



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 2019 Newsletter

We've come to the end of what is always the busiest time in the school year and what a lovely way to finish up! We've had our Christmas fair, the nativity plays, our carol service, the shoebox appeals, hampers, our choir performing in the nursing home.....peace and goodwill to all!!! Now it's time to relax and amidst all the excitement of Christmas, take a break and enjoy the magic. I would like to thank all the staff for their hard work and the staff and I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and very best wishes for 2020! *Morag McGowan*



## Christmas Plays and Carol Service

We celebrated the Christmas spirit throughout the school in many ways including presenting our Christmas shows featuring Junior Infants to 2nd Classes and a special Carol Service from 3rd-6th classes. We hope you enjoyed the shows as much as we did! Thank you to all the Teachers who put in a tremendous amount of extra work with the children and to the Parents for all the costumes and for coming to see the children.



## Santa Dash

Our Santa dash this year was in aid of the Peter McVerry trust and we are delighted to report that €1,113.65 was raised for the homeless.

## Santa Visit

A very big thank you to Santa and his helper who came to visit the school this week with a small treat for the children.





### Junior Infants

We welcomed our Junior Infants in September into Room 1, 2 and 3. We look forward to having them with us for the next 8 years.

### Enrolment 2020

Applications for enrolment for next year will be posted in January. Please keep an eye out if you are expecting one.

### Meet Our Student Council



### Cash for Clobber

Our recent cash for clobber collection resulted in €675.00 for the school. Thank you for your continued support!

### Rainbows

This year's Rainbows programme began on the 28th November and offers a 9 week listening, group support programme for children following a bereavement or parental separation. We are very grateful to Ms McMahon, our Rainbows Co-ordinator, and to our trained staff members who provide this support.

### Baby Joy

Congratulations to Ms Egan who had a baby boy Eli in August and to Mr Moore who had a baby boy Rory in November.

### Our Green School Committee

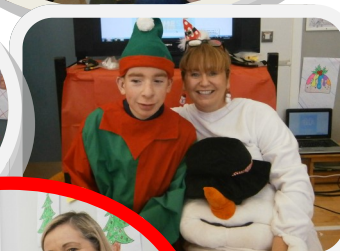


Rockbrook  
ENGINEERING

VISIONblue  
SOLUTIONS



des kelly  
INTERIORS  
WHERE QUALITY COSTS LESS



### Christmas Fair

Our Christmas fair this year was a tremendous success thanks to our Parents' Association who gave, so generously, their time and to all our sponsors who donated prizes etc



HOME CENTRE  
FLOORING · SOFAS · BEDROOM · DINING



MICHELLE  
REGAZZOLI  
STONE

SOCIETY & SALONS



### Christmas Hampers

Thanks to the generous food donations received we were delighted to be able to present 42 hampers to the SVDP team for distribution to local families.



### Book Club

Our first book club meeting was a great success. Lara wrote some great questions which we all discussed. Next book club is Wednesday 16th January and we will be discussing Fing by David Walliams.

### Christmas Cheer

We are very proud of our senior school choir and our tin whistle group who performed for the Ratoath Nursing home this week.





