



## January 2023 Briefing

### Scoil Mochua

Welcome back and Happy New Year to all for 2023. Please see below for some important information as we begin our new term.

#### 1. Social Personal and Health Education (SPHE): STAY SAFE

The Stay Safe programme will be taught in Senior Infants, 2nd, 4th and 6th classes over the coming weeks. We encourage you to speak to your child about the topics discussed when worksheets are sent home to be completed. The programmes will be revised in the other classes. This is in line with our SPHE Policy, and the Department of Education guidelines. Further information on the SPHE Curriculum at primary level is available [here](#) and information on the Stay Safe programme is available [here](#). If you have any queries, please contact the class teacher.

#### 2. Enrolment

Enrolment for Junior Infants hoping to start with us in September 2023 will take place during the 3 weeks from January 9th 2023 – January 27th 2023. Further details available [here on our website](#).

#### 3. Legislative Amendment to Admission Policy

New legislation relating to the provision of education to children with special educational needs has come into effect in Ireland.

The new legislation requires the admission statement of a school to include a statement that the school shall co-operate with the National Council for Special Education (NCSE) relating to the provision of education to children with special educational needs, in particular by the provision and operation of a special class or classes when requested to do so by the Council and a separate statement that the school shall comply with any direction under section 37A or under section 67. In accordance with this, the following text will be added directly to the school's current admission statement:

*Scoil Mochua will cooperate with the NCSE in the performance by the Council of functions under the Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs Act 2004 in relation to the provision of education to children with special educational needs, including in particular by the provision and operation of a special class or classes when required to do so by the Council.*

*Scoil Mochua will comply with any direction served on the board or the patron under Section 37A and 67(4)(b) of the Education Act 1998.*

#### **4. Review of Provision of Education for Children with Additional Needs**

Consultation is now open for review of the EPSEN Act (Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs). We encourage every parent and staff member to complete this survey. Support for the education of children with additional needs impacts ALL children. Learning is positively impacted for everyone when children's needs are appropriately met.

<https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/e3842-epsen-review-consultation/>

#### **5. Charity Donations**

Thanks to your generosity, we raised €2000 for St Vincent de Paul and €500 for Celbridge Care for the Aged (Meals on Wheels). This money was raised from our Christmas Jumper Day and from the 4th Class Evening of Song. Cheques were presented to both charities before the Christmas break, in time to make a difference for many worthy recipients.

#### **6. Guidance from the HSE**

Please see the HSE letter emailed to all parents on Friday 6th January detailing the importance of keeping children that are unwell at home from school to help prevent the spread of infections. This letter is also available on the [homepage of our website](#).