

St. Michael's & St. Patrick's N.S.,
Cootehall,
Boyle,
Co. Roscommon,
F52 TV26.
Tel. No: 071-9667264
www.cootehallns.com

15th December 2023.

Dear Parents,

Christmas: We wish everybody in our school community a very Happy Christmas. The first term has flown by in the blink of an eye. Well done to our students for all their hard work, good nature and friendliness they have shown this term.

To celebrate Christmas in the school, the students can wear their Christmas Jumpers instead of their uniform jumpers on **Thursday and Friday 21st & 22nd December**, if they wish.

The school will close at **12.30 p.m on Friday 22nd December** for the Christmas holidays. The school will re-open on **Monday January 8th** at 9.30 a.m. for our second term. The school buses have been re-arranged to collect the students at 12.30 p.m. on the final day of term.

There is no breakfast club or afterschool service available on Friday 22nd December.

Christmas Mass Fr. Brendan will be celebrating the School Christmas Mass on **Friday 22nd December at 10a.m.** in Cootehall Church. The students from 2nd to 6th Class will walk to and from the Church, weather permitting and should bring high vis vests for their safety. **Students from** Junior Infants, Senior Infants and 1st Class will stay at school and watch the Christmas Mass online. Ms. Fallon and Ms. Melvin will supervise those students who do not wish to go to the church on this day. All are welcome to this Mass.

Board of Management 2023-2027: Thank you to all who returned the online form regarding seeking Parent nominees for our new Board of Management. **Our parent nominees on our Board of Management for this term are Iulia Anton and Conor McLoughlin.** We thank all on our Board of Management for their work in running our school.

Music Generation Padraig from Music Generation has come to our school for 4 lessons so far in Ms. Brennan/Ms Conroy's Class, Mr. Conboy's Class and Mr. Duffy's Class. We look forward to Padraig returning in January to continue teaching our students the ukelele, banjo and guitar. We will be asking parents for a contribution towards the cost of these lessons in the New Year.

St. Michael's GAA- Members of the victorious St. Michael's GAA team came to our school yesterday morning Thursday bringing all their hard-won silverware. It was an exciting occasion. We are very grateful for all the support the school receives from St. Michael's GAA club. We look forward to welcoming St. Michael's coaches back to our school later in the second term. The students dressed up in their green and red St. Michael's colours and their Christmas jumpers added to the colour of the occasion.

Supervision Please do not park in front of the school gates for the safety of the children accessing the school. This space is reserved for the school buses only. To ensure the smooth running of this, supervision starts at 9:15 a.m., and finishes at 3:20 p.m. The Board of Management accepts no responsibility for any pupils on the school premises outside of these hours. We ask that all students remain in their cars until a member of staff opens the gate at 9:15 a.m. Infant students are dismissed for the end of their day at 2.10 p.m. The infant teacher uses the remaining hour for class preparation and organisation. Students from first to sixth class are dismissed at 3.10 p.m.

Shoe Box Appeal There was a great response to the shoebox appeal again this year. 55 shoeboxes were donated from our school. Thank you and well done to all!

Science Week Science week in the school was as usual great fun. Loads of interesting science was shared in the classrooms. Well done to Mr. Duffy's Class for their Science Show, the students from the other classes really enjoyed seeing the many amazing experiments.

Voluntary Contribution 2023/24 The school are requesting a contribution of €30 per pupil. This amount goes towards the cost of art supplies, photocopying and Pupil Personal Accident Insurance. Thank you to all who have paid this contribution. This can be paid through the online system Way2Pay.

Enrolment for 2024/25 School Year Enrolment for the 2024/25 school year has commenced and will remain open until early January 2024. For more details, please see our school website www.cootehallns.com or contact the Principal's Office in the school - phone no. 071-9667264.

First Holy Communion First Holy Communion will take place on **Saturday 11th May at 12 noon in Cootehall Church.**

Confirmation will be held on **Tuesday 30th April at 11.00 a.m. in Croghan Church.**

Soccer: Soccer training continues on Wednesday's weather permitting for 3rd to 6th Class.

Contact Details If there is any change in your contact details, please let the school know so we can update our data base. Click [here](#) for the contact details form.

Absence Form If your child is absent from school for any reason all parents/guardians must complete an Absence Form. Please complete the absence note which is located in the centre of your child's Homework Notebook or click [here](#) for the online Absence Form.

Wishing everyone a happy, safe and peaceful Christmas and best wishes for 2024.

Yours sincerely,

Cian Duffy
Principal.