

**Scéalta 16**  
**News & Information for**  
**St. Mochta's National School Community**  
**19<sup>th</sup> December 2018**



**Happy Christmas!**

This is our final newsletter for 2018. We would like to take this opportunity to wish everybody a very Happy Christmas and wish you all peace, health and happiness in 2019. Please note the school will close on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> for the Christmas break as follows:

| <u>Class Level</u>   | <u>Finishing Time</u> |
|--|-----------------------|
| Junior Infants to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class<br><i>(from the lines)</i> | 11.40am               |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Classes to 6 <sup>th</sup> Classes                 | 12.00 noon            |

***Please collect your child on time.*** School will re-open on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 8.50am as normal.

**1<sup>st</sup> Class Plays**

Congratulations and well done to all the boys and girls in 1<sup>st</sup> Class who welcomed their parents and guardians to the school yesterday and today to enjoy their amazing Christmas Plays. We are so proud of our children and we hope everyone enjoyed it as much as we did! Thank you to the teachers, Ms. Schmidt, Ms. Higgins, Ms. McAuliffe, Ms. Carroll and Ms. Walsh, for all their work preparing the children.

**Carols Around the Tree**

All classes will enjoy a Carol Service in the PE Hall tomorrow. We hope all children enjoy this tradition of singing carols around our Christmas Tree. Special thanks to Mr. Cryan and all our teachers for helping the children to prepare for this occasion.

**Christmas Nativity Competition**

Congratulations and well done to all the girls and boys who participated in our Christmas Nativity Competition. We are very impressed with the effort that went into preparing the cribs. There was an extremely high standard and the judging panel found it very difficult to make the final decision. Please see the list of winners below:

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Junior Infants        | Rachel Malone   |
| Senior Infants        | Eoin Leyden   |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Class | Aoife Yeoman  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class | Albert Aftinescu  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Class | <i>Group Entry:</i><br>Ysabel Castaneda Isabelle Barriscale and Ruby Hickey |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Class | Amber Lalloo  |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Class | Morgan Dunning  |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> Class | <i>Group Entry:</i><br>Cian Mulligan, Dylan Maher & Matthew Connolly        |

### **Visit from Mr. Claus**

A big THANK YOU goes to the Parents' Association for organising Santa's visit to our school last Monday. Santa was so delighted to hear all the children singing and being so good. They are all definitely on the "good list" this year!

### **Class Calendars**

All Class Calendars will be distributed to the children who ordered them. Many thanks to the PA for organising this.

### **Traffic Wardens**

A special ***Thank you*** to Lucy, Bridie and Mary for keeping our children safe throughout the year. Our Traffic Wardens have left a lollipop for every child in the school. These will be distributed to the children tomorrow. Huge thanks to Lucy, Bridie and Mary for their generosity.

### **Thank you so much for your generosity!**

Over €200 was raised towards a ***'Thank You and Goodbye'*** gift for one of our Traffic Wardens, Tina. We wish Tina the very best. Many thanks to Helena Kane who collected the money on behalf of the PA.

### **Agreed Report**

The Board of Management Agreed Report for the first term was emailed to all families last Friday.

### **Strictly Fundraiser reaches €65,000!**

Thanks to the proceeds received from our 'Bless Us All' event last Tuesday night, a very generous donation was made to the Fundraising Committee. This payment helped the Committee reach a whopping €65,000. Thank you so much to the School Choir for their contribution. Thanks to everybody who has helped us reach this amount.

If you use Facebook, please hold Ctrl and

click on the link below to help us raise an additional €5,000 towards the cost of the extra play space for our children! It would be great if you could forward the link to all your families and friends who use Facebook. Many thanks for your support.

### **ATTENDANCE and PUNCTUALITY ARE IMPORTANT**

We wish to remind you that by law, we are not allowed to support any child being withdrawn from school for a family holiday. We would like you to consider this when booking holidays for 2019. We have to report the name of any child who misses 20 days or more during a school year to TUSLA. Twenty days or more is considered Low Attendance. Remember Every Day At School Counts!

We also remind you that school starts at 8.50am. If your child arrives after this time, you must wait with your child in Reception. Once all classes have arrived safely to their class, we will have staff escort your child to class.

### **Health & Safety**

Kindly note that school starts at 8.50am. The school facilitates early entry to the school grounds from 8.30am. Some days – particularly, if the weather is very wet or frosty - there may be a delay in opening the gates. This is to ensure that the school is safe for the arrival of all our girls and boys. On these rare occasions, gates may be opened later. When this happens, it is the responsibility of parents/guardians to stay with their children until they reach their lines on the yard. Many thanks for your co-operation.

### **Information for January 2018**

- A parent meeting for children preparing for 1<sup>st</sup> Communion will take place at 8.00pm in St. Mochta's Church on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019.
- A parent meeting for children preparing for Confirmation will take place in the Church at 8.00pm on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019.
- The Faith Friends Programme will commence in January on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>. Each Confirmation Candidate will know on which day they will participate.
- For your information, the school photographers will be visiting our school on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019. It is important that your child wears **full school uniform** on these days.
- A reminder that no photographs are to be taken on the school grounds without prior permission.

*Nollaig Shona dhaoibh go léir*

### **Community Notices**

- Anam Cara North Dublin, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> of December at 7:20pm in the Carnegie Court Hotel, Swords, Co. Dublin. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not.
- **Tigers Afterschool Care** still have places available from 1.30pm to 6.30pm. If you are interested, please contact the Manager, Amanda Jones, at 086-1704001 for further details.