



## **Nuacht na Scoile** ***Nollaig 2024***

### **Christmas Performances**

Well done to all the boys on the hard work and great singing for our Christmas shows this month. Thank you to all the parents and grandparents that came to see the performances! A special word of thanks to Coláiste Íosagáin for the loan of their stage.

### **Christmas Raffle**

Thank you to everyone that supported our Christmas raffle at the Christmas Shows. The money raised is going towards buying our own school stage. The winners were:

€100 Don Ryan

€50 Emer Roycroft

€20 Theresa Sheils

### **Shoebox appeal**

Thank you to everyone that supported our Shoebox Appeal. We sent 113 boxes to Kosovo. Your support is valued as always.



### **Vincent de Paul Food Hampers**

Thank you once again to everyone that contributed towards our Christmas Gift Hampers for our local St Vincent de Paul charity. Every child in each class was given a nonperishable item to bring in to contribute to the class hamper. A mixture of savoury and sweet! Your generosity was heartwarming.



The boys decorated their class box and each one was carefully wrapped and sealed beautifully with a bow. At final count, our school had made 29 food gift hampers. Thank you to all who helped make this happen. It is wonderful to see the Christmas cheer alive and well in our school community.

### **Christmas Jumper Day**

On Tuesday we had our annual Christmas Jumper Day. The boys raised €784 to go towards our chosen Christmas charity – UNICEF. This money will aid children in

war torn countries this Christmas. We went for a lovely walk around Portarlinton spreading Christmas cheer far and near.

### Jesse Tree

The Jesse Tree is standing proud in our school sacred space. The Jesse Tree is created with a set of 25 symbolic ornaments, each of which represent a different piece of the overarching redemption story of the Old Testament leading up to the birth of Jesus. The ornaments coordinate with a Bible story or verse from scripture.

### Prayer Service



Our 6<sup>th</sup> class boys led us in our Christmas prayer and carol service this week. The singing and prayers were beautiful. We were also treated to some Christmas songs on the saxophone by Charlie Scully in 6<sup>th</sup> class.



### Cumann na mBunscol

Congratulations to our 2 school football teams on their fantastic success in our recent Cumann na mBunscol School Finals. They have made history becoming the 1<sup>st</sup> 2 Scoil Phádraig teams to be crowned county champions on the same day! Well done lads!



*Division 1 team defeated Killenard*



*Division 6 team defeated The Heath*



*Great support for the lads!*



### Santa Visit

Today Santa popped in to see the boys before dashing back to the North Pole to put the finishing touches to the sleigh. Thanks to the Fire Brigade for the lift!!

### Charity Jumper Pop-Up Shop

Thank you to everyone that donated their old Christmas jumpers. We raised €100 in our pop up shop! This money also went towards UNICEF. The boys loved getting a chance to choose their own sweater knowing their old one went to a good home!

### Parent teacher meeting

We had our parent teacher meetings at the end of November. It was wonderful to meet all the parents and guardians and share your son's progress with you. If you were unable to make the meeting scheduled and wish to meet with your son's teacher, please contact the school after Christmas.

### Book Fair

Thank you to everyone that supported our Book Fair last month. We raised over €5,588. It is great to see everyone reading!! This successful book fair has earned the school €3,300 in rewards to buy further books for our school library and classrooms.

### Cycling Safety

Fourth class recently completed a course in cycling safety training run by South East Cycling. The training was invaluable to everyone. For those who already cycle to school, the benefits are obvious, but training is just as important for children who are learning to cycle.

The course consisted of 6 x 80-minute sessions covering various topics and ending with on-road training.

Well done to 4th class on the successful completion of the course!

### Long Jump

Over the Halloween break the long jump was installed in our school athletics track. We look forward to using this in the finer weather.



### Rainbows Programme



Scoil Phádraig are currently facilitating the Rainbows programme in our school. The Rainbows Programmes provide

- a 10-week listening, group support programme for children and young people following a bereavement or parental separation.
- Children of a similar age (from 7 years) and loss experience are in separate groups.
- Rainbows is not counselling or professional therapy.

For further enquiries or to enrol your child:  
email [rainbowsscoilphadraig@gmail.com](mailto:rainbowsscoilphadraig@gmail.com)

### Afterschool Tin Whistle

Tin whistle lessons have been a huge success from 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class this term. They will resume again in January. Thank you to Mary Carolan for her help with the boys.

### Chess Club

Our chess club is up and running for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class this term. 4<sup>th</sup> class boys will be allowed to attend after Christmas, A team will be travelling to The Rock NS in February to participate in their annual chess tournament. Our school will be hosting the Ficheall Tournament again this year.

### Erasmus

Ms Mortimer travelled to Brussels this term on behalf of the school to receive our European Innovation in Teaching Award for Environmental Wellbeing.

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Ms Browne and family on the safe arrival of their daughter and to Ms Corley and family on the safe arrival of their daughter!

### Best Wishes

The school would like to wish every happiness to Ms Culhane and her fiancé on their upcoming nuptials.

### Pickleball

Pickleball will recommence for 6<sup>th</sup> class after Christmas.

### Sacramental Dates

First Confession – Thurs, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7.30

Confirmation - Thurs, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 11am

First Communion – Sat, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 11.30am

### Social Networks

We ask all parents to respect the confidentiality and privacy of our school community. We ask all parents to refrain from making any reference to our school, teacher, pupils or other parents on social media or in WhatsApp groups. The school are always willing and available to discuss any concerns you may have in relation to your son at short notice. We strongly encourage this mutual respect.

### Holidays

School closure for the Christmas break is on Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup>.

Bus pick-ups - 11:30 – All Buses

ARC, Junior Infants & 4th – 6th Classes – 11:40

Senior Infants & 1st – 3rd Classes – 11:50

We will re-open on Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup>.



School Closures next term

Wednesday, Jan 15<sup>th</sup> closing at 12.20pm for a termly staff meeting

Friday, Feb 7<sup>th</sup> closing at 12.20 for staff training on new Bí Cineálta Procedures

Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> – school closed for Primary Maths Curriculum Training