

# Christmas Newsletter

## Dates for your diary

*Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February  
Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March*

*School closes for Christmas break 12.30pm  
School re-opens  
St Brigid's Day – school closed  
School closes for mid-term break  
School re-opens  
St Patrick's Day closure  
School closed for Easter holidays*

## A visit from Santa

*Our boys were delighted to get a visit from Santa yesterday accompanied by his elves. Thank you to the Parent's Association for organising this special visitor to our school.*



## Christmas Concerts



*Our Junior and Senior infants performed their nativity concerts last week. Mrs Dempsey's Junior Infants performed "Our First Nativity" and Ms McIntyre's senior Infants put on "Whoops a daisy angel." The boys were brilliant on stage and everyone was immensely proud of them.*

*The audience were also entertained by Mr Egan's 1<sup>st</sup> class at the interval, who sang a selection of Christmas carols and songs. Well done to pupils, teachers and SNA's for all their hard work in putting these shows together.*



*Next was our Senior Concert which took place on Monday night in the church. The boys from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> classes sang beautifully and looked fantastic in their Christmas jumpers. Fr Liam was very impressed with their singing, as were all the staff. Well done to all involved in getting the boys ready for this Christmas concert.*

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*We love all our Christmas Art displays around the school.*





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## *Class trips this term*



*4<sup>th</sup> class visiting St Enda's park and Pearse Museum*



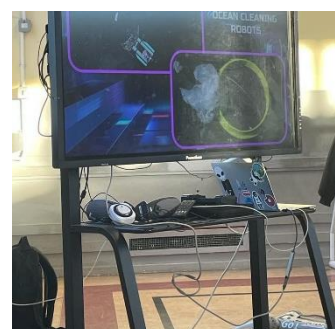
*6<sup>th</sup> class at The Giggler Treatment*

*and at the Natural History Museum*



*Ms Dooley's and Ms McGeachy's  
classes at the Panto*

*and on a Marley park walk*



*Robotics workshop*



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## *Visit from Minister for Special Education – Josepha Madigan*

Our two classes for autistic children had a visit from the Minister for Special Education, Josepha Madigan on Tuesday. She came to see for herself the wonderful work of our pupils and staff in our 2 classes. She had a great chat with some of the boys and was very impressed.

Our classes for autistic children are one of the oldest in Dublin, having been set up in 1998. We are very proud of both these classes and were delighted to show them to the Minister. Pictured is Minister Madigan and Ms O'Keeffe.



## *Dublin Fire Brigade*



Dublin Fire Brigade came to visit our Junior classes last week. As you can see from the photos the boys really enjoyed their visit. Thank you to Alan our caretaker for organising this special visit.

## *DSPCA Visit*



Our ASD classes braved the cold weather to pay a visit to the DSPCA up the mountains.

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## Charity Events

*As a Catholic school the principles of Catholic social teaching underpin the work we and the approach we take to education. Amongst these principles are:*

- *Human dignity – we are all valuable and worthy of respect and fairness because of our humanity.*
- *The Common Good – we should always think about what is good for everyone, not just our ourselves*
- *The preferential option for the poor - we should take extra special care of the most vulnerable people in society.*



*In order to help the boys to learn about social justice and just how fortunate they are we have begun to undertake more charity campaigns. This term we had a collection for Crosscare and a Christmas Jumper day for St Vincent de Paul. We would like to thank all of our families for the support given to both these campaigns, you are helping to set a great example for the boys about the importance of giving to and supporting the more vulnerable members of society. As you can see from the photos in the newsletter our school community was extremely generous with the donations to Cross Care. On the jumper day, we exceeded our target of €500 and in fact collected €758. Many thanks to all who contributed.*

## Principal's Message

*As we come to the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> term of this school year, I would like to wish all our boys and you their families the very merriest Christmas. I hope that you all get to enjoy some quality family time over the festive period. As you know Santa paid us a visit on Wednesday and he and the elves have assured us that all of the boys are on the nice list. The boys know that Santa or one of his elves contacts every school Principal on Christmas Eve to check that this is still the case. I am delighted to inform you that I will be letting the North Pole know that all of the boys have remained on the nice list over the last few days. In fact, right across the term the boys have been excellent, we have had lots of green cards and the numbers of yellow and orange cards are significantly down on this time last year. I am extraordinarily proud of the boys and just how ready, respectful and responsible they have been this term.*

*Nollaig shona agus Athbhliain faoi Mhaise daoibh go léir,  
Cliona*

