



St. Paul's National School Christmas 2025 Newsletter

We have come to the end of what is always the busiest time of the school year, and what a wonderful way to finish! Over the past month, our school has been a truly special place, filled with festive cheer through our Christmas Fair, Nativity plays, carol singing, a visit from Santa, the Santa Dash, our Christmas hampers, visits to the nursing home, and of course our fantastic production of the musical Oliver! It was lovely to welcome so many parents into the school to see the talent and confidence of our pupils from third to sixth class on display, and they certainly did not disappoint!

Sincere thanks to Yvonne for beautifully capturing the joy and excitement of Christmas in this newsletter. I would like to thank each and every parent for your kindness and generosity in supporting the St. Vincent de Paul hampers and for the continued support you show the school throughout the year. As we look ahead to the Christmas holidays, it is now time to relax, take a well-earned break, and enjoy the magic of the season. I would like to thank all the staff for their dedication and hard work throughout the term and wish all our families a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for 2026.

Stephen Hurte.



Christmas in St. Paul's



From our Christmas fair to Christmas shows, Santa Claus visiting, our school choir singing for our local nursing home, Hampers for SVDP, popcorn and movie day and an incredible musical production of Oliver, we certainly packed in a lot of festive joy into the month of December. As a school and with the support of our amazing Parents' Association and you the parents, we are delighted to be bringing these incredible memories for the children to enjoy. We are very grateful to our amazing staff who are dedicated to providing the children with experiences outside of the classroom. We wish everybody a very happy Christmas!





Oliver The Musical

The children from 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th classes showed off their amazing talents in our school production of Oliver. From the back drop to the costumes, to the music and songs we would like to thank everyone involved in the show. In particular we would like to thank Ms Gogan, Ms Kieran, Mr Duffy and Ms Moore for their dedication and hard work in bringing this show to life with the children.



Hallowe'en

We had an extremely busy first term and finished up with a Halloween dress up day.



We welcomed our very own Ratoath GAA team who won the senior hurling championship in October.



Congratulations to the children who missed no days this term

Mr Hogan's Class: Katie Corbett, Heidi Jordan & Sarah Ocampo. **Ms O'Donovan's Class:** Noah Coy, Siofra McElroy, Leo McLoughlin & Elsie Mae Wallace. **Ms Mullen's Class:** Isabel Cox, Evan Duffy, Charlotte Fitzpatrick, Elisbeth Giurgila, Alicia King O'Gorman & Seán Petherbridge. **Ms Byrne's Class:** Zara Rose Cox, Zoe Fullam, Eva O'Leary & Bradley Slater. **Ms Begley's Class:** Micheál O'Sullivan, Fionn Pelly, James Petrone, Elliott Prendergast & Molly Walsh. **Ms Gogan's Class:** Adam Duffy, Niamh Farrelly, Lake Hayden, Emma McKenna, Julie O'Brien, Cullen Smyth & Olly Tormey. **Ms Brennan's Class:** Joshua Barry, Ethan Dolan, Eric Hamill, Arthur Mendes & Lucás O'Brien



Well done to all our junior infants who have settled in so well since they started in September!

Athletics



Congratulations to all who ran in Fairyhouse in November.

Paulcast

We have started a new podcast in our school called Paulcast! Our IT Committee members have been busy interviewing, recording and editing over the last few weeks and have produced a show in time for Christmas including interviews from Mr. Harte and our Musical Director Ms. Gogan. Well done to Elsie Mae, Emily and Alesia in 5th Class for their hard work in putting it all together. It's available to hear on the school website.



