

**Scoil San Treasa**

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## ***Nuachtlitir 4: 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021***

### ***An Nollaig***

There are many signs of Christmas in our school – the crib, Christmas tree and Advent Wreath in the foyer; various artistic creations including a range of cribs created by our pupils and a range of paintings, decorations and cards around the school. This year, instead of the annual Nativity plays, the children in Junior and Senior Infants learned a Christmas poem which they performed at the crib in the school foyer. A video recording of this has been shared on Seesaw with parents.

- ***Carols in the outdoor classroom***

The girls and boys in the 6th classes performed some well-known Christmas carols in the outdoor classroom for the Junior Infants and Senior Infants at Assembly time today. It was very uplifting to hear the lovely singing and well done to all involved!



- ***Novelty Week***

Of course, 'Virtual Novelty Week' earlier in the month deserves a special mention...with the boys and girls getting a head start on Christmas shopping and seasonal fun! The 6<sup>th</sup> class children and their teachers who worked so hard planning, organising and coordinating this year's 'Virtual Novelty Week' are to be commended for their input into this fundraiser for very worthy causes. The total monies raised was €6,300 approximately. The 6<sup>th</sup> class children will, with their teachers in January, decide on the charity recipients of these monies. (Details of recipients will be published in our next newsletter). Míle buíochas to all for your generous contributions to the various raffles and to all who helped to make this week such an enjoyable and worthwhile initiative.

## DLRCoCo – Recycled Christmas Decoration Competition

Well done to all of the pupils from 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> classes who took part in the DLRCoCo Recycled Christmas Decoration. The children made some very unique pieces by reducing, re-using and recycling ordinary household materials. The pupils pictured here were highly commended for their creativity.



## Parents Association

- Yet again this year, the Parents' Association put much work into planning and coordinating the Christmas card fundraiser. Míle buíochas.
- Over the past few days the children have really enjoyed viewing 'Red Riding Hood - The Helix Pantomime Online (Schools Edition)' which was available exclusively to schools to view on demand. It brought lots of seasonal fun and laughter into the classrooms. Thank you to the Parents Association who kindly offered to cover the cost of this event.
- New Basketball boards and hoops have been installed on the Plásóg.



Renewed thanks to all who have supported all these and other activities – your ongoing support and encouragement is greatly valued.

## Wellbeing, Health & Safety

- DES & HSE have recently launched a mental health support leaflet for children and young people. This leaflet raises awareness, signposts and provides details of several HSE funded national organisations that provide various mental health supports and services to children, young people and their families around the country. Details of these services and more are available [at this link](#).
- A message from the HSE regarding the flu vaccine for children from 2 to 12 years of age. Children aged 2 to 12 can now get the nasal flu vaccine for free. [Click the link to access the HSE leaflet](#)

## School Uniform

You are reminded that all pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform each day. It is important that all pupils have sufficient uniform items (regular uniform and tracksuit) to see them through the entire year. Please check this over the holidays and follow up on matters as needed. You are also reminded of the importance of checking that all items are correctly labelled so that lost property has a better chance of being reunited with its owner. The holiday period can also be a good time to do a 'tidy-up' of the school bag...minimising the risk of unnecessary items being carried around from day to day. Please assist your child with this – it also helps with their overall organisational skills.

## Important Dates

- **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January:** The school will be closed for pupils on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January as we have been advised that our Primary Language Curriculum professional development seminar is scheduled for this day (as per Department of Education and Skills arrangements).
- **Laethanta Saoire Na Nollag (Christmas Holidays):** Wednesday December 22<sup>nd</sup> – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

On Wednesday December 22<sup>nd</sup> the following collection times will apply:

- Junior and Senior Infants – Collection time @ 12:00 midday
- 1st – 6th Class – Collection time @ 12:10pm

*All collection points remain the same as normal.*

Over the past few days, the children have brought home some of their schoolbooks and copies, we do not want to cause any concern or worry and this is just a precaution. We are very hopeful that all schools will open on January 6<sup>th</sup> as planned. A deep clean of the school will take place over the Christmas holidays, and it will also be very helpful if there are as few books as possible on classroom surfaces.

As we begin to countdown towards the Christmas holidays, thank you to the entire school community, children, parents, Board of Management and the wonderful staff for your positive attitude, resilience and support over the past number of months. A special word of praise to all the boys and girls for their work in the course of the term and for their engagement with school life. It brings great joy to see the many happy faces bouncing in our school gates each morning.

As usual, pupils will be free to wear their own clothes tomorrow, on the day of the holidays. Please leave all accessories at home, making sure to wear something that is 'school appropriate' and also warm, safe and manageable for playtime in the yard.

Wishing you all a very peaceful and happy Christmas.

Nollaig Shona daoibh go léir

Le gach dea ghuí

Frances Mullin, Principal.

