



AThuismitheoir/choimeadaí, a chara,

It’s hard to believe that the first term is over us in what has been very unusual and different times. Your children, yourselves and the staff have been instrumental in keeping our school as COVID free as possible and the children have been shining lights in following the routines of handwashing, keeping within their bubbles and so on. Therefore, everyone deserves to have a lovely, peaceful Christmas with their families and we pray that we are all safe and well going into the new year and ready to do it all again from January to Easter.

We thank all the members of our school community who work in the health service in any capacity in the present times. We hope that they will also get a break this Christmas. We also remember anyone in our families/school community who are ill or unable to come home this Christmas. We pray for them and wish them well.

**Saoire Na Nollag** */ Christmas Holidays*

Friday 18th December will be the last day of the current school term. School meals will be available and children will be dismissed at 12.30 p.m. when school transport will be available.

**Buíochas / Thank you**

Buíochas do gach duine a thug dearbháin, ciseáin agus rudaí eile dúinn do chrannchur na Nollag ar na mallaibh.

Without mentioning any names, we thank everyone who brought in vouchers, hampers and other items for our Christmas raffle recently. Congratulations also to everyone who was lucky enough to win a prize.

Thank you also to our Rang 1 parent who donated money from her cushion sales to the school. This is very much appreciated.

A thank you also this term to the families who built the water wall and provided other items for the school garden.

A special thank you to our Rang 3 parent who has been instrumental in helping us apply for the Live Here, Love Here application from which we received £2500. This went towards the geodesic dome and the raised beds (*Imagination Islands*).

He works with Social Farm and Gardens and they have provided us with trees and plants. During lockdown, he gave tremendous time and effort to the school to help develop our outside area physically and for outdoor learning. If anyone would like to adopt a tree for life (free), contact us in the new year to arrange this.

**Iarratais do 2021**/Applications for September 2021.

Please remind anyone who has a child of nursery or Rang 1 age for next September that applications are open online from noon on **Thursday 7th January** and closes at noon on **Friday, 29th January**. Please bring your child’s birth certificate and any other verifying documents required by **ALL** preschool(s)/ primary school(s) listed on your application to your first preference setting by **12.00 noon on** **Friday 5th February 2021.**

Have a look at our school website [www.bunscoilcholmcille.com](http://www.bunscoilcholmcille.com) and follow us on facebook to get a taste of what the school is about.

**An Téarma Nua** */ The New Term*

Wednesday 6th January 2021– Wednesday 31 March 2021.The school will be closed from 15th – 19th February for mid-term & on 17th & 18th March.

**Obair ar an suíomh / Work on the school site**

We ask for your patience during next term as we get a lot of new work and other maintenance work done around the school grounds. Currently a path is being made from the naíscoil to the garden and the rougher part of the path through the garden is going to be replaced. They will begin lifting the old flagstones after that to replace it with tarmac (bitmac). This will take time and will have to be done in stages. Secure fencing will be around where the ground work is taking place, it means that some classes will be moving to another room for a short spell. We will keep you updated as time goes on. As a lot of the material and equipment needs to be brought in through the bottom gate, for safety reasons it will be out of bounds until further notice.

**Suíomh na scoile /school website and facebook**

Don’t forget to have a look at all the photos, videos and other material on the school website and on facebook. It gives everyone a small taste of the work that went on in a memorable term 1 in 2020.

**Guímid Nollaig naofa, shíochánta, shona agus áthasach ort agus ar na páistí.**

The governors, the staff and myself wish you and the children a holy, peaceful, restful and happy Christmas.

Beannachtaí na Nollag ar gach duine agaibh.

Máire Mhic Lochlainn