

Enrolment Mass

On Wednesday the 8th of October, second, fifth and sixth class had an enrolment mass for their communion and confirmation. We rehearsed well and practiced every day. Olivia Lynch, Tadgh Daly, Sinead MacSweeney, Leah Sheehan, Ella Falvey, Kevin O'Regan, Ciaran Looney and Kevin Beechinor brought up the gifts. The prayers of the faithful were read by Molly McCarthy, Don-

nacha
Oisin
and Ben

Niall
read the
The
sung by,
han,
han,
Eabha Sheehan and Clodagh O'Connor. When it came to the night



O' Riordan,
McLoughlin
Cassidy.

Sheehan
readings.
psalm was
Indie Shee-
Isobel Shee-
Orla Beechinor.

everyone was well prepared and ready. Everyone did everything perfectly. All the readings and the psalm were read and sung brilliantly and everybody played their part well.

We would like to thank Fr O'hici, our teachers, Ms Dunlea and Ms O'Connell and our parents for helping us prepare for it and making it a wonderful mass.

Sciath Na Scol Football 2014

Our campaign started off well against Tirelton and we beat them well. We also played games against Kilbonane, Cul Aodha which we won by a narrow margin of three points. We won all our matches which meant we got straight to the final. After that we trained hard every Tuesday from 2-3. Soon we had a midterm break. The midterm flew past and we were ready for road. For the next few days we rested up for the Sciath na Scol final. When the day came we all came to school and started to make posters with our class for the supporters to use. Soon we were in

Páirc Uí Rinn ready to play Cul Aodha, Jack Sheehan opened the match with a point for Farran. This was followed by a lot more from both teams. Just before half time Adam Power scored a goal to put Farran in the lead by 1 point. In the second half despite the amazing efforts by Kevin Cooper, Sinead Mac Sweeney and Isobel Sheehan, Cul Aodha scored 3 goals. They nearly scored four but Isobel did what she could to make sure that would n't happen. The match was a really close one and if we didn't have Cathal Sheehan, our keeper, making a few good saves we

would have lost by a lot more. Our team played well with Jack Sheehan, Oisín O'Shea, Adam Power, David Casey and Rebecca Sheehan all playing their parts. Farran scored 1:7 but Cul Aodha had played their hearts out scoring 3:2 and winning by just a point. We would like to thank Ms Murphy and Paddy O'Sullivan for all their help in getting us to another Sciath Na Scol final.



Visitors to our school

Since October 6th our school has two very important visitors. It started off with a knock on the door from a local fire fighter named Abraham Farr. Abraham came to talk to 3rd and 4th about fire safety. He gave them great advice and tips on how best to prevent fires. And did you know there are 21 fire stations in Cork but only two are full time? 3rd and 4th class learned so much from him. Just before he left he gave each pupil an activity fire pack and pencil and just to top it all off he gave Mr. Lehan six smoke

alarms to give to six lucky pupils which he will raffle off later this year.

The week after Abraham Farr came 5th and 6th class had



a visit from Frances, a scientist from Blackrock castle Observatory. She came to us for *math*

and science week. She came to show us how to make..... our very own foldable solar system! She showed us all the different planets and all their places. She also gave us funny tips for finding planets. Once we finished making our masterpieces we went outside to make our very own human solar system. We were very pleased with all the fun, learning and information we got from Frances.

We really enjoyed our visits and can't wait for them to visit us again in the future!!!

Hello Fearann



Carol Service

Christmas 2014

This year's school play (like every other) was a great success. We were practicing for a long time preparing for the big day.



Finally the 9th of December came. We were all ready to put on a show for the parish.

Kate Healy opened the show with a lovely opening speech. She was followed by **Clodagh O'Connor** who started the choir off by singing *Adeste Fideles*. The choir joined in with the song they walked down the aisle and then we began the carol service. There were some beautiful solos sung by Orla, Indie and Eabha. Rebecca read a solo and Billy Sheehan introduced all the readings and poems. First came the Annunciation, which was a beautiful reading and was followed by many more which told the story of the first Christmas.

The infants and some of the children from Nead na Coille sang two lovely songs. These two beautiful hymns were followed by the reading of the Journey to Bethlehem and Mary (Caoimhe) and Joseph (Eoghan Hogan) walking down the aisle with their little donkey. We also had the Three Kings following the star and the little drummer boy coming to the stable. Children from all classes recited

poems in English and in Irish and a group of children played their tin whistles. Finally when all the pupils were on the altar Kevin Cooper said goodnight to everyone and we all sang "Silent Night".

We really enjoyed the Christmas concert and we had learned so many Christmas carols that when we were invited to sing for the residents in Ardsley Nursing Home we thought it would be nice to go and sing them again on the day before the Christmas holidays. So on the 18th of December the children from third to sixth class put on their Santa hats and headed off walking to the nursing home. When we got there we sang some Christmas carols for everyone in Ardsley and we think they really enjoyed it as much as we did.



