



21st December, 2020.

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

As we near the end of this term I want to thank all of our pupils and parents for their co-operation and support for the various school routines and re-opening plan that have been put in place since September. These routines have enabled us to remain open every day during first term. Thanks also to our Board of Management who have been very supportive during this time of the increased costs associated with this plan.

A special thank you to all our teaching, ancillary and administrative staff who have adapted and participated fully in the implementation of the re-opening plan. The plan enables us to keep the school open and create a safer environment for the pupils during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Art Competitions: During this term, pupils took part in a number of art competitions. Well done to all of the pupils and congratulations to the following winners: Zuzanna 6th Class (Supermac's Colouring), Natalia 4th Class (Naomh Breandáin Credit Union Art Competition), Lily 3rd Class, (Naomh Breandáin Credit Union Art Competition), Matthew Senior Infants, (Barna Colouring Competition)

Christmas Artwork: Well done to all of the pupils whose beautiful artwork is displayed in classrooms and corridors throughout the school. Thank you to all of the school staff who collaborated in displaying the artwork, in decorating the school and in creating the wonderful festive atmosphere inside and outside the school. A video of the pupils' artwork is on our school website www.stitaloughrea.com.

Library Book: Galway Public Libraries have partnered with Galway 2020 to distribute a copy of Patricia Forde's "To the Island" to each Junior Infant pupil. We hope that you and your child will enjoy this book.

Science Week: St. Ita's worked extremely hard to make Science Week both interactive and enjoyable for all of the students this year. Each class carried out science experiments within their own classrooms and in addition several groups benefitted from attending zoom classes organised by the Galway Education Centre and Science Foundation Ireland. Videos were created by pupils showcasing science experiments and these videos alongside the relevant equipment were distributed to each class in the school. Robotics workshops were also organised in the school. Photos of the activities will be uploaded to the school website in the coming days. Well done to all students and teachers

Christmas Holidays: The school will close on Tuesday, 22nd and will re-open on Thursday, 7th January 2021. Please take note of the following times that each class will go home:

11.30 - J.I.1/S.I.1 (Ms.Cleary), S.I.2 (Ms. Mitchell) and 3rd Class (Ms. O'Brien)
11.40 - J.I.3 (Ms. Walsh), 3rd Class (Ms.Clarke), S.I.3 (Ms.Geraghty) and 4th & 5th Class (Ms. Ruane)
11.50 - J.I.2 (Ms. McDonagh), 1st Class (Mr. Whelan) and 5th & 6th Class (Ms. Cormican)
12.00 - 4th Class (Ms.Mitchell), 2nd Class (Mrs. Glynn) & 6th Class (Ms. Mannion)

On behalf of all of the Staff of St. Ita's N.S. I want to wish you all a Safe, Happy and Peaceful Christmas and a Safe and Prosperous New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. P. Coyle, Principal.