Dear Parents December 3rd 2020

A short update on life in Scoil Treasa during this extraordinary year. We have reached the season of Advent and are finishing our 13th week of the school term. Christmas is fast approaching and the school is preparing appropriately in a safe manner.

Unfortunately our Christmas Concerts, Nativity Plays and Carol Services this year cannot take place in their usual format. We will be unable to welcome parents, grandparents in to enjoy our shows; however we will make the build up to Christmas as meaningful and enjoyable as possible for all our pupils and staff.

Some information:

1. On Tuesday we had the official lighting of our Christmas tree. We also had the blessing of our ‘Advent Wreath’ and opened our crib.
2. Christmas Annuals- Siamsa and Sonas were ordered on Wednesday and hopefully we will get delivery early next week.
3. Our Annual Colour Day- Christmas Jumper- fundraiser for the St. Vincent De Paul takes place on Friday December 11th. Pupils are asked to donate at least €2 to this great cause.
4. As a staff we are conscious of the demands on families this time of year. Therefore, we would suggest not bringing in presents for teachers / SNAs this Christmas. This is also good practice in these Covid-19 days. Instead pupils / parents may wish to donate a little extra to our St Vincent de Paul appeal.
5. Many pupils share Christmas cards with their friends in class at this time of year. This is a lovely practice; however in this extraordinary year it is recommended that pupils not share any items with their friends. Perhaps an online message/card could replace this.
6. Likewise the day of the Christmas Holidays (Tuesday 22nd December) is usually party day with sweets, games etc. shared among the pupils in each class. The parties will go ahead this year! They may be a little different- teachers will let you all know the format closer to that time.
7. Dates:
	1. School Holiday will begin on Tuesday 22nd December at 12p.m.
	2. School reopens on Wednesday 6th January 2021.
8. Nut allergies: A number of pupils in the school have allergies to nuts etc. We ask you to be careful when giving lunches, treats to your child.
9. As the weather gets colder, we are conscious of how cold classrooms can be as we continue to have widows/doors open to ensure good ventilation. Children should wear extra layers of clothing and are also allowed wear their coats in class in needed.
10. Attendance for the month of November was 96.3%. Well done to everyone. Keep it going now for the month of December.
11. Do we have the correct mobile/email for you? Have you downloaded the Aladdin App? This helps greatly in making contact with families. Contact the office (4513141) if you need help
12. Thank you to all the boys and girls for their good behaviour and work so far this term. We are very pleased with all their efforts in these difficult times.
13. Finally thank you, the parents, for your co-operation over the past three months. Hopefully the new year will bring us back closer to our ‘normal’ school year.
14. Please check out or website [www.scoiltreasa.ie](http://www.scoiltreasa.ie) for more news.
15. Our Parents’ Association Facebook page also contains news and updates on school events.
16. I will be in touch again before we break up for Christmas

Gerard O’ Meara

Principal

December 3rd 2020