

The CSCNS Times

December 2023



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear families,

We have come to the end of what has seemed to be a very quick term. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff, children, parents and wider community for all of the hard work done in term 1. This term, our school and classes have been involved in lots of new activities. We have had SEM week, a very successful Winter Market, Ukulele lessons, we had our parents in to speak with teachers about their children and our wonderful performances by 1st, 2nd, 5th, 6th, room 7 and room 8.

In the next term, we look forward to the adventures to come like 3rd to 6th class learning foreign languages such as Spanish, German, Japanese and Portuguese. We will also have swimming, Human Rights week, Wellbeing week as well as looking forward to celebrating our Irish Heritage during Seachtain na Gaeilge.

As we face into the next few weeks, I hope that you all get to have a relaxing break. Our school reopens on Monday 8th January. Wishing you all a safe and relaxing end of term break, a Happy Christmas to those who celebrate and a happy new year to you all.

e le meas,

Mike Byrne

Peace Proms by Laura Kelly

This year our school is taking part in Peace Proms 2024. Peace Proms is a show to celebrate culture and diversity and promotes peace through music and song. Schools from all over Ireland, including Northern Ireland, come together and perform live along with the Cross Border Orchestra.

37 people from our fifth and sixth class are taking part in the choir. Practise is going well and there are clear signs everyone is practicing at home as well as in school which is really great. Ms O'Donovan, Ms O'Neill, Ms Tighe and Ms McDaid are so proud of everyone.

On the seventh of December, the Peace Proms group went to the National Sports Arena in Blanchardstown for a big practice with other schools and the conductor Greg Beardsell.

The official Peace Proms is in February on the forth. All the schools, including us, will be sitting in what's called a rig, the Cross Border Orchestra will be in front of us with Greg leading us and the orchestra and the audience will be watching us.

FUN FACT!

Did you know, singing in a choir or group is good for your mental health and makes you feel better!



Dates to Remember:

22nd December – school will close at 12pm for the winter break

8th January 2024 – school reopens with normal timings for the next school term

5th February – school closed for bank holiday

15th & 16th February – school closed for mid – term break

News from Room 16 Ms. Whelan's class –

by Matylda & Georgy

Over the past few weeks' room 16, 3rd class, have been learning about money in Maths, native Irish animals in Science and in Irish, they have been learning about éadaí which means CLOTHES. They are really looking forward to the winter holidays and watching their friends in other classes doing their winter performances.

Ms Whelan's favourite place to go on holidays is Wexford. She likes to go the gym in her spare time. She has been teaching in CSCNS for 6 years. Her favourite sport is rugby. She is also the head P.E. teacher, so she organises all the equipment. Her favourite subject is P.E. Her favourite animal is a dog. Her favourite movie is Home Alone 2. She got the ideas for the yard equipment from the students themselves. She really likes being the head P.E. teacher.

Staff Profile – Meet Miss Jordan (Senior Infants Room 4) by Emily & Jamie

This week the newsletter was asking Ms. Jordan what she did on her break?

What is your favourite food? Cake

What is your favourite colour? purple.

What is your favourite year group to teach?

Senior infants.

What are your hobbies?

Baking, dancing, running, singing and traveling.

She also told us that she went traveling for the past few years, which is why she was on a break from CSCNS

She went to Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Peru, Columbia, Turkey, India, Dubai, Singapore, Malaysia, Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam and she wants to go to Japan and Slovakia.

What are your favourite books?

Anything by Roald Dahl!

The New Yard Equipment – by Georgy

Over the past few weeks CSCNS has acquired new yard equipment to add to the existing football, basketball, hoola-hoops and skipping ropes. The new equipment is giant dominos, giant 4 in a row, giant jenga and giant checkers. All of these amazing new games were organized by Ms. Whealan, Mr. Byrne and the Parent's Association.

Putting toys outside helps children by letting them play and learn new skills. It also shows you can learn anywhere.

Learning outdoors comes with other benefit such as children getting vitamin D from sunlight and it will encourage your children to keep going outdoors.



All about 6th Class Room 10 – by Abbie

In 6th class room 10 we have been learning a lot of cool stuff in the past few weeks. In Maths we were talking about averages and positive and negative numbers. In English we have been super busy writing formal letters and sending letters to the Millbrook nursing home. In History we have been talking about Europe and winter festivals. In our variety show they were singing 'Last Christmas' by wham and 'I'm Still Standing' by Elton John.



Our Winter Variety Shows! By Abbie Rose

This month first class, second class, fifth class, sixth class and Room 7 & Room 8 had their variety performances! The classes joined together to perform, with sixth & fifth performing together, first & second together, and Room 7 & Room 8 together.

They have all been practising really hard learning their songs and some classes have been learning poems and dances too. The performances happened last Thursday and last Friday and everyone did an amazing job performing for other classes and their families. This year sixth class picked a theme of POP ROCK. They each sang one song from this genre and they sang a winter themed song as well.

The variety performances are a really fun thing that our school does each year around winter for most classes but this year some classes will be having their performance at a different time. All of the classes that have already performed did a great job – well done!



Pocket Forest Project by Jamie & Emily

In 4th class we were doing projects about native Irish trees! We were learning about the Ash, Beech, Horse Chestnut, Sycamore, Hazel, Willow, Oak, Hawthorn, Birch and Holly. They all look beautiful! Mr. Byrne let us plant Oak trees, also known as the acorn tree, and we got to see Silver Birch trees. After that there was an assembly hosted by Ms. Smyth's class and they talked about facts about the Irish native trees and sang a poem. The Parents Association donated funds to help to plant a forest and 4th class were helping to put the down the soil.

Let us share some facts with you!

Oak: Oak trees have a lifespan up to 1000 years.

Ash: The wood of the ash trees is traditionally used to make hurley's.

Hazel: The hazel tree is mostly found in Co. Clare.

Birch: There are two types of birch trees in Ireland the silver and the downy birch.



Christmas 2023 by Sophia



The Origins of Christmas

The origins of Christmas were from both the Pagan and Roman cultures. The Romans used to celebrate 2 festivals in December. The first one was Saturnalia which was two weeks long and the second one was celebrated on the 25th of December and they would celebrate the birth of Mithra. Jesus Christ was born on the 25th of December in the 4th century according to early Roman history. All the inns were full and an inn owner said to Joseph they could stay in the stable where Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem. The three wise men also known as Casper, Melchior and Balthazar came to visit Jesus on the 6th of January and gave him a gift which was gold and myrrh.

Fun Facts about Christmas

-Did you know it takes about 15 years to fully grow a Christmas tree?

-In Japan they eat fast food for Christmas Eve.

-The song 'Jingle Bells' was sent into space.

-Over 3 billion Christmas cards are sent in the U.S each year.