



Naas CNS Newsletter

November 2020

We would like to extend a big thank you to all our students, parents and staff for the co-operation and support in implementing our new school routines and COVID 19 plan since September.

It is our intention to try and get the children outside where possible for lunchtimes and PE activities. Please make sure your child brings a coat to school in the coming weeks. Children can wear an extra layer under their uniform or tracksuit if they are cold.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Due to COVID 19 restrictions we will not be holding parent teacher meetings this year. We will be issuing a written report at the end of January.

Contacting your Child's Teacher

If you need to speak with your child's teacher, please contact reception by phone or email.

New Bike Rack

We have a number of students setting a great example by coming to school on their bikes and scooters. A new bike rack has been installed for our students.

New Portable Sensory Pod

The school has invested in a small sensory pod. This space is being used by our junior students who have sensory needs. Thanks to our Parents Association for providing the funds to purchase the equipment for this space.

Dress Up Day

Our students really enjoyed dress up day before mid-term. There were a lot of happy faces and a great sense of fun in the school on the day.

The junior classes went on a walk past Craddockstown Nursing Home. We walked through the carpark and waved to the staff and residents. It was a lovely experience for all of us as we try to maintain a connection with our community in difficult times.

Students Using Snapchat

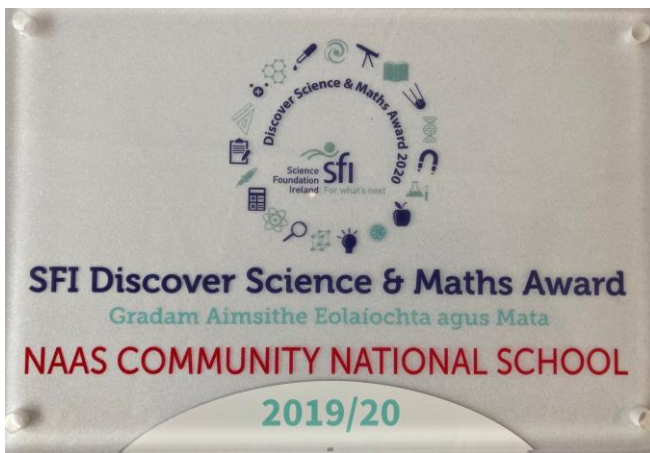
Parents are asked to monitor their child's activity on social media. The school has been contacted recently in relation to inappropriate content being shared.

Photo Permissions

We have recently sent a permissions request to all parents on Aladdin. Please update your permissions for your child. This will allow us to post pictures of the wonderful work that is going on in our classrooms on a daily basis.

S.T.E.M.

November is always an exciting month in school as its time for Science week. There has been a real buzz of activity with investigations, experiments and environmental audits going on in our classes. Science Foundation Ireland set the theme for this year as 'Wellbeing' so the pupils were challenged to evaluate our school premises and think of ways it could be improved to enhance wellbeing. They have been creating designs and making 3D projects of their ideas - we can't wait to see their finished designs.



We are delighted to announce that our school has been awarded the SFI Discover Primary Science & Maths Award for the 19/20 school year. This is a wonderful recognition of all the work going on in the areas of Maths & Science in our classrooms, not just for Science / Maths week but throughout the school year. Well done to all of our staff and pupils, we are really proud of you! All the content for our award application is currently available for viewing on our dedicated STEM site

<https://naascns.wixsite.com/stem>

At the end of the month we will begin updating the site, so pop back to have a look at what we've been up to this year so far for Space Week, Maths Week, Science week & much more.

Food Dudes



The children throughout the school took part in the Food Dudes programme last February and March. The students of Naas CNS really enjoyed watching the adventures of the Food Dudes and learning how they kept General Junk at bay by eating healthy foods like fruit and vegetables. The students tasted some lovely fruit and vegetables each day and got some great prizes. Thanks to all their efforts, the school was rewarded with the Food Dudes certificate. We are hoping to take part in the programme again next year. Until then we would encourage our students to try and eat at least 5 fruit/vegetable portions every day, just like the Food Dudes!

5th Class

In fifth class we have been very busy since returning to school. In October we took part in a class Zoom call with a published author named Shane Hegarty. He gave the class great tips about what is required to write a book. In November, we engaged in a Zoom call with some scientists who work for Irish Manufacturing Research for Science Week. This allowed the children to gain an insight as to how to work in STEM and some of the projects that IMR have worked on. For Science Week, the class are designing a 3D model of a Wellbeing space that they would like to put into the school grounds. Some children are using Minecraft to do this while others are using Lego or recycled items. We have plenty of young scientists, engineers, designers, artists and IT specialists of the future in our school.

Student Absences

If your child is absent for any reason, please update your child's absence record on Aladdin. There is no need to write the teacher a note if you have updated Aladdin.

The school is obligated to report any students with more than 20 days absent to the Education and Welfare Officer.

Bug Busting Weekend

We will shortly be having our Term 1 bug busting weekend as part of our Head Lice Policy. It is important that we have a co-ordinated effort across all classes at the same time. Homework passes will be the incentive for the children!

Contacting the School.

Our school office opening hours are as follows: Monday – Friday 9.00 – 2:00

School Secretary: Janice.

Phone: 045 875 311

Email: admin@naascns.ie

Welcome Múinteoir Melissa.

We extend a warm welcome to Múinteoir Melissa who took up the position of Senior Infants Teacher in November.

Policy Development

The school has created a draft policy page on our website. The aim is to upload policies that are being developed or updated to this page. Parents will be notified through Aladdin that a policy is due to be reviewed and they will have the option of emailing any input or comments they might have. The draft policies will be shared with staff and the Parents Association for their input or comments. This information is then brought to the Board of Management for discussion and review. The Board decides on the content of the final policy. The final policy document will then be shared with staff, Parents Association and shared on the school website.

Parents Association

We have a very active Parents Association in the school. Parents are always welcome to join the meetings. Currently the meetings are being held via Zoom. If you would like to attend a meeting please contact the Parents Association at ncnsparentsassociation@gmail.com

Parents Association AGM

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the parent body of Naas CNS takes place on:

Wednesday 2nd December @ 8pm

Email ncnsparentsassociation@gmail.com to get sent the Zoom link.

School Website

www.naascns.ie

We will be updating our website throughout the year.