Congratulations to the children who missed no days this term

Mr O'Donnell's Class: Daria Cazacov, Emilia Ní Mháirtin & Mary Quinn. **Ms Cosgrove's Class:** Erin Donnelly, Max Fahey, Ryan Guyatt, Dylan Mamaliga, Patrick Murphy & Esmée de Souza. **Ms O'Neill's Class:** Eli Fay & Ollie Gaughan. **Ms Burke's Class:** Julie Basinska & Leah Rice. **Ms Weldon's Class:** Ava Corbett, Ethan Henry, Myles Mullane, Michael Olayiwola & Mia Tiernan. **Ms Curran's Class:** Gabriella Arthur, Erin Mae Brick, Laura Meagher, Mathis Murray, Tadhg Naughton, Leah Rooney & Amy Elsa Tomson. **Ms Farrelly's Class:** Emilia Cummins, Rosalie Finnegan, Zayn Saad & Sadhbh Wallace. **Mr Mulvany's Class:** Darcey Ho, Lorcan Quinn & Eva Rooney. **Ms Kelly's Class:** Eoghan Conaty, Daniel Cummins, Penny Fahey, Noah Fay, Eliza Jordan, Joy Lalor & Karena Thikan. **Ms Cunningham's Class:** Odhrán Boylan, Ella Fitzgerald, Sophia Keenan, Fiachra McElory & Ollie Sheridan. **Mr O'Sullivan's Class:** Alfie Bell, Ciara Cosgrave, Dylan Cusack & Freya Lumley. **Ms Nangle's Class:** Rian Cox, Yassin Elnisr, Darcie Flanagan, Meabh Murphy & Erin Mesha Rammundun. **Ms Ní Néill's Class:** Fionn Brick, Ethan Jordan, Caoilinn Meehan & Daniel Prendergast. **Mr Joyce's Class:** Aibhe Carroll, Mihai Cazacov, Nathan Cusack, Nikol Kuzma, Charlie Quinn & Danny Sheridan. **Ms Preston's Class:** Paige Byrne, Cara Fitzgerald, Harry Fitzpatrick, Alice Tobin. **Ms O'Toole's Class:** Blake Coleman & Ana O'Leary. **Ms Kieran's Class:** Senan Finnegan, Chloe Gogarty, Daniel O'Brien, Senan O'Riordan, Aisling O'Sullivan & Isabella Rourke. **Mr Byrne's Class:** Katelyn Brick, James Cummins, Adam Elnisr, Niamh O'Malley, Éabha Rice, Oliver Rourke, Jack Slater & Kyle Tormey. (TBC)



Meet our Coiste Gaelige



Meet our Library Committee



Sensory Circuit

Thank you to our wonderful Orla McCamley for her beautiful artwork creating a space for children to perform exercises and regulate while on movement breaks.

Book Week

We celebrated Book Week in November, which we also linked with Anti-Bullying Week for the launch of our new Bí Cinéalta Anti-Bullying Policy. The week kicked off with lots of fun as pupils enjoyed browsing books at our Book Fair in the hall and also taking part in paired reading with older classes visiting younger classes. We had a shared read-aloud book which every class in the school read. The book "Say Something" encourages children to use their voice in many different ways - not only by talking, but by creating, helping, showing kindness, and standing up for others. Lots of classes did lovely art pictures to go with this.

We had guest speaker, Stella O'Malley, a psychotherapist, who delivered a powerful anti-bullying talk to pupils from 3rd to 6th class, encouraging kindness, resilience and speaking up for others. A highlight of the week was our Anti-Bullying Poster Competition, where pupils created thoughtful and colourful posters promoting inclusion and friendship. Winners were delighted to select a book from our fair as their prize!

Thanks to our successful Scholastic Book Fair, our school has now earned €4000 worth of books, meaning lots of new books for the class libraries. A special thank you to our Parents' Association who sold the books at the fair for the week. It is much appreciated.



Enrolment

We had a very successful information evening in November for Parents who have children starting in Junior Infants next year. A reminder that applications for enrolment will be sent out after Christmas so if you are expecting one please keep an eye out.

Confirmation

Those in 6th Class who are making their Confirmation will be doing so at 10am on Friday 6th of February.

Smart Device and Social Media Voluntary Agreement

Thank you to everyone who has already signed up to our Voluntary No Smart Device and Social Media Code. So far, 95 families have opted in for this year. If you like to know more about this initiative, you will find the information in the Parents' Zone section of our school website. You will also see a link there to opt in if you wish.

A New VIP Award

We have a new V.I.P. award in the school this year. Each Friday, the class teacher randomly selects the name of a student to be the Class V.I.P for the following week. The VIP's are presented with a certificate at Assembly that morning which includes a written compliment from their teacher. The children wear a V.I.P badge for the week to remind us all that they are that week's V.I.Ps. We celebrate their uniqueness for the following week and treat them with extra special kindness. The V.I.P's photo is displayed outside Yvonne's office and also on the school website.



Meet our Student Council



Meet our Active Committee

Parking at drop off and collection

We would like to ask parents to please be considerate of our neighbouring estates and not to park across gardens or block driveways. Also, please be mindful that children are walking to and from school and some cars are being parked in a dangerous way obstructing the children's view while crossing the road. We have had several complaints recently particularly from the Broadmeadow estate. We would appreciate your co-operation with this.

Swimming Gala

Swim Ireland Leinster Minor Schools Championship 2026 is taking place in the Nationals Aquatics Centre on the **Sunday 18th of January 2026**. This is open to both Swimming Club members and Non-Club swimmers who are aged between 9 years and 12 years on the 31st of August 2026. Every year we have students from St Paul's who partake in this competition with the entries being submitted by parents. This year the format has changed and the entries have to be submitted via the school. Please refer to the email sent for further information.