



## **Christmas Newsletter 2016**

### **Christ the Saviour N.S.**



#### **Christmas Concert**

What a busy term this has been preparing for our Christmas concert! Each and every one of our 166 boys and girls did us proud last Tuesday and Wednesday when they took to the stage. Junior and Senior Infants got us in the Christmas mood singing a selection of Christmas songs. Boys and girls from 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> class then performed 'Matilda – The Musical'. Mr & Mrs Wormwood, Matilda, Miss Honey, Miss Trunchbull and Bruce Bogtrotter, to name but a few of the characters, all graced the stage and truly entertained us!

Thanks to all the teachers who prepared the boys and girls so well for the stage helping them to learn their songs and dance routines. Special thanks to Mrs Eibhlin Murphy for her wonderful musical accompaniment on the keyboard and also for co-ordinating the musical. Thanks to Sheila, our secretary for organising ticket sales. Thanks to Eddie Houlihan who did a great job as MC for both performances. Thanks to John Joe Carmody for ensuring the hall was set up. Thanks to Kevin Kennedy and Patricia Houlihan who acted as traffic wardens on Wednesday night to ensure the boys and girls crossed the road safely. Thanks to the Parents Council for organising the raffle and also to the very generous local businesses who sponsored raffle prizes. Finally, thanks to all the parents and relatives who came to support the concert in such large numbers.



**Lucy Kelly, Dylan Lenihan & Caoimhe Condrón from Senior Infants**

## **Christmas News from the Parents' Council**

Season's Greetings to all from the Parents' Council. Despite being only a few weeks since the Halloween newsletter we have been very busy leading up to the Christmas Concert. We approached over 25 local businesses seeking prizes and sponsorship for the two raffles which were held during both performances of the Christmas concert. The response has been overwhelming and the quantity and quality of the spot prizes is second to none. On behalf of the Parent's Council we wish to express our gratitude for the sponsors' generosity and the support all of you gave by purchasing raffle tickets.

**Sincere thanks to our sponsors:**

**O Grady's Spar  
Aidan Quaid Furniture  
Askeaton Leisure Centre  
Ballingarry AFC  
Ballingarry Boarding Kennels  
Ballykennedy Montessori  
Condron's Bar  
Cornstore Restaurant  
Dave O' Hanlon Bespoke furniture  
Dinny A's bar  
Feenagh Oil  
Fry Macs  
Granagh/Ballingarry Camogie Club  
Hugh Shanahan  
James O' Connor Furniture  
Keating Buses  
Livewire electrical  
Mullanes Garage  
Mustard Seed Restaurant  
O Riordan's Pharmacy  
Rathkeale Credit Union  
Reva's Spa  
Ryland's Medical Centre  
Snow's Shop  
Top Parts Motor Factors  
Trainor's Bar  
True Colours Salon  
Woodland's Leisure Centre**

**We are planning more fund raising events for the New Year so please keep an eye out for fliers and posters!**

**Happy Christmas and all the very best for 2017!**

## **Congratulations to Mrs O'Neill**



**Congratulations to Mrs O'Neill and her husband Shane on the birth of their beautiful baby girl Béibhinn Nollaig O'Neill on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November. We hope Béibhinn is settling in at home and will enjoy her first Christmas with her big brother and sister!**

**Thank You!!**



**Here's our Board Of Management Chairperson, Kevin Kennedy, and Ms. Murphy's father-in-law, Joe Murphy, busy working on our school's new sensory garden. A big thank you to both men for their hard work! Both teachers and pupils really appreciate it!**

## Diocesan Visit

Sr Rose Miriam and Fr Seán Harmon visited us on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November as part of their annual Diocesan Inspection. Sr Rose is a Dominican Sister from Nashville, USA who has come to work in the Diocese of Limerick. She visited Junior Infants, Senior Infants and 1<sup>st</sup> class and they told her their prayers and stories from the Grow in Love religion programme. Fr Seán visited 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> class, 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> class and 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> class. They were both very impressed by the pupils in Christ the Saviour NS.

