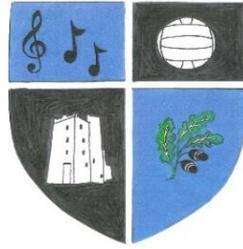


Scoil Chéile Chríost Rathmore N.S.

Newsletter January 2023



HAPPY NEW YEAR



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Website: www.rathmorens.ie Phone 045-862145

Email: office.rathmorens.ie Twitter: [@Rathmore School](https://twitter.com/RathmoreSchool)

Dear Parents/Guardians

Welcome back to the new school term and wishing you and your families a very Happy New Year in 2023.

There has been a significant increase in circulation of the flu virus, RSV virus and Covid-19. All schools received a Memo from the Chief Medical Officer, Breda Smyth this week with Public Health Guidelines for parents/guardians which was sent out in a message on Aladdin.

1. The most important measure is to keep your child at home if he/she is unwell. While many children have a runny nose or a slight cough in the Winter season, if your child is feeling unwell, they should stay at home until the symptoms have finished. This will help prevent the spread to other children, families and staff.
2. Infection, prevention and control measures.
 - Cover coughs and sneezes
 - Keep hands clean
3. Vaccination: Making sure your child is up to date on all recommended vaccinations will help:
 - stop your child getting an infection and
 - make them less likely to be unwell if they do get an infection.

More information is available at <https://www2.hse.ie/babies-children/vaccines-your-child>

4. Flu Vaccine: Children and young people with underlying conditions, are at an increased risk of severe complications from flu and are recommended to get the free flu vaccine.

More information is available at www.2hse.ie/conditions/flu/getting-the-vaccine

The Board of Management, teachers, staff and I appreciate your continued support in following these public health guidelines.

Please also remember that your child should have a clearly labelled rain jacket/coat for outside play on the yard.

Thank you for your co-operation and best wishes for the year ahead.

Lucy Travers
Principal

Parent/Teacher Meetings For Junior Infants Classes & Sixth Class

Parent Teacher Meetings for both Mr. Bolton's and Ms. Roe's Junior Infant classes and Mr Walsh's/Ms. Flynn's Sixth Class will take place on **Wednesday 25th & Thursday 26th January**. Appointment times have been released through the Aladdin Schools App.

Please note that you must be **registered** on the *Aladdin App* to be able to book your child's Parent Teacher appointment time.

Junior Infants Enrolment 2023/2024 School Year

The Board of Management have published our **Annual School Admission Notice** in respect of admissions to **Junior Infants Classes** for the 2023/2024 school year. Our **School Admission Policy** is available to view on our school website at www.rathmorens.ie

It is very important to note the dates which are applicable for admission to **Junior Infants Classes for the 2023/2024 school year**.

The school began accepting completed **Application Forms** for Junior Infants 2023/24 on **6th January 2023** and enrolment will close on **8th February, 2023**.

Please note that failure to accept an offer, or to return a completed **Application Form** to the school, within the prescribed period outlined on the *Admission Notice* may result in the offer being withdrawn. A completed **Application Form** must be submitted in the required time period even if you have submitted a completed Form of Inquiry earlier in the year.

Please contact **Martina**, our **School Secretary** in the school office on **TEL: 045-862145** or by email on office@rathmorens.ie for an **Application Form** or it can also be downloaded from the school website.

Consultation on the Development of a new National Strategy for Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Literacy.

Parents are invited to have their say on the development of a new **National Strategy for Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Literacy**.

The Department of Education and the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth are holding a public consultation as part of the development of the successor strategy to the [National Strategy Literacy and Numeracy for Learning and Life 2011 - 2020](#) and the [Interim Review of the Strategy \(2017-2020\)](#).

Individuals or organisations can submit their ideas via online survey link at:

<https://forms.h2.ie/LNDLconsultation>

#You will have the opportunity to provide additional feedback at the end if you wish.

The closing date for submissions is **3rd February 2023**.

Child Safeguarding Statement– Annual Review

Each one of us has a duty to protect children from harm and the *Department of Education and Skills* (DES) published the **Child Protection Procedures for Primary Schools in 2017** to give direction to school management and staff regarding the identification of and response to child protection concerns. The *Board of Management of Scoil Chéile Chríost Rathmore N.S* have adopted these procedures as school policy. Please note that the *Designated Liaison Person (DLP)* in place for dealing with child protection concerns is the school **Principal, Lucy Travers** and the *Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDLp)* is the **Deputy Principal, Caitríona Lancaster**.

