



## **Nuacht na Scoile** ***Nollaig 2025***

### **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! Thank you also for your kind donations. The money raised is going towards our new amplification system.

### **Shoobox appeal**



Thank you to everyone who supported our Shoobox Appeal. This year, we collected an impressive 113 shoeboxes. Your

continued generosity and support are, as always, greatly appreciated.

### **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 26 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.

### **Prayer Services**

In November, we held a special prayer service to remember all those in our community who have passed away. Tomorrow, we will celebrate our Christmas prayer service together in the school hall

### **Santa Visit**



Today, Santa popped in to visit the boys before dashing back to the North Pole to put the finishing touches on his sleigh. He even attempted to high-five every child in the school! 🎅

### Charity Jumper Pop-Up Shop



Thank you to everyone who donated their old Christmas jumpers. We raised €70 through our pop-up shop, with all proceeds going to Uisce for Gaza. The boys loved having the opportunity to choose a jumper of their own, knowing their old one was going to a good home.

If you are having a clear-out in January, we will happily accept jumper donations then for next year. The Christmas Jumper Day money is still being counted. Thank you all for your continued generosity.

### 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 Sale

Thank you to everyone for the book donations. The boys loved picking out their new books. It is wonderful to donate for the books to be brought to life again with their new readers. The sale raised over €1,500. This money will go towards more books for our school library

### Food Dudes



Our school participated in the Food Dudes initiative, a programme designed to encourage children to enjoy eating fruit and vegetables as part of a healthy, balanced diet. Through fun videos, rewards, and positive role models, the programme helps children develop lasting healthy eating habits. The boys were enthusiastic participants and enjoyed tasting a wide variety of fruits and vegetables. It was wonderful to see them trying new foods and developing a more positive attitude towards healthy choices.

### Cinema Trip

Our breakfast club boys recently were treated to a cinema trip to watch Home Alone 2. Great fun was had by all.



## 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 7years) 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

Open to all children from 3rd class upwards, the tin whistler lessons will resume on Mondays in the new year. Further details will be shared soon. Established whistlers will continue to meet at lunchtime over the next few weeks as we prepare for St Patrick's Day.

## Care Pack



Many classes in our school take part in the Care Pack initiative, creating cards and sending gifts to the residents of local nursing homes. This thoughtful gesture truly reflects the spirit of Christmas. Many thanks to everyone who contributed and helped bring joy to others during the festive season.



## Chess Club

The boys are really enjoying chess this year. Thank you to all those taking part! Chess will continue for boys in 4th class every Tuesday from January 6th until February 10th, and for boys in 5th and 6th classes every Thursday from January 8th to February 12th. Beginners are also welcome to join after Christmas.



## Badminton

Badminton lessons for 5th and 6th class will recommence at the end of January. New members are always welcome. Well done to the boys that represented our school in the Laois/Offaly Qualifier Event.



### Pickleball

Pickleball for 5<sup>th</sup> class will commence after Christmas. Details to follow in the new year.

### Recycling

Our Green School boys are busy recycling cans and bottles at LIDL, with all money raised going towards our school garden.



### Carol Singing

Well done to all our carol singers, who recently performed at LIDL, spreading festive cheer throughout the season. We are also very grateful to LIDL for generously sponsoring our Breakfast Club — thank you for your continued support.



### Sympathies

The school community extends its heartfelt sympathies to our SNA, Sinead, and her family on the recent loss of her father, and

to Ms Ryan and her family on the recent loss of her mother.

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Ms Wyer and her husband on the safe arrival of their second daughter, Éabha, and to Mr O'Connor and his wife on the safe arrival of their second son, Austin. We also extend our congratulations to Carmel in the office on the safe arrival of her granddaughter, Naoise, in Australia.

### Sacramental Dates

Confirmation: Thursday, 5th March at 11:00 am

First Holy Communion: Saturday, 23rd May at 11:30 am

### Holidays

School closure for the Christmas break is on Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> December.

We will operate a staggered closure in order to keep every child safe and to manage the high volumes of traffic around the school. This is the plan:

11:35am All buses, Arc & Sonas

11:40am Jun Infants, 1st & 2nd Classes

11:45am Sen Infants, 3rd & 4th Classes

11:50am 5th & 6th Classes

We will re-open on Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup>.

