



## Term 2

Reopening **Monday 8th of January 2024 at 9:00 am**

Public holiday **Monday 5th February (Saint Bridget Day)**

February midterm **Thursday 15th / Friday 16th of February**

School closed **Monday 18th March**

Easter holidays school closes **Friday 22nd of March at 12:15 pm**

## Term 3

Reopening **Monday 8th of April 2024 at 9:00 am**

School Closure **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May –Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May (Bank holiday/ School closures)**

Reopening **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 9:00am**

Bank holiday **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

Summer holidays school closes **Friday 28th June at 12:15 pm**



Scoil N An Chroí Ró Naofa

# News @ School

December 2023

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### Christmas Arrangements

The school will close for Christmas holidays on Friday 22nd of December, at 12.00 midday. and will reopen on Monday 8th January 2024. On behalf of everybody who works in the school I would like to wish every family a happy and peaceful Christmas.

### Board of Management

We have a new Board of Management which started on the 1st of December 2023. Thank you to all members of the previous board who gave so freely of their time with the running of the school .The new board of management members are Caitriona McLoughlin (Chairperson), Fr Fintan O'Driscoll, Jennifer Curley Rush, Cllr. Charlie O'Connor, Alan Gallagher, Catherine Byrne and Gerry Diver The BOM would like to wish all our staff, parents, wider school community and especially our pupils a very merry Christmas. We hope you have a happy and peaceful holiday and thank you for the continued support given to the school.

### School Plan

Our school plan is up and running and is a daily part of teaching and learning across the school. In literacy every class in the school are doing daily oral language lessons using the rainbow Oral Language programme and 3rd and 4th are using a specific handwriting programme. In Numeracy the children are using a new resource for problem solving called Izak9 and are also using numeracy boards daily within lessons to share different strategies. As part of our school action plan 2023-26, we have a new Attendance Strategy up and running. Children have been 'striving for five' each week and we discuss & reward good attendance at class level and at assembly. So far this year our whole school attendance is 88.4% which is an increase from last year when it was 86%. Well done everyone !

To help keep families informed: text messages are automatically sent at 5 and 10 days absent; letters are sent out at 15 and 20 days. Please ensure a reason is provided for all absences e.g. a message on Class Dojo, send in a note or phone the school. Remember: Every School Day Counts! Our school website has a small video on it with further explanations of our targets in other areas of our school plan. The link to the video is below

[Sacred Heart Senior National School - Our School Plan \(sacredheartsns.net\)](https://www.sacredheartsns.net)

*Nollag Shona dhaoibh agus Athbhliain faoi shéan is faoi mhaise dhaoibh!*

Le Meas

G Diver



## Christmas Service and Nativity

Our Christmas service took place in the church on Tuesday 19th December. 3rd class performed the nativity and all classes joined with them in singing a selection of Christmas Carols. It was great to see so many of the school community in attendance. Thank you to all the children, staff and Fr Fintan for making this a very special Christmas service for everyone to enjoy.



## Green Schools Committee

The Green School Committee have been working very hard this term. They monitor and empty the recycling bins every day and are always very polite and helpful when they are on the corridors. Thank you to all of our members in 3rd (Mia O' Neill Cole, Bobby Kelly, Killian Hoban Byrne, Ava Fitzpatrick, Jaymie Maxwell and Novah Mulhall), 4th (Hollie Reid, Aoibhe Seery, Carl McDonald, Taylor Cole, Jack Sherin Prior, Maisha Coade), 5th (Abigail Osasere Osaghae, Cole Murphy, Saoirse, Amelia) and 6th (Abbie Gallagher, Michael Cleary, Maxim Danu, Lydia Casey, Zac Liegho, Caiden Reece). Keep up the great work!

## Student Council

Our Student Council for this year is up and running. Elected to the Student Council are Lauren, Lexi and Karli in 3<sup>rd</sup> class, Carson, Kya and Amber in 4<sup>th</sup> class, Caoilainn and Poppy in 5<sup>th</sup> class and Jake, Phoenix and Calem in 6<sup>th</sup> class. We have been meeting to discuss what we can improve in our school and have lots of ideas so far. We are holding a Christmas competition for each class and we even carried out surveys with pupils and staff to find out what our favourite PE activities are. Looking forward to helping make our school even better for the rest of the year.