The *Board of Management* have recently completed an annual review of our *Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment*. A copy of our school's *Child Safeguarding Statement and Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment* are on display in the school reception area and parents/guardians are welcome to read through a hard copy of the documents in the school office or read the documents on the school website.

Ranganna Gaeilge/Irish Language Classes for Adults



Ranganna Gaeilge
Irish Language Classes

DE LUAIN EVERY MONDAY
16/01/23-06/03/23

TOSAITHEORÍ BEGINNERS 18:00-19:00
MEANLEIBHEAL INTERMEDIATE LEVEL 19:00-19:00
ARDLEIBHEAL HIGHER LEVEL 19:30-20:30

CLARNAIGH AN REGISTÉAR ON
CILLDARALEGAEILGE.IE

€60 EURO IN AGHAIDH AN CHURSA PER COURSE

THE MONKREAD COMMUNITY CENTRE
ASCAILL AN MHAIDILÍN MAJDOLINS AVENUE
NAAS NA RÍOGH NAAS
CO. CHILL DARA TD, KILDARE
W91 FNV9



We have been asked to let all parents/guardians know that there will be a series of **Irish language classes** in Naas for adults from 16 January for 8 weeks. There will be three levels – beginner, intermediate and advanced.

Tuilleadh Eolais | More Information: <https://cilldaralegaelge.ie/nuacht/>

HSE Free Flu Vaccine For Children

The Health Service Executive (HSE) is asking parents of all children aged 2 to 17 to get the nasal spray flu vaccine. Children are twice as likely to get the flu as adults, so the HSE is offering the vaccine free of charge to all children in this age group. Parents can bring their children to get the vaccine from their GP or pharmacy. The flu spreads easily from person to person and can cause serious illness in children. A free appointment can be booked with your GP or pharmacist.

Visit <https://www.hse.ie/eng/health/immunisation/pubinfo/flu-vaccination/flu-vaccine-for-children/> for more information.

Primary Languages Sampler Initiative



The *Languages Connect Sampler Module* will facilitate participating Primary Schools to introduce their pupils to a Modern Foreign Language. We are fortunate that the children in 5th and 6th Classes have been selected to participate in this language programme and the children will begin learning an eight-week module in French on 20th January this term for one hour each week during the school day. The French module will be taught by post-primary teacher **Ms. Clifford** who is a French National and teaches in Naas Community School.

The aim of *Languages Connect* is to build awareness of the many advantages of having foreign language skills, and to make foreign language learning more appealing to everyone. Foreign language skills connect people to more personal, professional, social and cultural experiences. The Department of Education and Skills (DES) have recently announced that learning a Modern Language in primary school will be incorporated into the new *Primary Curriculum* in the near future for senior classes.

Spelling Bee Competition 2023



Congratulations to Sixth Class pupil **Oisín Malone** who has qualified to represent Rathmore N.S. in the next round of the **Spelling Bee** competition at county stage. It was a very close contest and we have some super spellers in our school! Thanks you to **Ms. Flynn, Mr. Collier, Ms. Behan** and **Ms. Malone** for organising our school qualifying stage and we wish **Oisín** the best of luck in the next round of the competition.

Celebrity Letters in Third Class



The children in **Ms. Broe's** Third Class recently wrote letters to some celebrities that they admire, asking them lots of questions. *Saoirse Treacy* and *Sally-May Grainger* were lucky to receive written replies and signed photographs in the post from their chosen celebrities. Saoirse received a signed photo and an invitation from none other than professional equestrian showjumper **Cian O'Connor**. *Sally-May* received a reply from her hero, television presenter **Ryan Tubridy**!

Sacramental Preparation

Children making their **Confirmation** are asked to attend the preparatory **Saturday Masses at 7.30pm** in Eadestown Church on **Saturday 28th January and Saturday 25th February**.

The Parish Preparation Nua programme for all children receiving the **Sacrament of Confirmation** will continue on **Wednesday 29th March and Wednesday 19th April** in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Eadestown.

The **Ceremony of Light** will take place on **Thursday 9th March** at 7.30pm in **Kilteel Church** and the children will receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation** on **Friday 26th May** in **Eadestown Church** (time to be confirmed).

