



Scoil Mhuire

Newsletter – Christmas 2021

Make sure to have a look at the [school website](#) at all the wonderful Christmas performances and art work done by the classes.

Finishing times: 22nd December

12.05pm	Bus for rooms 3 and 4
12:15pm	Junior and Senior Infants
12:20pm	1 st Class and 2 nd Classes
12:25pm	3 rd Classes and 4 th Class
12:30pm	5 th and 6 th Classes



Intel Mini Scientist Competition

Ms. Flynn's 5th class took part in the 'Mini Scientist' competition held by Intel. Each child researched and investigated a different topic and in the end there were 23 outstanding projects which were showcased in the school hall on the 4th of November. Cows, electricity, genealogy, blood and adrenaline are just a selection of the fantastic topics investigated. Samanvitha was the overall winner with her project 'The Human Eye.'



Science Week



Many classes in the school took part in different activities to mark Science Week in November. Ms. Milner's class created 'The Water Cycle' in their pods using recyclable material. Ms. McBrearty's class attended a Reptile Superpower workshop (via zoom) with the National Reptile Zoo. The class were really excited to see a snake, legless lizard, gecko, fire salamander and tarantula up close. Ms. Cleary's class joined a zoom workshop which was run by Leixlip Library called 'Imagination Exploration.' Ms. O'Dea's class did many experiments including making butter, taste buds tests and even a competition to see who could put the most amount of pencils through a plastic bag filled with water without it leaking!

Student Council

The Student Council have been busy providing equipment for students on the yard. They organise boxes of equipment for the Junior classes and set up the Table Tennis and Connect 4 for the Senior classes. Each class gets a week to enjoy the equipment, before it is rotated to another class. The Student Council also organised the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 17th December. They have so far raised €575.

Active Schools Flag

We have been doing really well working towards our first Active Flag. The committee is made up of 10 sixth class students. Our school is really active at playtime. Every class participated in the Active Schools Busy Break, where everyone was active for 10 minutes everyday (dancing, yoga, running laps, outdoor games). The school also had a great day on Friday 17th December for Christmas Active Day!



Green Schools

The new Green Schools Committee was formed. The new members include Jamie, Freya and Grace from 5th class and Charandeep, Lewis, Rachel, Alex and Nelly from 6th class. For the last few weeks the whole school has been trying to cut down on excess waste in their lunchboxes. After Christmas we hope this will continue. First and fourth classes have begun lessons for the Sea Keepers Project by learning all about Basking Sharks.



Picker Pals

Ms. McBrearty's first class are taking part in the 'Picker Pals' environmental programme. Taking it in turns, children take home the Picker Pack each week and lead their family on a litter-picking adventure. Our first five 'Picker Pals' have done a wonderful job, picking up rubbish on beaches, in parks, outside shops and in local estates.

Ms. O'Mara's class enjoyed a walk to the Wonderful Barn and tour inside with Mr. Brennan from the Board of Management. The tour was kindly given by Mr. McCarthy. The class also completed projects on The Renaissance. They really enjoyed GAA coaching for 4 weeks with Coach Ciarán.



After reading an extract from 'The Silver Sword' in English, **Ms. Milner's** class completed a project on World War II. They also created a beautiful Christmas window display of Santa, snowmen, penguins, a Christmas tree and a mountain landscape. They have been busy learning some sign language for the song 'Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer.'

Ms. Flynn's have been working very hard in the run up to Christmas. Besides learning all about fractions, decimals and An Aimsir Chaite, they wrote their own version of 'Twas the night before Christmas and completed numerous artistic masterpieces. Pat Courtney from Anti Bullying Services gave an Anti Bullying Workshop to 5th and 6th classes on Tuesday December 14th.

Ms. O'Dea's class hosted their own toy show! Each child uploaded a video to Seesaw showcasing their favourite toy. Then they watched them together as a class. They have also been busy studying Italy as part of SESE. They even began a pen pal program with children in a school in Verona, Italy. They are really looking forward to sending and receiving their postcards with their pen pals.



Ms. de Barra's and **Ms. Kelly's** classes created some wonderful space dioramas and presented them so well to their classmates. They learned all about Advent and of its importance to the holy season of Christmas. The class made some beautiful Advent wreaths and an Advent calendar, which they have displayed around the classroom and windows. Creating fraction Christmas trees came easily to the children as they learned so much about fractions in November. This month they have been busy especially with cursive handwriting and creating Christmas artwork and poetry for all to enjoy on the web page!

Ms. McCormack's class made Christmas stars from clay and painted them gold. They performed the poem 'The First Christmas' by Marian Swinger to a video of their artwork which was inspired by the lines of the poem. They really enjoyed learning their lines for the drama 'Rudolph an Réinfhia,' which they dressed up for and recorded. You will even see their paintings of Rudolph in the background of their drama!

Ms. Haughney's have been learning all about Storm Ophelia. They have welcomed the class elf, Coco Bells, back and look forward to seeing what he gets up to every day. They made Christmas decorations with clay. They have been writing different recount pieces of writing and wrote one into their hardback copy.

After reading the story 'The Toy Show' in their English reader, **Ms. McBrearty's** class created their own 'Toy Show and Tells,' where they made videos presenting their favourite toys via Seesaw. There are definitely a few contenders for next year's 'Late Late Toy Show.' Ryan Tubridy would be very impressed!

Ms. Cleary's class have been reading the stories 'The Tiger that Came to Tea' and 'The Jolly Postman.' They loved getting to meet Santa when he came to visit our school. They have really enjoyed running laps everyday as part of Active Schools. They even manage to do yoga every week as part of Well Being Wednesday!



Ms. Doyle's and Ms. O'Grady's Junior Infant classes have been running and dancing every day as part of the Active Schools Challenge. They explored the theme of Santa's workshop in Aistear, acting as his elves, constructing his workshop and writing letters to Santa. They have also done lots of Christmas art, making clay tree decorations, decorating their own elves and constructing paper Christmas trees.

The children in **Ms. Irwin's** room really enjoyed learning about the Egyptians and have recorded a special song for their Christmas display all about the Egyptians. Once again they have been busy cooking and baking and hopefully they will try out some of their cooking skills over their Christmas holidays with their family.

Ms. Kerr's room had lots of fun on nature walks around Leixlip. They went to Squirrel Wood and saw ducks when walking along the river. They learned all about the doctor's surgery and the hospital. They've learned lots of things about Christmas celebrations and the classroom elf Sparkles even came to visit Room 4.



Upcoming Dates:

22nd Dec	School closes for Christmas Holidays
6th Jan	School reopens at 9.20am
6th Jan	Mass celebrating the Epiphany
13th/14th Jan	Skippping Workshop
14th Feb	Friendship Week
17th Feb	6th Class Confirmation
21st Feb	Midterm Break