## Christmas Progress Reports

The Christmas Progress Reports were uploaded by class teachers to pupils' class dojo accounts. On the progress report parents/guardians are encouraged to look at their child's e portfolio and celebrate the great work they do in school. The report itself is brief in nature and gives the opportunity for a snap shot of teaching and learning. A more detailed report is provided to parents in end of year reports and parent / teacher meetings in February



## Sports News

This year we started our sporting season with GAA. We had a boys and a girls team. We played some great matches, had some nice scores and represented our school proudly. Well done to all the children who took part in training and matches. Keep it up. I want to thank Mr. Finnerty, Mr. MacLiam and Mr. O'Meara who helped out. The children learned a lot, so Thank You.



This year we started our basketball season in October. We had a boys team and a girls team. Many children play basketball on yard and during the school day, so they had plenty of practice. We played some away matches and had a match at home. There was a great atmosphere in our school hall. Well done to all the children involved. Also I want to thank Ms. Quinn, Ms. Mullens and Ms. Hoolahan who helped out also. Thank you Ms. Maye



### Marathon Kids-Trip to Santry

After doing between 600 and 800m four days a week, in all sorts of weather, for a month or more, the children were extremely excited for our trip to the National Athletics Stadium in Santry, to run the last mile of our marathon with Irish Olympian, David Gillick. David has visited our school numerous times, in his role as the Marathon Kids Ambassador and always has great time for our children. From first thing in the morning, on the 14th, we prepared for our trip. We got kitted out in our Marathon Kids t-shirts and loaded onto the buses. Upon our arrival, the place was abuzz with all the activity and the other schools present. We waited patiently for our slot and eventually we were ushered to the starting line. All the children ran the final mile brilliantly and should be very proud of themselves. We refreshed ourselves afterwards and returned to school on a high from what was a lovely experience. We will continue on our fitness journey by doing our Olympic Movement Breaks with Irish Olympians on [www.dare2believe.ie](http://www.dare2believe.ie) in class. These can also be done by the children with their guardians at home. Don't be afraid to give it a go and post it onto your Class Dojo! ☐☐



### Afterschool Clubs and trips

The after-school drama group with Miss Fox and Miss Dalton has been a great success so far. A group of children from third and fourth class have been learning new things and most importantly, having fun. For Halloween, they performed the time war for the school, which was a great success. For Christmas the children performed their Christmas play 'the Santa interviews', which they performed for their year groups. Well done to all involved! Third class went on a trip to the cinema to watch an Elf. The children were so excited when they found out about their trip to go and see elf in the square. We packed our bags put on our high vis vests and Joanne from Dublin bus drove us to the cinema. We had the whole screen to ourselves and got to relax in couches and recliners. We had a great afternoon and it was so fun to all be there together.

Also this term we have started our positive behaviour trips in partnership with Joanne from Dublin Bus. A number of children were brought to Marley Park in November, this was a great success and we're looking forward to arranging more trips in the new year



### Home School (HSCL)

It's been a busy and productive time in HSCL!

We've had an eight week Wellness Programme for parents facilitated by Hillary in our Parent's Room.

We had a group of parents in to help us with some gardening in our school garden to start off the new school year.

Christmas Crafts with the children was a great success across the grades. It's always a lovely activity for parents/guardians to come into the school to work with the children. We also had parents in the school for a session of Christmas Crafts on the 5th of December and another small group attended our Christmas Cupcake Decorating class.

During the term the children designed some beautiful Christmas cards which will take pride of place in many homes this year. Thanks to all who got involved. The school made almost 500 euro which our Student Council will allocate towards a project/activity of their choice.

We look forward to more parent's activities, Maths For Fun, Lego activities, First Aid training and parent's trips in the new year.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

Karen HSCL



### Reading

Ignite the magic of a great book over your Christmas break! ☐ Escape into enchanting worlds, embark on incredible adventures, and let your imagination soar. Cosy up with a good story and unwrap the gift of reading. We would encourage children to bring home a book and give the screens a break. Remember children of all ages love being read to.

Happy Reading and Happy Christmas!