## December 8<sup>th</sup> – Prayer Service to honour The Feast of the Immaculate Conception

On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> of December, we held a special prayer service in the Community Hall to honour Holy Mary and The Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Special thanks to Fr Lane for leading the prayer service. He got lots of help from the boys and girls – Mary Noonan was the Angel Gabriel and Aoibhlinn Looney was Holy Mary. Niall Sheahan, Abbie Clancy, Emily O’Flynn and Nessa Markham did a great job doing the readings and reflections. Various symbols to honour Holy Mary were brought to the altar by Ayesha Jones, Ciara Insley, Chloe O’Keeffe, Ava Morrissey, Adam Picard, Aoife O’Sullivan and Stephen Grimes. This prayer service helped us to reflect on the season of Advent and prepare for Christmas in a meaningful way.







***Helping to get us in  
the Christmas  
Mood!***

*Lily O'Connor from  
3<sup>rd</sup> class wrote a  
lovely Christmas  
concert poem. Well  
done Lily!!*

## Biodiversity Update from 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> class Bird Feeders

As part of our Green Schools Biodiversity programme we have recently set up some bird feeders. The steel posts were kindly made by our chairman Kevin Kennedy. The children in Mrs. Murphy's 2nd and 3rd class put the feeders in place on Monday 21st November, just in time for the cold snap of weather. We hope to encourage a variety of wild birds to our school yard. The posts have been erected outside classroom windows and will act as bird observatory areas.

The children in 2nd and 3rd class have been thoroughly enjoying our new bird observatory in our classroom. We have seen many birds since the feeders were put in place. We have discovered that the little Blue Tit birds love to eat peanuts, the House sparrow and Blackcaps love the fat ball feed and the Robins have been eating the wild bird seed. Of course some very cheeky crows and Jackdaws have been doing their best to eat here too!

This is a great website to learn more about Irish birds. Click on this link [www.askaboutireland.ie](http://www.askaboutireland.ie) to bring you directly to the website.



## Christmas News from Junior Infants

### Junior Infants Christmas Story

During November and December Junior Infants were learning all about Narrative Writing. We know that every story has a title, characters, setting, problem and ending. We decided to write our own Christmas story. We made a plan first and then every child in the class got a turn to add to the story. Our names are at the end of our part of the narrative. We hope you enjoy our story!

### Christmas Day

Once upon a time there was a girl named Ella. (Ms Tangney)  
She was getting ready for Christmas. (Aibhlinn)  
She decorated the tree. (Adam)  
That night she went to sleep. (Conor H)  
Santa came to visit to give her a present. (Emily)  
Santa fell down the chimney. (Eveline)  
Santa hurt his head. (Gerard)  
Ella woke up. (Diarmaid)  
She saw Santa. (Lucy)  
She was really frightened. (Anna O G)  
Ella felt shocked. (Keelin)  
Ella put a plaster on Santa's head. (Conor G)  
She gave him an ice pack. (Doireann)  
Santa said "Thanks" and ate some pudding. (Lillyanne)  
Santa gave Ella her present. (Seán)  
It was a carpark. (Donagh)  
Ella was happy. (Erin)  
Santa took her on the sleigh to deliver the presents. (Anna R)  
Ella met the elves and the reindeer. (Nicole)  
When they were finished Santa dropped her home again. (Ethan)  
Santa said "Ho, ho, ho! Merry Christmas!" (Ryan)  
He flew back to the North Pole. (Cian)  
Ella went back to bed. (Emily Jane)  
It was the best Christmas!

## Junior Infant Cribs

We are learning all about the story of Christmas using our *Grow In Love* religion programme. We know that Christmas is a time when we celebrate the birth of baby Jesus. Here are the cribs we made out of paper, wood, glue and colours. We took them home this week to decorate our house.



**Adam, Donagh, Eveline & Aoibhlinn show us their beautiful cribs!**



## Gaeilge in Senior Infants

Boys and girls in Senior Infants love learning Gaeilge. We learn lots of songs and rhymes on the Interactive Whiteboard using our Gaeilge programme 'Bua na Cainte'. We have been learning about Daidí na Nollag:

'Tháinig Daidí na Nollag

Ní fhaca mise é

Fuair mé a lán bréagáin

Hip-hip-huré!!'