**Our Coiste Gaelige**



**Our Library Committee**

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

**Ms Brennan's Class:** Emma McCabe, Daniel McKenna, Kaiden Kelly, Seán Colgan, Elsie Mae Wallace, Kalen O'Halloran, Oliver Lantry, Oscar Lane, Sarah Ocampo, Evan Duffy & Isobel Cox. **Ms Curley's Class:** Alicia King O'Gorman, Rory Hetherston, Antona Kelly, Heidi Jordan & Pearse Connolly. **Ms O'Sullivan's Class:** Ciara Corbett, Siofra McElroy, Evan Sheehy, Cora Tobin, Elisbeth Giurgila, Noah Coy, Sebastian Stafford, Saul Galvin, Naisrin Drew, Leo McLoughlin, Gary O'Brien & Ellen O'Neill. **Ms Kennedy's Class:** Scott Keegan, Amelia Kirwan, Bobby Kennedy, Emilis Petratis, Thomas Quinn, Niamh Farrelly, Emily Petrisor, Faye Hodgins, Tadhg Dempsey, Hailey Quinn and Kara Theron. **Ms Dennehy's Class:** Emma McKenna, Isabella Hanly, Erica Ryan, James Dowling, Emily Gaines, Nathan Makarski, Zoe Fullam, Scott Grogan, Elliott Prendergast, Adam Duffy, Matthew Woods, Eva O'Leary & James Petrone. **Ms Prendiville's Class:** Zoe Cameron, Logan Murray, Lauren Giurgila, Julie O'Brien, Katie Murphy, Eli McNamara, Bradley Slater, Aidan Dempsey, Cullen Smyth, Harry O'Connell Cowley & Reuben Donnelly. **Mr Joyce's Class:** Lucie Cunningham, Maisie Donnelly, Fae Hennessy, Conor Bizzell, Seren Connolly, James Lane, Oran Jennings, Rhys Malone, Katie Conaty & Noah McCabe. **Mr Duffy's Class:** Annabelle Zhao-Kelly, Cáit McElroy, Conor Hickey, Liam McDonnell, Sheena Ocampo, Daire Connolly & Edvardas Rumsas. **Ms Donnelly's Class:** Harrison Cooke, Luke Gill, Éabha Coy, Layla Kane, Ruby Warren, Patricia Simonavicius, Jamie Roche, Matthew Hetherston, Maggie Donnelly & Jason Giurgila. **Ms Burke's Class:** Ellen Daughton, Matthew Meagher, Amelia Cooley, Harriet Prendergast, Victor Clarke, Holly Dowling, Maya Rejmonczyk & Caroline Woods. **Ms Ruane's Class:** Finn Carrigan, Devlin O'Brien, Nina Mooney, Riley Hearn, Caoilinn Dalton, Dylan Gough, Lily Mae Fahey Clancy, Oscar Twyford, Holly Dowling, Abigail King O'Gorman & Liam Theron. **Ms Durkin's Class:** Ollie O'Brien, Gabija Rinkute, Finn Higgins, Conor Clancy, Isabel Winston, Eliza Prior, Tia Flynn, Sofia Sarapaite & Lydia Jordan. **Ms Crosbie's Class:** Theo De Bonis, Oscar Hennessy, Emma Ginley, Liam Wade, Leon Dempsey, Megan Lane, Sophia Sherry, Holly Nannery, John Thomas, Seóna Cunningham, Louis Connolly & Nicole Doherty. **Ms O'Donovan's Class:** Jayden Blake, Declan Byrne, Stephen O'Brien, Finn McCabe, Dylan McMahon, Amy Leeson, Martynas Rumsas, Shane Hickey, Lauren Doran, Louis O'Connell Cowley, Zac Stafford, Tamara Flynn & Cara Murray. **Mr Mulvany's Class:** Conor Andrews, Nadia O'Connor, Grace Smyth, Hannah McCue, Ava Smith, Lee O'Connor, Seán Ward, Cian Brown, Paul Thomas, Julie O'Reilly, Éila Corboy & Elyza Wong. **Mr Moore's Class:** Katie Barker, Kate Fitzpatrick, Maybelle Kelly, Emily O'Connell Cowley, Rachel McKenna, Emily Meehan, Ehren Harris, Harrison Yardley & Caleb Richardson. **Ms Kellegher's Class:** Joshua Balmer, Sam Grogan, Mark Daughton, Claudia Byrne, Harry Kearins, Ava O'Reilly, Caoimhe Dalton & Jamie Winston. **Ms Tully's Class:** Conor Dickenson, John Fitzgerald, Chloe Murphy, Mia Dowling, Gracie Cronin & Alexandru Petrisor. **Ms Conroy's Class:** Harry Hesse Mason, Robyn Mulcahy, Daniel Smyth, Cameron Jordan, Tiernan Fahey Clancy & Ava Doran. **Ms Cunningham's Class:** Ella Newman, Harry Ryan, Rachael Hyland, Jenna Willoughby, Josh Kiely, Seán Brown, Daniel Foster, Clodagh McHugh, Éabha O'Brien & Alice Kinsella. **Ms Hession's Class:** Caoilinn Agar Finlay, Amber Lane, Finn Clarke, Ava Hennessy, Eva Carroll, Sadie Prior, Lucy Cameron & Seán Somers. **Ms Gogan's Class:** Tarah Coyne, Katie Doherty, Kaedyn Donnelly, Robert Hayes, Mary-Kate Prior & Emily Pullen. **Mr Harte's Class:** Isabel Byrne, Aaron Martin, Joshua Gill, Max O'Reilly, Seán Coleman, Emma Graydon & Shóna Conneely. **Ms Moore's Class:** Max Brady, Ruby Coatsworth, Saoirse Carrigan, Ava Prendergast, Alex Knowles, Oran Corboy, Katie Burke, Evan Sherry, Éinin Murphy, Lucy O'Reilly, Isabelle Somers, Brandon Tighe, Katie Grogan & Callum Willoughby. **Ms Begley & Ms Quaide's Class:** Sophia Read. **Ms O'Connor's Class:** Leah McGlinchey & Noah Langan.



### **Credit Union Art Competition**

Congratulations to Sophia Read, Gavin Fennessey Manley, Jacob McCarthy, Isla Willoughby, Isabel Winston and Peter Hickey on winning a prize in the recent Ashbourne Credit Union art competition. A special mention for Isla who won 1st prize and proceeds to the next stage of the competition. Thank you to Ms Hession for co-ordinating all of the art competitions throughout the year.

