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Blondelles

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Cakes & Desserts

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thevenue

THE WAX ROOM

King's Gala

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Ireland's leading healthcare recruitment & placement company

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The Academy of Performing Arts

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Brighten up your day

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Hair Salon, Ratoath

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Sweeney's of Kilbride

R & J Meats

As You Like It  
CAFE & STEAKHOUSE

CATERING SUPREMACY

Hetherton Construction

St. Paul's would like to thank all our Sponsors and Parents who were so generous and who helped make our Christmas Fair a great success!

# St. Paul's National School

## Christmas 2018 Newsletter

It's Christmas time! How better to enjoy the excitement and energy of the season than surrounded by hundreds of children!! Again we got to enjoy the singing and the acting in all the fabulous Christmas shows; the fantastic atmosphere of the Christmas fair, the wonderful Santa Village in Ratoath College and the very enthusiastic Santa Run! It is also wonderful to see the huge generosity shown in the shoebox and St. Vincent de Paul appeals. Every child was asked to bring in one small thing and from that we created 44 beautiful hampers which will be distributed locally. Thank you seems too small but your generosity is hugely appreciated. Thank you too for all the support shown to us in the school and thank you to all the staff for their hard work and dedication all year. I hope you all have a very Happy Christmas and we'll see you back here on the 7<sup>th</sup> of January! **Morag McGowan**

### Christmas Shows and Carol Service

We had lots of lovely Christmas shows and a beautiful carol service to help celebrate the spirit of Christmas in school. Thank you to all the Teachers who put in so much work to bring a smile and, quite possibly, a tear to eyes of the parents and family members who came to see them. Thank you to the parents also for all their efforts in providing costumes.



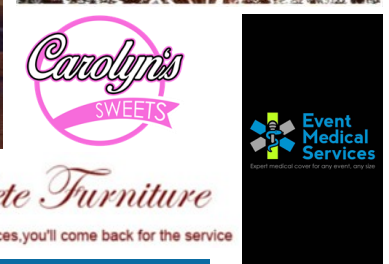
# Grandparents' Day

On Friday 5th October we opened up the school to some very special people. We welcomed a huge number of grandparents who brought huge hearts and lots of love to the school. The day began with a special mass in Ratoath church, thanks to Father Gerry, followed by refreshments in the school after which our guests visited the classrooms. Thank you to our Parents' Association and to all the staff for helping make this day a very memorable one.



## Christmas Fair

We are very grateful to our Parents Association for co-ordinating a brilliant Christmas Fair again this year. The atmosphere was just perfect and helped start the Christmas festivities. A huge crowd attended and our now infamous Christmas Raffle was the biggest yet with over 110 prizes. Thank you to our many sponsors and parents who donated prizes and congratulations to all the winners. We are delighted to report that we raised €14,343.35 and all money raised will be put back into school.



## Santa Visit

Thank you very much to Santa and his elves who took time out of their very busy schedule to visit all the classes with a small treat for each child.



## Message from Santa! Ho Ho Ho!!

Everyone up here at the North Pole has been very busy getting ready for Christmas. Mrs Claus has been baking Christmas cookies for all the elves because they've been working so hard to get all the presents finished. I have my list and have checked it twice! I am delighted to see that all of the boys and girls in St. Paul's are on my nice list. I am so proud of you all! I love bringing gifts to children who are kind to others. I was particularly impressed with the beautifully prepared Christmas shoeboxes for Team Hope and the Inner City homeless appeal and the SVDeP Hampers. It is lovely to remember those who are less fortunate at Christmas! Rudolph and the reindeer are looking forward to visiting your home on Christmas Eve. **Santa!**





### Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Many thanks for all the Christmas shoeboxes received this year for both the Inner City Homeless appeal and Team Hope appeals. Both charities were thrilled with the generosity of so many shoeboxes. 129 for the Inner city homeless appeal and 275 for Team Hope.

