

# *Scoil Bhride Christmas 2021*



**Well done everybody on making it this far. An extremely trying time for everybody. As you can see the resilient and go get'em children have managed to stay on task and stay afloat. Well done to you all and to the wonderful and committed Staff here.**

**Please look after yourselves and remember that antigen tests are deemed most effective if one is asymptomatic.  
If you are symptomatic, please get a pcr test.**

**Please use Church grounds to park and walk to the school from there. Some of the drop offs seen recently are indeed traffic behaviours of concern.**

## Junior Infant News

Junior Infants have been working very hard the last few weeks. We have learned lots of new sounds and even read our first book, 'Look Out Teddy'. There was great excitement for our first Science Week in school. We did lots of different experiments and learned all about our senses. We made 'Dancing Raisins' using sparkling water and created 'Magic Milk' using milk, fairy liquid and food colouring. We are so excited for Christmas and have been super busy working at Santa's Workshop during Aistear. We wrote Christmas cards, painted beautiful pictures to hang in our classrooms, made reindeer rice krispie treats and wrapped presents for underneath the tree. We loved learning 'Away in a Manger' and



'Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer'. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from everyone in Junior Infants. 😊

## Senior Infant News

We have been having so much fun in Senior Infants the last few months. We went to the book fair and bought lots of interesting books to read. We had Science Week where we investigated how water moves and colour mixing through



our 'Walking Water' and 'Skittles Rainbow' experiments. We also had lots of fun with magnets. Ms Murray's class won the Junior Golden Boot award. We wore our Christmas Jumpers to school to raise money for children who are sick in hospital this Christmas. We are so excited for Christmas in Senior Infants and we have been getting ready by practicing our Christmas Nativity and making some melted snowmen!



## First Class News

The children in first class have been busy and have been working very hard this term. In November, our theme was "Houses and Homes". We had great fun learning about different types of houses and the materials that different types of houses are made from. We constructed lots of houses as part of some of our Science Week fun too.

During Science Week we also had great fun learning about static electricity using balloons. We couldn't believe our when our balloons stuck to the walls and doors like magic after we had charged them by rubbing them along our jumpers. We really enjoyed using the Bee Bots too to learn all about programming.

Our theme for December is "Winter and Christmas". We have been creating lots of beautiful artworks and learning some interesting information about Polar Animals. As part of our science work, we have been having fun learning all about freezing and melting. The children in Ms Dempsey's class got their hands dirty in bags of butter, learning all about how blubber keeps many polar animals warm.

Ms O'Sullivan's class have been enjoying some Gaelic football lessons with coach Kelly every Tuesday morning.

Ms Flatley's class were sad to say goodbye to their student teacher Ms Carpenter last week.

We are really looking forward to the Christmas holidays. Merry Christmas everyone 😊



eyes



## Ross and Maria's classes

We have had a very busy term here in the special classes. We have been learning all about Winter and Christmas. We have done lots of baking, visited the library and learned all about nursery rhymes for Nursery Rhyme week. We learned all about the importance of kindness on International Kindness day and discussed how to stay safe on the road for Road Safety week. We were scientists for science week learning all about Space, gravity, sound and living things (and so much more). We learned how sound is created and used a guitar to test our hypothesis. Christmas jumper day was a great success and to mark the occasion we put up the Christmas decorations in our shared area. We are really in the festive spirit now.





## 2<sup>nd</sup> Class News

We have had a very busy term. We really enjoyed Science Week. We did experiments called the 'Acrobatic Clown' and 'Moon Craters'. For the 'Acrobatic Clown' experiment we coloured and cut out a clown template. We stuck two 2c coins on his hands and we tried to balance the clown on our fingers. The 'Moon Craters' experiment was very messy. We poured flour and cocoa powder onto a tray. We dropped spheres of different sizes from different heights onto the mixture. The spheres made craters.



We also visited the Bookfair during the term. We picked lots of interesting books to read. Our favourite books are Dogman books and books written by Tom Gates and Roald Dahl.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> class news

3<sup>rd</sup> class have been very busy this term. We took part in some interesting experiments and activities for Science Week which we really enjoyed. We got to work with Beebots, make structures with marshmallows and spaghetti and conducted the 'Bouncy Egg' experiment. We have also been enjoying our GAA sessions with Kelly and have learned lots of new skills and games.

We have been working hard in the classroom too, learning about different topics including the Celts, New Zealand, and more recently, Christmas traditions from around the world.

All in 3<sup>rd</sup> class would like to wish everyone a happy and safe Christmas.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Class news

We are now settled into 4<sup>th</sup> Class, and we are working very hard. We are enjoying learning about fractions and division in Maths. It is difficult but we enjoy the challenge. We are doing lots of Comprehension cards in English and they are very interesting.