The boys and girls in 6th class will also be taking part in a **Class Retreat** organised by the *Mount St. Anne's Retreat Team* in *Rathmore Community Hall* on **Friday 24th March 2023**.

First Penance for all children making their **First Holy Communion** this year will take place on **Thursday 23rd February** at 7.30pm in **Eadestown Church**. The children will receive the **Sacrament of First Holy Communion** on **Saturday 13th May** at 11.00am. We are looking forward to the celebration of these special Sacraments in our parish in the months ahead and we appreciate the preparation that is undertaken by **Fr. Comer** and the Parish Preparation Team and the class teachers, **Ms. Shaw, Ms. Swanton** and **Mr. Walsh/Ms. Flynn**.





Catholic Schools Week will take place during the week of **22-29 January 2023**.

The theme for Catholic Schools week this year is: **Catholic Schools: Walking Together in Faith and Love**. The Church is currently in the process of *Synodality*, which literally means 'journeying together'. This means that Catholics are called to come together and discern what the Holy Spirit is calling the Church to do and to be.

Each of us is on a journey in Life. Every Catholic school seeks to help students along their journey, nurturing their gifts and talents. This *Catholic Schools Week* we celebrate the unique contribution our schools make to the lives of our pupils, community and Church.

Home/School Communication: Rathmore N.S. Homework Diary

The **Rathmore N.S. Homework Diary** is the main channel of communication between home and school and the teachers check it daily for any messages written in it for their attention by parents/guardians. **Martina**, our school secretary can be contacted in the school office at **045-862145** for any urgent message or through the school office email address office@rathmorens.ie.

We kindly request that you do not contact your child's class teacher directly by email unless absolutely necessary. Teachers will do their best to respond to your query within school hours up to 4pm daily. It is important that all parents/guardians ensure that their contact details are up to date.

Please contact **Martina** to advise of any changes to your home address, telephone number or email.

You can also follow the school on twitter using the [@RathmoreSchool](https://twitter.com/RathmoreSchool) handle.

Co-Curricular Activities

Gaelic Football coaching with **Rob Thompson**, will resume on Thursdays from **12th January** coordinated by **Mr. Bolton**.

Hurling coaching with **John Holmes** will resume from **18th January**.

Swimming Lessons for pupils in **Ms. Shaw's 2nd/3rd Class** and **Ms. Swanton's 2nd Class** begins on **Wednesday, 18th January** at the earlier time of **11.20am**.

Junior Infants Vaccinations

Vaccinations for all children in **Mr. Bolton's** and **Ms. Roe's** Junior Infant classes will take place on **Monday 30th January** in the school.

REMINDER

First Holy Communion: The 'Do This in Memory of Me Masses' in preparation for **First Holy Communion** continue on **Sunday 22nd January, Sunday 12th February, Sunday 12th March** and **Sunday 23rd April** at 11.30am in the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Eadestown.

First Penance: **Thursday 23rd February** at 7.30pm in the Church of the Immaculate Conception Eadestown.

First Holy Communion 2023: **Saturday 13th May** at 11.00am in the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Eadestown.

Confirmation Preparation: Attendance at 7.30pm Mass on **Saturday 28th January** and **Saturday 25th February** in the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Eadestown.

Ceremony of Light: **Thursday 9th March** at 7.30pm in Kiltel Church.

Confirmation Nua Programme: **Wednesday, 29th March** and **Wednesday 19th April** at 7.30pm in Eadestown Church

Confirmation 2023: **Friday 26th May** in the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Eadestown (time to be confirmed).

Dates for your Diary

St. Brigid's Day: School closed on **Monday 6th February & Tuesday 7th February** (Teacher Professional Development) 2023.

Mid-Term break: School closed on **Thursday 16th and Friday 17th February 2023.**

St. Patrick's Day: School closed **on Friday 17th March 2023.**

Easter Break: Starts at 12.30 pm on **Friday 31st March 2023** and school re-opens on **Monday, 17th April 2023.**

May Bank Holiday: School closed on **Monday 1st, Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd May 2023** and re-opens on **Thursday 4th May 2023.**

June Bank Holiday: School closed on **Monday 5th June and Tuesday 6th June** and re-opens on **Wednesday 7th June 2023.**

Summer holidays commence on **Wednesday 28th June 2023 at 12.30pm**