth consecutive year. This is a wonderful achievement for the players and the school. Unfortunately, it didn't go their way on the day but nonetheless, we are very proud of their efforts and achievements.
Commiserations to our Girls team who have had busy few weeks playing across the County against several schools. They played each match proudly and it is lovely to see the girl's teamwork and enthusiasm on the field.

School Admissions: Please note the following dates for school admissions:
We began accepting applications for the **2027/2028** school year on **Monday October 5th.** The application period will remain open until **November 2nd.** Applicants will be notified of the decision on their application by **November 30th.** Applicants then have until **December 14th** to accept the offer of admission. **Please note that this is for applications for the 2027/2028 school year only.**
Please see our school website for further information and for application forms:
https://mounthanoverns.ie/school-enrolment/?swcfpc=1

Assembly: Our October assembly took place today. Well done to the following certificate winners:
Pupil of the Month: Annie Crosby, Seán Óg Mullen, Lily McGuinness, Bobby Ray Ingamells, Síne Kirwan, Elliot Bracken Ryan, Nathan Power, Aifric Curran, James Toner, Aoife Mullen, Alice Grogan, Cody O'Brien, Paddy Curran, Fíadh Cannon Jordan, Dara Deasy & Daniel McGuinness.
Handwriting Awards: Arla Monaghan-Dowling, Malek Mousa, Lena Gawetek, Nicholas O'Reilly, Kevin Mokl, Louis Mullen, Conor McGuinness & Petra Smyth.
Gaeilgeoir na Míosa: Ruben Fitzpatrick, Emmy Wall Narcisse, Mollie Corbally, Oliver Crawley-Fay, Cillian Narcisse, Jack McGuinness, Evelyn Cassely & TJ McGuinness.

School Drop Off/Collection: School Drop Off/Collection: Many thanks for your continued co-operation with our drop off and collection procedures. The school day is from **8.50 am – 2.30 pm** (Infant home time is **1.30 pm**). Please ensure that your child is on time for school. The school gates and doors will be closed at 9.10 am. Arriving on time helps your child settle into the day smoothly and ensures they benefit fully from the learning experiences planned.

A Gentle Reminder Regarding School Access:

For the safety and smooth running of the school, please remember that there is no direct access to the classrooms or the school building during the school day. To ensure our teachers can focus 100% of their attention on welcoming the children and getting the day started smoothly, **please refrain from holding chats or asking questions at the classroom door in the morning**. If you have an update, a question, or need to pass along information, please send a quick message via **ClassDojo**. Our teachers check these as soon as they are free and will get back to you as soon as possible. Thank you for helping us keep our mornings safe and focused for the children.

If you need to collect your child early or drop off a forgotten item, all parents and visitors must check in at the front office first. Jennifer, our school secretary, will be more than happy to assist you.

Child Safeguarding Statement: The Child safeguarding Statement and Risk assessment have both been updated for this school year. They can be found on our school website: https://mounthanoverns.ie/policies/child-safeguarding-statement-risk-assessment/

Our **Designated Liaison Person** is Lorraine O'Loughlin, and our **Designated Deputy Liaison Person** is Mary Clayton.

Healthy Eating: Please continue to pack a healthy lunch for your child. Fizzy drinks are not allowed in school. A copy of our "Healthy Eating Policy" can be found under the policies tab on the school website. Crisps and chocolate should not be sent to school for lunch. Scoil Cholmcille is a **"Nut Free Zone"** as we have a student with a nut allergy. **We cannot allow children to bring any nut based products into school or in their packed lunches.** We ask that parents avoid giving children peanuts, peanut butter sandwiches, other spreads containing nuts such as Nutella and snacks/bars containing nuts or labelled "may contain nut traces" in school lunches. We also ask children **not** to share their lunches.

Birthday Invitations/Treats: The school encourages parents to be mindful of other children and their feelings if you invite a select few to a birthday party. If this is the case, we ask that you distribute birthday invitations privately and outside of school. This is to avoid unnecessary upsetting children. We also ask that you do not send treats/cakes into school to mark your child's birthday as we cannot distribute them.

School Attendance: Your child's attendance at school is very important for their progress. Please remember to message the teacher if your child is absent for whatever reason. Absences over **20 days** must be reported to TUSLA. **Reminder texts regarding absences are sent when a child reaches 15 days**. We kindly ask that parents do not send their child to school if they are at all unwell or off form and to be mindful of absences when taking discretionary days e.g. holidays.

Book Fair: The Scholastic Book Fair will be available in the school between the **23rd November – 30th November.** You are welcome to come along and browse/buy. More details on Class Dojo closer to the time.

Parents Association: The Parents Association voluntary contribution will remain at €60 per family for the year ahead (€20 per term). The payment link is now live on the Aladdin Connect app.



Halloween Raffle: Many thanks to the Parents Association for the fantastic Halloween Hampers. Thank you to everyone for supporting the raffle. The winners are as follows:

Infants: Annie Crosby
1st/2nd: Oisín Pen
3rd/4th: Aoife Mullen
5th/6th: Daniel McGuinness