Volume 6 Issue

Special points of interest:

- ✓ **School will reopen again on Monday January 5th 2015.**
- ✓ **The pupils will participate in the mass of the Epiphany on January 6th 2015 at 9.30.**
- ✓ **Swimming lessons for pupils from 3rd and 4th class will start on Thursday January 8th 2015.**
- ✓ **The building is progressing well and we hope to have the front section completed shortly. We will then be able to use this much needed space.**

Principal's Note

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the staff and myself to thank you all for your support during this term and to wish all families a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.





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Ní neart go cur le
chéile.



Hi,

Our names are David McSweeney, Indie Sheehan and Kevin Cooper. We are the Christmas editors. We have not had a newsletter for a while as we were changing our printer in school so we decided to do a bumper edition for Christmas which tells you all about the things we have been doing for the past few months.

We hope you like this month's newsletter.

Nollaig shona duit!

David, Indie, Kevin.



P.S. Don't forget to look at our
blog on the school website.

Bain triail as sa bhaile

Nollaig Shona.

Set Dancing



When we came back after Halloween Larry Creed, a set dancer, came to help us with set

dancing for Scór na bPáistí. For the first week he took 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th together and taught us how to do our 1,2,3 s. Then the next Friday 3rd and 4th class went from 1-2 and 5th and 6th went from 2-3 we learnt how to do the polka to the music. Every boy and girl paired together and was put in a set of four pairs. After that everyone went home practicing so they would be in with a bet-

ter of getting into the Scór na bPáistí set dancing team. The next Friday down in Farran Hall 3rd and 4th went in the first slot and 5th and 6th took the second slot with Larry. This week every one danced the polka perfectly so he told us to practice even more and if we were good enough we could move on to the *ladies chain*. We were all really excited to learn more than the just polka. So this time everyone practiced and practiced until they could practice no more. The next Friday everyone came ready to learn the ladies chain. It was hard to learn the new type of 3s but we managed ok. The next week we showed Larry our dancing but he taught us another

step. By the end of the 7 weeks of dancing we were able to dance a full set. He then picked out 10 people from 3rd and 4th and another 10 people from 5th and 6th class and spent the last half an hour dancing with this group of 20 dancers. Before he finished we gave him a card signed by everyone from 3rd to 6th. We would like to thank Larry Creed for his dancing lessons which he gave to us free of charge it was really enjoyable and we hope he comes again!!!



I To I Project

This is the second year that the children in 3rd and 4th class have pen pals from Goa in India !!!!

Since last year pupils in our school have had pen pals from Regina Mundi High School in Goa India. The 3rd and 4th class said that the children in Goa have brilliant handwriting and every letter was designed with beautiful drawings and colours. Every girl got a girl and every boy got a boy. This year, unlike last year, the children in 3rd and 4th got children the same age as they are. Their

pen pals are also all in 5th grade.

This year they also found out a lot more about Indians. For example they are not Christian so they don't believe in Santa or pray to Jesus and God instead they pray to animals like the cow.

The children from India sent their first letters some time in October just before their summer holidays (they get their holidays in November because that's when its summer over there) and the children in 3rd and 4th sent their replies in November and now they are looking forward to their next reply.



The 3rd and 4th like having a pen pal from a different country for lots of different reasons.

They like reading the letters to find out how life is in India and to find out what games the children like to play and their hobbies. They also liked writing to them and letting them find out what life is like in Ireland and telling their pen pals about themselves .

We hope that they stay in touch with their pen pals and that their pen pals keep in touch with themselves.

Christmas Around The World

Its that time of year again when hundreds of people pop to the shops ,when people look for their presents under the tree, when decorations are hung and Santa visits every chimney in the world!!! It is also the time of year when we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Read on to find out about Christmas traditions around the world...

In Portugal children wait for Santa to put their presents under the tree. Unlike us they eat their traditional Christmas dinner on Christmas Eve. Their dinner is made up of cod with green vegetables and boiled potatoes and they finish it off with expensive meat and other expensive food. Then the families go to mass and when they return, the children race in and check to see if the baby Jesus has magically appeared **in the crib, if Jesus is n't there** There will be no presents!!

Next I'll tell you what Christmas would be like if you lived in in Belgium. In that country someone like Santa Claus comes but his name is Zwarte Piet. Zwarte Piet gives children presents but he also has a naughty or nice list and **if you've been bad he'll take** you to Spain. They also leave out carrots and cakes, the **carrots for Zwarte Piet's horse** and the cakes are left out for Zwarte Piet!!!

In Australia for Christmas, like Ireland, **you'd get up** early on Christmas morning and see if Santa has been and you exchange gifts and open presents. Afterwards, unlike Ireland , you would have a barbeque on the beach. Australians also have a few bottles of beer while relaxing and enjoying the sun and the



water while sitting on the sand.

Next we'll come back home to Ireland and we'll read about Christmas here. In Ireland Christmas is a really big event where everybody celebrates the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Families buy Christmas trees and decorations around the 8th of December and hang Christmas stockings over the fire. Chocolate Advent Calendars are also very popular with Irish children to help them count the sleeps till Christmas. This calendar begins on the 1st of December. When Christmas Eve comes, some families go to mass and children go to sleep early. Then when Christmas Day dawns, children search under the Christmas tree for presents and families exchange gifts with each other, before having a big Christmas dinner. Nollaig Shona daoibh go léir.