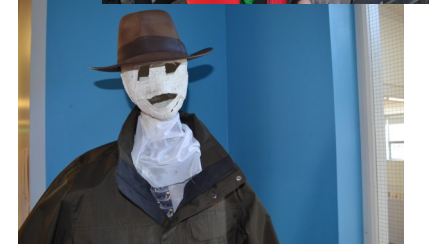


### Congratulations to the following children who missed no days from school this term

**Ms Melvin's Class:** Nicolas Clarke, Amelia Kirwan, Thomas Quinn, Niamh Farrelly, Tadhg Dempsey, Donnacha Murphy, Kara Theron and Shane Daly. **Ms Ruane's Class:** Emma McKenna, Zoe Fullam, Matthew Woods, Emily Lundy, Ryan Wilson, Nathan Makarski, Scott Grogan, Elliot Prendergast, James Petrone, Molly Walsh and Fionn Pelly. **Ms O'Sullivan's Class:** Kenji Calleja Maki, Logan Murray, Nina Newman, Lauren Giurgila, Julie O'Brien, Katie Murphy, Aidan Dempsey, Harry O'Connell and Reuben Donnelly. **Ms Kennedy's Class:** Ruby Gallagher, Fae Hennessy, Adam Sherlock, Elodie Curry, Max McCormack, Lee Wilson and Naoise Lumley. **Ms Dennehy's Class:** Harrison Cooke, Aoibheann Ginley, John Donnelly, Rian Doyle, Paige Ducie, Patricia Simonavicius and Jason Giurgila. **Ms Hession's Class:** Cáit McElroy, Conor Hickey, Lynn Williams, Oliver Lyons and Conall O'Riordan. **Mr Joyce's Class:** Finn Carrigan, Riley Hearn, Caoilinn Dalton, Max McGrath, Ciaran Pentony, Connor Larkin, Oscar Twyford, Holly Dowling, Abigail King O'Gorman and Liam Theron. **Ms Prendiville's Class:** Joe Thompson, Niamh Daniels, Katie O'Brien, Isabel Winston, Eliza Prior, Maya Moran, Lydia Jordan and Joe Tormey. **Ms Mullen's Class:** Ciaran Byrne, Ellen Daughton, Luke O'Neill, Rachel Smyth, Adam Walsh, Sadie Eivers and Caroline Woods. **Ms Burke's Class:** Declan Byrne, Shane Hickey, Stephen O'Brien, John Sherlock, Isabelle Hetherington, Amy Leeson, Lauren Doran, Amelia Coyne, Zac Stafford, Aoibheann O'Connor, Doireann O'Sullivan and Cara Murray. **Ms Cunningham's Class:** Amelia Couch, Nadia O'Connor, Cian Brown, Luke Twyford, Eila Corboy, Rose Dowling and Molly Milner. **Ms Bagnall's Class:** Nicole Doherty, Emma Ginley, Liam Wade, Michael Murray, Cian O'Callaghan, Daisy Kehoe, Sophia Sherry, Rose Newman, Aleks Suhanovs and Holly Nannery. **Ms Crosbie's Class:** Katie Barker, Aaron Bradley Keogh, Ryan Tinnelly, Emily O'Connell Cowley, Jamie Fitzgerald, Rachel McKenna, Emily Meehan, Ehren Harris, Isobel Daly, Darragh Brunton, Harrison Yardley and Joseph Cooley. **Ms O'Donovan's Class:** Sam Grogan, Isobel Hearn, Mark Daughton, Oisín O'Riordan, Lauren Murray, Sorsha Lumley, Adam Forde, Carly Doody and Emmet O'Brien. **Ms Murphy's Class:** Thomas Cooley, Conor Dickenson, Aoife Kinsella, Rían Jennings, Chloe Murphy, Nathan Connolly, Gracie Cronin and Kean Moran. **Ms Broderick's Class:** Robyn Mulcahy, Ava Doran and Lucy Reynolds. **Mr Duffy's Class:** Ava Duffy, Mya Quinn, Ava Hennessy, Eva Carroll, Killian Murphy, Sophie Cooke, Isabelle Twyford, Sadie Prior, Harvey Cahill and Lucy Cameron. **Ms Tully's Class:** Brendan Twyford, Ella Newman, Rachael Hyland, Lee Cadwell, Alannah Higgins & Clodagh McHugh. **Ms Conroy's Class:** Harry Bogan, Aoibhinn Gibson, Saoirse Carrigan, Ross McNally, Alex Knowles, Katie Burke, Laura Kinsella, Evan Sherry, Caroline Leavy, Katie Goran and Mikael McMahon. **Ms Brassil's Class:** Lauren McKenna, Dennis Olaru, Max O'Reilly and Molly Murray. **Ms Hamilton's Class:** Niamh Colgan, Aidan Doyle, Tarah Coyne, Katie Doherty, Liam Larkin and Mary-Kate Prior. **Ms Brennan's Class:** Eve Winston, Darragh Lyons, Jessica Cronin, Charlie Hodgins, Mila Downey, Sarah Forde, Megan Fitzmaurice and Cormac Tormey. **Mr Harte's Class:** Ryan Brunton, Shawn Ocampo, Seán Twyford, Erin Leeson, Jack Hickey, Conor Daughton, Saul Harris, Sofia Hearn and Ethan Styles. **Ms Moore's Class:** Sophia Barker, Caroline Byrne, James Kelly, Elsa Johnson, Kate Raftery, Adam O'Connor and Cara O'Sullivan. **Ms Smyth's Class:** Jacob McCarthy, Troy Farrell and Sophia Read. **Ms O'Connor's Class:** Joseph Hendrick, Noah Langan and Leah McGlinchey.

### Hallowe'en

There were lots of fantastic costumes for our Hallowe'en dressup day. Thank you for supporting the Temple Street Trick or Treat fundraiser. We raised €1,007.61.