We are now wearing masks to school each day and Ms. Roche has said she is very impressed with how well we are dealing with the change. We really hope that our masks will help to stop the spread of Covid.

We sent away to the Tree Council, and they sent us two native Irish cherry trees. Mick kindly planted them for us in the school garden. We have not given them names yet. We are getting more trees soon and when we plant them and send a donation to Self Help Africa, they will plant some trees in Africa in the name of our school and they will send us a link so we will see on a map where they're planted. We also have some acorns which have sprouted and are ready to be planted in pots. We are planting trees to help to slow down climate change.

Some houses are being built behind the school and we watch the builders work every day from our window. They have knocked down trees and hedges and we want to try to replace some of those.

Ms. Farry's class have written their own version of the 12 days of Christmas. They really enjoyed doing it and it is very funny.

Ms. Christian's class are doing a Winter Wonderland tabletop competition. Their tables are spectacular!



## Bicentenary

This year represents 200 years of St. Brigid's Church, Kill. The children of Scoil Bhríde collaborated on creating a unique piece of art to commemorate the bicentenary. Each child produced their own individual piece. These individual pieces were then combined to create a St. Brigid's cross and background. Finally, a St. Brigid's cross created from wire was added to the finished piece. It is the aim of this artwork to represent each child's individuality and personal connection to the church while representing everyone in our parish and our connection to each other. The children's work is on display in the church and hopefully will be there for the next 200 years!



# Music

[Please find link to School Choir Singing Merry Christmas in a time of Covid -19](#) .....With thanks to Ms Moynihan and Mr Maguire and all the Happy singers.

## December 8th

A big thank you and well done to the children from 6<sup>th</sup> class and from 5<sup>th</sup> class who represented the school at mass on December 8<sup>th</sup>. You sang so majestically and made us so proud. Well done to the children who read at mass also.

## School Bands

We cannot wait to audition the children who sent us audition forms for our upcoming Scoil Bhríde Rock Band. We are lucky to have so many talented children in our school. We have discovered many who play traditional musical instruments and therefore, we are excited to announce that we will be setting up a Scoil Bhríde Traditional Music Band also in the New Year.

## Choir

It has been so wonderful to see our school choir meet on Wednesdays at lunchtime this term. Well done and thank you to our newest 4<sup>th</sup> class members. Your enthusiasm is infectious. Check out the school website for some Christmas cheer from our Scoil Bhríde choir. Looking forward to singing with you all in the New Year again. Ms Moynihan, Mr Maguire and Ms Collier

## 5<sup>th</sup> Class News

We have been very busy since October Midterm. We really enjoyed Science week and we learned so much. We loved making Balloon Cars, using the Beebots, experimenting with Knex and lots more. We did Writers Workshops where we learned about Report Writing. We have been learning lots through Maths and English stations.

We are working hard at our Maths. Long Division is new to us but we are flying at it now! We are learning about Fractions Decimals and Percentages too.

We have done great project work, History Projects and Science Projects. We learn so much from each other in school too.

We are very lucky to have Ms Allen working with us the last few weeks and helping us to look after our Wellbeing and we love doing relaxation classes with her.

We learned about Romania in honour of International Jersey Day. We loved being able to represent another country through our clothes.



We are having a great time preparing for Christmas. We have made lots of lovely Christmas Art. We really enjoyed Christmas jumper day. Everyone looked really festive. We can't wait to share who our Secret Santa's are! We are looking forward to some Christmas treats in school with our friends and our teachers like hot chocolate! We hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year!



## Green-Schools

We are very excited to share that the Green-Schools committee have adopted an Orangutang from the WWF. We held a school competition to name our Orangutan and the winning class was Mr. McGuire's class with the name Archie! A huge congratulations also to everyone who donated to The Team Hope Christmas Shoebox appeal. We collected 195 boxes this year. Thanks to Ms. Murray for organising the event.

Our International Jersey/ Country Colours Day was a great success in celebrating global citizenship and the different nationalities in our school. Mr. Carty's class were very lucky to have a zoom call with Conor Telfer (12) and his mam from Christchurch, New Zealand. He is in year 7 (final year of primary school) and is also Ms. Buckley's nephew. The class really enjoyed the experience and learnt so many interesting facts about Christchurch/ and New Zealand. Mr. Carty took the opportunity to remind Conor about

Ireland's win during the Autumn Nations Series which he wasn't too impressed by! 4<sup>th</sup> class also enjoyed learning about New Zealand and performed the Haka as Gaeilge. Scan the QR code below with your camera to watch the video. 6<sup>th</sup> class were learning about India and produced a collaborate mosaic display of the Taj Mahal. Ms. Jameson's class created a wonderful display of flags representing the different nationalities in our school. While Callum Jones proudly wore a Scottish kilt associated with his mother's family name. Well done everyone!