### **Book Week**

Our theme for book week this year was 'Drop the Tech and Pick up a Book'. Parents and children were invited to browse the book fair. Children were encouraged to replace their screen technology with books at home and to read at night time. Author Niamh Ahern came in to talk to children from 1st—6th about her book 'Timmy's Technology Troubles'. Clifford visited our younger classes.



### **Hallowe'en Dress up in aid of Temple Street**

There was lots of spooky fun for Hallowe'en dress up day. Thank you to our Parents' Association for sponsoring a book token for the prize winners from each class. We raised €957.00 for Temple Street.



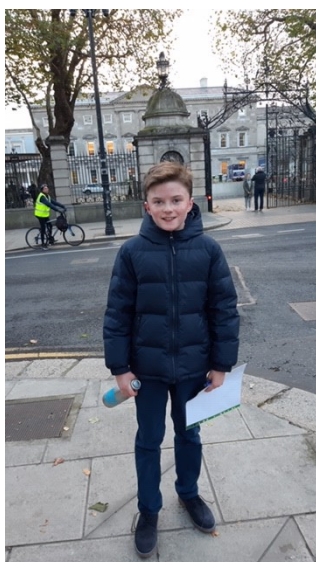




Meet our Garden Committee

### Harry takes to the Dáil

Huge congratulations to Harry Bogan who was selected to be a delegate at RTE Youth Assembly on Climate at Dáil Éireann recently. Harry impressed the Assessors and the Final Judging Panel to be selected from almost 1000 applicants. It was the first ever Youth Assembly on Climate and 157 young people (10 to 17 year olds) came together to discuss and determine their proposals for climate action.



Introducing our Active Committee

### Christmas Village in Ratoath College

Classes from Junior Infants up to 2nd Classes visited the Christmas Village in Ratoath College for some festive face painting, story telling and arts and crafts.



### Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Thank you for your support with the Team Hope and Inner Homeless Shoebox Appeals. It is lovely to give back something to those who may have little else to look forward to, this Christmas, but for these gifts from you. We collected 241 boxes for Team Hope and 141 for the homeless appeal.



### Sports Report

The sporting calendar for this term was dominated by the footballers and handballers of St. Paul's. The handball leagues have once again been a huge success, with the boys and girls of fifth and sixth classes participating in the now annual handball festival of fun and skill. A defining feature of all the leagues was the high level of skill shown by all the children. Congratulations to all the league winners.

Our boys and girls competed in round one of the Olympic Handball Meath League in Gormanstown College on the 12<sup>th</sup> November. All teams have been working hard, training twice a week in preparation for these games. Each team had to play a number of matches in Gormanstown College. All four teams are doing very well and will continue their bid to qualify for the semi-final stage of the competition. The next qualifying day is taking place in Gormanstown College in January. We wish them all the best in the latter stages of the competition.



On the football fields, our boys' and girls' senior teams competed in the Meath Cumann na mBunscol Competition. The boys' completed their league games in Division 1. They had a great campaign and should be very proud of their efforts. They are already looking forward to the mini-sevens competition which will kick off in the New Year.

2019 was to be an historic year for the girls' football team. The girls' team competed in their league games and following three wins and three losses the girls found themselves in a play-off against Longwood N.S. Having been beaten by Longwood earlier in the competition the girls were determined to go one step further and having showed great skill and determination the girls had a fantastic win over the Longwood to make it into a semi-final **for the first time ever**. The girls were building momentum and growing in skill and confidence. The girls met St. Declan's N.S., Ashbourne in the semi-final and having lost to them earlier in the competition the girls were ready for battle. This was a tightly fought contest with only a point separating the teams in the dying moments. Our girls dug deep to score a goal and defended ferociously until the final whistle blew. The girls had won and had made history by being the first girls' team to make it to a Cumann na mBunscol Final for St. Paul's N.S. The girls met Duleek G.N.S. in the final on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November in Páirc Tailteann in Navan. With Sixth Class and their families as fantastic support the girls were ready to take to the field. After a very close first half it was all to play for. Duleek G.N.S. fought hard to get a lead. The girls never gave up but were unlucky to lose to a very determined Duleek side. Our girls should be very proud of their achievement in finishing second in Meath and making history in the school. 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 all the events. Thank you to our GAA Coach, Diarmuid, who has coached Senior Infants, Third Class, Fourth Class and Fifth Class in the first term of school. Thank you to Ger, our rugby coach, who has held various sessions for the children of 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes. Thank you to Ms Dennehy for all her hard work in co-ordinating all the sport in the school.



### Ratoath GAA Champions

Congratulations to the Ratoath Senior Mens



Football team who beat Summerhill in the cup final in Páirc Tailteann. Some of the team members, including past pupil Ben Wyer, visited the school. Ben is pictured with his sister Amber who is in 4th class.

### Our Health Promoting Committee

