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# Clonburris N.S. Our Lady Queen of Apostles Newsletter January 2021

*Learn, Believe, Achieve!*



## A Message from Ms. Morley

Dear Parents,

Congratulations on reaching the end of January and managing remote learning with your children! We know it's been difficult for many, managing their own work and those of the children also. We remember all those who have been coping with family illness or who have suffered bereavements in the past few months.

February is the start of Spring, a time to reflect on new beginnings and hope. St. Brigid's Day, the 1<sup>st</sup> of February, is always a day we celebrate in Clonburris and we hope it will signal the arrival of longer, and slightly warmer days too! We also look forward to the day when we can be back in school with all our pupils.



I'd like to thank all of our staff in Clonburris who have been working long hours in planning for See Saw activities and their Zoom chats and in liaising with me if extra support is needed. We have a wonderful team of teachers and SNAs here who have been doing their best to keep in contact with pupils and support our Clonburris families while the school building is closed. Thanks also to our Parents' Association who communicate with us regularly.

We will continue to update you all as we prepare to re-open, whenever that happens. In the meantime keep in touch with teachers and SNAs, enjoy your family time together and support your child's learning as best you can.



## Good Luck Fr. Damian!

We'd like to thank Fr. Damian most sincerely for all his work with our school as moderator of the Combined Catholic Parishes of Clondalkin. He begins his new role as army chaplain this week and, though we'll miss him during the school year, we wish him the best of luck in his new role. May God protect him from trouble, wherever he may go in the future.



## Grandparent's Day

This is always one of our favourite days in the school year. This year we couldn't be in school and have the hall full of grandparents but we hope you enjoyed the slideshow we sent to everyone. Our grandparents are always so supportive and we know how much our pupils love them and miss them when they're apart. We remember too all grandparents who are sick or who have died during the year.

## Remote Teaching and Learning

The online learning platform the pupils are using is **See Saw** and well done to pupils, parents and staff on getting used to the new system. Such great work being sent in and the boys and girls are enjoying the feedback given by teachers and SNAs. The weekly **Wellbeing Zoom chats** are very popular and are often attended by family pets also! Some of our pupils with additional needs are also receiving extra support via Zoom and thanks to their teachers and SNAs who have timetabled those throughout the week. Thanks also to the staff who have been coming into school to prepare resources and gather materials for the children. Contact with outside agencies, such as our NEPS psychologist, continues and our staff are continuing to engage with Continuous Professional Development (CPD) courses each week, after correcting work and giving feedback to the children. All of the new ideas we've learned as a school community since January will help us when we return to school also.

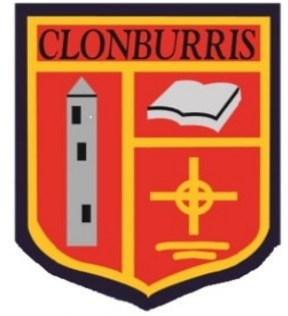


# Seesaw

# Clonburris N.S.

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### HOME SCHOOL COMMUNITY LIAISON

The role of HSCL is to help children, parents and guardians get the best from school life. Drop into school, or contact Ms. Kerins on 083 8490219 or homeschclonburris@gmail.com.

### Parents' Association

Thanks to Lorraine Murphy, the PA chairperson, who has been so good in liaising with us throughout January and forwarding information from local secondary schools etc. We had an online meeting in January, including Ms Morley and Ms Kerins, to get feedback from parents regarding See Saw and Zoom, and also to discuss our Virtual Grandparents Day. It was lovely to hear all the positive comments regarding the hard work of staff. We also talked about all the wonderful events that happened in December and the great success of the Christmas Fair.



### Parent courses

All courses are free of charge, please contact Ms. Kerins to register.

### Supporting your worried child

**Date:** Thursday Feb. 4th

**Time:** 8pm via Zoom



### 4 The Family—tips to improve Family Life

This course consists of 4 x one-to-one Zoom sessions with a family expert. It focuses on parenting, play, technology and health.

### Poetry Corner

To read at home...

### St. Brigid

Born in Kildare, land of the oak.

Known for her cross, and growing cloak.

Kind and loving, a patron of arts.

February 1st, she's in our hearts.



### February Fitness Challenge

Can you take on the Clonburris challenge and do this for the 28 days of February? The key to making us smile is a combination of 'physical exercise', 'giving back' and 'self care'. Try and complete something each day and record it on your calendar. Send a record in to your teacher at the end of the month. For every complete calendar entry at the end of February you will be entered in a draw to win one of two €25 Elvery's vouchers, and there will be a €25 voucher for the most active/creative child (1 from Junior-2<sup>nd</sup>, 1 from 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>)



Here are some examples: family walks, family runs, parent/child football sessions, taekwondo over zoom, football sessions on zoom, Towers Óg online, family cycles, forest walks, TikTok dances, yoga for kids, obstacle courses.



### SCHOOL CALENDAR 2020/2021

- February Mid-term —15th—19th February (inclusive)
- National Bank Holiday —17th March
- Easter Holidays —March 29th—April 9th (inclusive)
- May Mid-Term - 3rd—7th May (inclusive)
- National Bank Holiday —7th June
- School closes 30th June (half day)