### Meet our Student Council



### Food Dudes and Funky Fruit Friday

The food dudes programme came to St. Paul's in October. The programme is designed to encourage children to eat more fruit and vegetables. Each day, throughout the course of the programme, the children received a portion of fruit and veg and were rewarded with stickers and little rewards when the fruit and veg was eaten. We are continuing to do our funky fruit Friday on the last Friday of each month.

### Intel Mini Scientist Competition

We welcomed representatives from Intel to judge the Intel Mini Scientist competition in November. Four of our classes entered - Ms Broderick's 4th, Mr Duffy's 4th, Ms Tully's 4th and Mr Harte's 6th. The children worked in groups conducting an experiment of their choosing. Plenty of research and hard work went into investigating and conducting the experiments, gathering the materials and creating a written submission for the judges to see. The judges had a tough decision to make! There were prizes for first and second place. Michael Ward, Ben Cunningham, Lucy Cameron and Amber Lane from Mr Duffy's class came in second place with their experiment 'The Balloon Powered Car'. The winning team Melissa Connolly, Ella Newman, Jessica Callan Smith and Deividas



Matijosaitis from Ms Tully's class came in first place with their experiment 'Cloud in a Jar'. They had the opportunity to showcase their experiment too in Blanchardstown IT on December 5<sup>th</sup>. We are very proud of them and how well they represented the school.



## Baby Joy

Congratulations to Ms Kieran who had a baby girl, Eliza, in August and to Ms Bates who had a baby boy, Seán, in November.

## Cash for Clobber

We were delighted to make €1,017.50 as a result of our recent clothing collection.

## Enrolment for Junior Infants 2019

Applications for 2019 enrolment will be posted after the Christmas break so please keep an eye out if you are expecting one. The closing date for applications is Friday 25th January at 3pm.

## Meet our Gardening Committee



St. Paul's is proud to offer the newly revised Rainbows Programme, a dedicated free service for children and young people. The Rainbows programme supports children and young people affected by loss because of bereavement, separation or divorce. The new 9 week programme will begin in January. For more information about Rainbows please visit our school website. Questions about Rainbows here in St. Paul's can be emailed to [stpaulsratoathrainbows@outlook.com](mailto:stpaulsratoathrainbows@outlook.com)

## Book Week

Our theme for book week this year was simply 'Drop Everything and Read' highlighting the importance of reading in a screen driven world. There was a lot of book browsing for the children and award winning author Benji Bennett visited. We finished the week with a dress up day on which the children could dress up as a favourite character from any book. It is always a great week and 60% of the money raised goes back into the school to spend on books. Thank you to Ms O'Toole for all her efforts in organising the week.



## Our Coiste Gaeilge



## Our HPS (Health Promoting School) Committee



We welcomed Jingles back to the school. He spent the last few weeks checking in on all the children. He visited all the classes including Ms Hession's Senior Infant Class pictured here.

## Sports Report 2018

It has been a very busy and successful sporting term in St. Paul's. Our boys and girls have been competing in a wide range of sports and have enjoyed great success. Our Olympic handballers competed in the first round of the Olympic Handball Meath Championship. All four teams are doing very well and are looking forward the Meath Qualifying rounds at the end of January.

This term has also seen the introduction of basketball friendly leagues and coaching for the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes. These sessions have proven to be a big hit.

In November 24 of our boys and girls from 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class travelled as part of the Athletics team to Bellewstown to participate in the Meath Cross-Country races. With winners in each of the four races and the U13 Boys' Team winning a plaque, all runners returned to school in high spirits.



Our boys and girls Gaelic Football teams competed in the Meath Cumann na mBunscol Competition. The girls displayed great skill and determination and were unlucky not to reach the semi-final stages, having finished fourth in their group.

2018 was to be an historic year for the boys' team. Having contested the previous two finals, they were determined to go one step further this year. From the first whistle, it was a hard-fought and exhilarating battle. The game ebbed and flowed with neither team conceding an inch, but the boys were able to dig deep, thanks in no small part to the cheering and support from a very excited crowd consisting of all three Sixth Classes and their families. Following an extra five minutes of play, the boys withheld a strong surge from Duleek B.N.S. to achieve victory by the narrowest of margins. The boys went undefeated in the competition which is a testament to their hard work and dedication all year. Everyone in St. Paul's is immensely proud of their achievement. Thank you to all the teachers in the various sports for their hard work in preparing the children for their events.

Following this fantastic win, we were delighted to hear that one of our players was chosen by the reporters of the Meath Chronicle for a special award.

This award is called 'The Spirit of the Final' Award and Seán Twyford-our captain, was chosen. As part of this award Seán and some of his teammates, James Kelly, Gerard Leavy and Oscar Glynn were invited to attend an awards ceremony at the Dunganey G.A.A. Centre on Wednesday 12th December. The 'Spirit of the Final' Award was presented to each player by Meath Captain Mickey Burke.



## Our Active Committee



## Our Library Committee