### Sambanarden and Carol Singing

Last week Sambanarden took to the stage in Terminal 2 in Dublin Airport and put on an excellent show! All of our school community are so proud of you! A group of children also went to the Square to sing a number of Christmas Carols this week. The atmosphere created by the beautiful singing put all the shoppers in real festive cheer. Well done everyone and thanks to Ms Dalton and Ms Cahill for leading the way.



### Killinarden CLIC.

Every Wednesday after school for an hour we play chess and lego in a 5<sup>th</sup> class room. Children who know how to play chess show the children who don't know how to play. It is hard to remember all the moves but it gets easier the more you play. We can play chess online with other children in different schools too. Some children only like to play with the lego. We have two huge lego boxes with lego that people in the community donated to our school. We make houses, new bedroom layouts, swinging dinosaurs and prisons. It's great fun. Ms Jenkins is the BEST teacher in the whole school!



### Creative Schools News

#### Civic Theatre Visit

In a delightful outing that sparked imagination and joy, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class students headed to the Civic Theatre to enjoy the pantomime. Laughter echoed through the auditorium as students soaked up the wonderful show.

#### 5th Class Initiates Collaborative Project with Civic Theatre and Solo Sirens

Stepping into the realm of creativity, 5<sup>th</sup> class have been working with Michelle from the Civic Theatre and the acclaimed group, Solo Sirens. The fusion of student enthusiasm and professional guidance promises an artistic venture that transcends traditional boundaries. Stay tuned for updates on this exciting endeavor.

#### Ceramics Unveiling by Artist Christine Adds a Touch of Artistry

Amidst the chill of the season, Creative Schools' ceramic artist, Christine, has commenced the installation of art structures adorned with intricate tiles. While the cold weather temporarily halts the finishing touches, anticipation builds for the unveiling of these unique creations. Christine's expertise promises to infuse the school environment with a blend of creativity and craftsmanship.

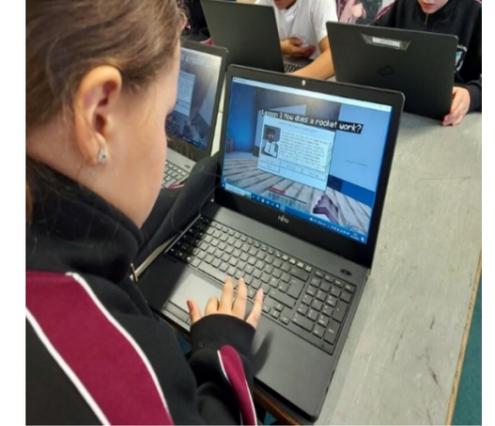
#### Exciting Prospects for 6th Class in the Creative Schools Pipeline

As the school year progresses, Creative Schools is gearing up for more enriching experiences for 6th-class students. Details remain under wraps, but whispers of upcoming events and projects suggest that the creative journey is far from over.

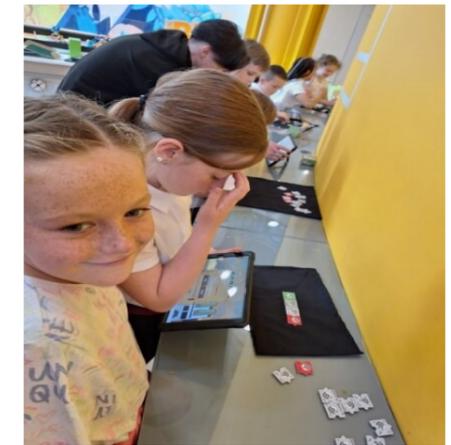


### STEM Update

We have been very busy this term taking part in all sorts of STEM (Science, Technology Engineering and Maths) related activities. During Maths Week many classes Zoomed in for Mega Math Quizzes online with schools from all over the country and carried out lots of Maths related investigations. Ms.Domican's 4th class calculated the distance of the planets from the sun and used Minecraft to send a mission to Mars!



Ms.Murphy's 3<sup>rd</sup> class had a great time on their Creative Coding Trip to Think Big Space.



Finally the whole school has been very involved in 'Mathletics' this term (<https://login.mathletics.com/>) and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the children for their hard work and their parents/guardians in supporting your childrens' learning. If you need your child's username and password please do not hesitate to ask your child's teacher.