Mr. Kelly's 6<sup>th</sup> class have done an amazing job decorating our indoor secret garden windows for Christmas. 3<sup>rd</sup> class are currently doing a fantastic job on litter patrol. Unfortunately, they are very disappointed with the amount of rubbish being found in the bike rack area. We will be keeping a close eye on this area after Christmas.



## 6<sup>th</sup> class News

- 6<sup>th</sup> class have been very busy over the last number of months.
- We took part in Science Week and loved it! We focused on a number of themes including aerodynamics. We made foam rockets from a variety of materials and then launched and tested them on the yard.
- We have also been exploring the idea of starchy foods and we tested a variety of foods, using iodine, to see which contained starch and were carbohydrates and which were not.
- Furthermore, we studied World War One, looking at the main countries involved and how it started.
- We studied the Anglo-Irish Treaty signed 100 years ago on December 6<sup>th</sup> 1921 in Downing Street.
- For Nationalities Day we studied India and all 3 6<sup>th</sup> classes made a display based around the famous Indian monument, the Taj Mahal.
- Ms Allen has come into our classrooms every Monday and Tuesday where we talk about our feelings and how to work on different real-life scenarios. We also do meditation with her which is very relaxing and a nice break from all the hard work we do 😊
- Preparation is taking place for Christmas, and we are taking part in Secret Santa next week. We can't wait!!!





- Ms Holland's class learned about men's mental health and celebrated 'Movember' by 'growing' their own moustaches. Check out some pictures below.



- Meanwhile, Ms Jameson's class put together and decorated the Christmas tree in the reception area of the school and did a fabulous job of it.





- Mr Kelly's class have decorated the windows at the *Secret Garden*, across from the library, to help get everyone in the Christmas spirit. Well done to all the kids involved. A lot of effort on their part and it looks great! Take a look at some of the artists in action below along with the final product.





## Sports

We are unable to play team sports in school at the moment due to Covid government guidelines but it's great to see things going so well in the GAA club over the past number of months.

- Congratulations to U12 boys football team who the North Kildare Division 4 Shield final this season.
- Hard luck to the U12 boys Division 1 who got to the North Kildare Cup Final and performed really well but were in hard luck on the day.
- Hard luck to the U13 Camogie team who got to the Division 2 county final also but just missed out on the day.
- Well done to all the hurlers and camogie players who have started in the past term in the club in huge numbers. Hope to see you all go back in the new year. **New members welcome all the time!!!**
- Big congratulations to the U15 hurlers who won the Division 3 county final on December 1<sup>st</sup> in Hawkfield, which was made up of many past pupils and hurlers from Scoil Bhríde. Great to see their progress in skills throughout the years. Huge congratulation also go to the Kill Minor Men's Football Team who won the County Final on October 31<sup>st</sup>, which had lots of past pupils playing on the day too.





## Student Council News

The children on the Student Council have been very busy this term. Each day, two children from the Student Council record the best class at lining up on the yard. The best class at the end of the week gets a reward of their choice. Well done to last week's winners; Ms Flatley's class, Mr Carty's class, Ms Delmer's class, Ms Farry's class, Ms Murray's class and Mr Breen's class.

We also helped Ms Wright who organised a charity Christmas Jumper Day last Friday. We spent a lot of time planning fun activities for the day to add to the Christmas jumper fun. We made lots of posters and organised colouring and puzzle competitions. We held a competition to judge the most creative Christmas jumpers in each class. We also played a Christmas song over the intercom which was great fun. €2071 was raised for Children's Health Foundation Ireland and will go a long way to help the children in Crumlin and Temple Street hospitals as well as Connolly Urgent Care centre.



Here is a photograph of some of the winners of "The Most Creative Christmas Jumper" competition:

Please walk to school. If you are cycling, **wear a helmet.** If you are driving please do not idle your car's engine and remember we have 82 car parking spaces only ☹️ Research around schools in the U.K. have demonstrated decrease in air quality attributed to car engines running idle while in the school grounds. Our playgrounds are **NO IDLING ZONES !!**

Drop off and leave from the drop-off area in the carpark. Use the Church car park and develop healthy habits with your child. Please respect our neighbours and do not use Earl's Court or the laneway beside the school as parking area.

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Single use plastic: Just a reminder to remember to continue to use reusable drink bottles in school and **no single use plastic bottles!**

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**It is important to note that when the school is not open for pupils, it is out of bounds to the public. This means no access to the basketball court, All Weather Pitch or grounds in general. This applies to weekends and after school without specific permission of the Board of Management. It is trespassing to be on the premises without permission.**

Thanks to Ms. Moynihan, all the contributors and Paula for helping with this newsletter.

# Happy Christmas everybody 😊

Brendan Kelleher and Staff