Tá Aoife, Liam agus Muireann ag obair go dian.

### A Special Advent Calendar in 1<sup>st</sup> class

First class took part in a special advent calendar this year. They made an Acts of Kindness advent calendar in the run up to Christmas. Each day they took part in acts of kindness; writing kind notes, doing jobs around the house, cleaning their room etc.



1<sup>st</sup> class are all excited and ready to perform their song 'When I Grow Up' in the Christmas Concert 'Matilda'.



## Science News from 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> class



All classes in Christ the Saviour N.S. celebrated Science week from the 13<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> of November. The children in 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> class had lots of fun that week carrying out a few different experiments. Here is a picture of the children carrying out the 'Dancing Raisins' experiment.

We have also been working hard preparing for the Christmas Concert 'Matilda' and practicing our song 'Big Kids'. We hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas. Nollaig Shona daoibh go léir!





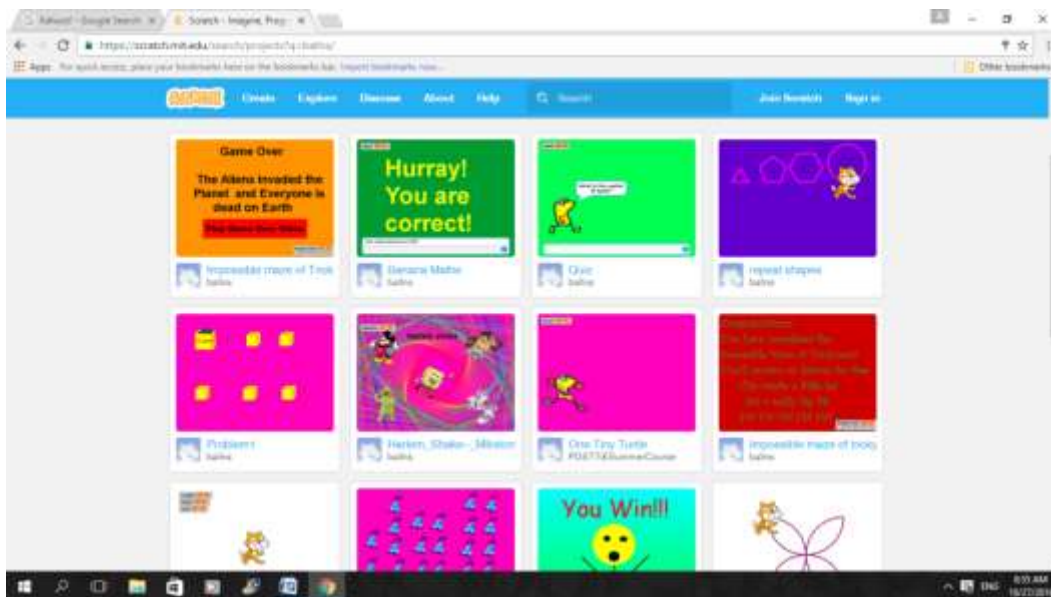
## Computer News from 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> class

### Kahoot



5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class are using digital quizzes to practise spelling and tables. The quizzes are called Kahoot. It is great fun using iPad games to learn!

### Scratch Coding



5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> are learning to code. We programme sprites or characters and create animations and games. We can share code online in a safe environment. Check out our projects at <https://scratch.mit.edu/search/projects?q=balls/>





*This little message is for all the excited boys and girls waiting patiently for Santa and also for their equally excited teachers!*

*We're getting holidays on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>. Hurray!! The teachers all report that the boys and girls have worked so hard this term and have been on their best behaviour!!*

*Enjoy every minute of the holidays with family and friends.*



**The Board of Management and staff would like to thank parents and pupils for their support all year and would like to take this opportunity to wish all families in the school a happy Christmas and a prosperous 2017.  
School reopens on Monday January 9<sup>th</sup> 2017.**

