

CHRISTMAS NEWS

Dear Parents and Guardians

As we come to the end of a busy and productive term, I want to express my sincere thanks to everyone in our school community. The children from 3rd to 6th class have worked exceptionally hard and shown great enthusiasm in their learning.

Our teachers and staff have gone above and beyond to provide engaging and high-quality teaching, and we are very proud of the progress made across all classes. Thank you also to parents and guardians for your continued support – it makes all the difference.

Message from the Board of Management

On behalf of the Board of Management, we would like to acknowledge the tremendous effort and achievements of our pupils this term. We also thank our dedicated staff for their professionalism and care, and our parents for their ongoing cooperation.

Christmas is a time to appreciate the values of kindness, community and generosity that we see every day in our school. We wish all families a peaceful and joyful Christmas and every blessing for the New Year.

Nollaig shona agus Athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh!

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Gerry Diver
Príomhoide





LEGO ROBOTICS

Today we did Lego Robotics. Two classes did it together. We got into groups of three and sat down at the tables. The teacher that was doing it with us showed us a quick slideshow. After he explained a bit more to us, we all got one tablet per group and a Lego kit. We all got a turn of using the tablet and building the Lego.

When most of us were finished building, the teacher told us to come up to the top and sit down. He showed us how to make it drive. Next, the teacher told us that we had to pass a driving test. He showed us how to connect our robots to the tablet.

We had to move blocks on the tablet to make the robot go forwards and to turn. After we all got the hang of it, the teacher showed us the first challenge. Most of us did not know how to make it turn, so that was the first challenge. We had to click a button on the screen of the tablet to get the blocks we needed to make the robot turn. As soon as we were able to make it turn, the teacher showed us the next challenge.

He brought out a board. We had to challenge another team. One team started on one side of the board, and the other team started on the other side. There was a Lego block across from both teams. We had to race. Both teams picked one person from their team who was good at using the tablet and knew how to make it move. When the race started, we had to pick up the block and bring it back to where we started and then move our robot to the middle of the board. We were the first team to do it, so we won!

After that, the teacher brought us over to a maze made from tape on the floor and we had a lot of fun taking turns trying out the maze. Finally, we cleaned up and made sure we put all the colours back in the right box. It was great fun!

BY MIA O' NEILL 5TH CLASS.





SEOMRA SONAS

In Our School we have opened a new room called the Seomra Sonas. This room will be used for mindfulness lessons and wellbeing lessons.

We have some before and after pictures.

So far, the room has been a hit with both staff and students alike.

By Preston and Kai, 6th Class



BEFORE



AFTER





SPORTS NEWS



Well done to both our boys and girls GAA teams. They have trained hard every week and played so well on the pitch. We are so proud of them.

They did their school and themselves proud.

We are finished GAA training for now but have lots to look forward to in 2026 regarding GAA. Thank you to Mr. O'Meara and Ms Maye for all their hard work this term.





Green School

The Green School Committee are working hard as ever this year! They have been making sure that their classes recycle properly and take great care in looking after the bins each day. They are also working hard towards our next flag, the Travel flag. They have attended meetings with our Travel Officer, Ellen Kissane who explained all about how cycling, walking and scooting to school are much better for the environment than driving. The students also completed Walk to School Week surveys and a No Idling survey for Clean Air Week. They spoke to their classes about making sure they ask their parents not to leave engines running.

Thank you to all of our members in 3rd (Kayleigh Leighio, Caellum Mooney, Frank Rafferty, Ava Hayes) 4th (Mason Malone, Kayleigh Rafferty, Leighton Prizeman, Zach Murray, Abbie McNamara) 5th (Belle Bailey, Tadhg Bates, Novah Mulhall, Kayden Bolger, Orann Maxwell, Lauren Griffin, Lexie Flynn) and 6th (James Bracken, Amber Kelly, Kinza Shafaqat, Ollie Moore). We are so proud of them and all they do for the school.



Halloween Costume Swap

Thanks to the Green School committee for organising a Halloween Costume Swap in aid of Children's Health. The swap raised a fantastic €223.70!



Heritage In Schools

We had a wonderful visit from our regular nature specialist, Patrick Hunt, in October. Patrick brought the children to Killinarden Park for a spot of birdwatching and it was incredible to learn so much about the birds and other creatures that live so close to us.





TURAS NA NOLLAIG

We were delighted as a whole school to recently go on a trip to Muckross Park College, Donnybrook on Wednesday 10th December.

A fun and engaging day was had by all the students and staff. Activities included were singing, dancing, and visits to the science labs, along with other festive experiences 🎅🎄🔔. It was a wonderful occasion for all.

Thank you again to all the staff and especially the pupils of Muckross Park Secondary School for such a fantastic day out. We are very much looking forward to seeing some of the pupils visit our school next year.



HSCL News

It's been a busy and productive time in HSCL! We had an eight-week Wellness Programme for parents facilitated by Tetiana in our Parent's Room. We welcomed our 3rd Class parents in September with our coffee morning in the school hall.

Christmas Crafts have kicked off, and children invited a parent or guardian to attend a session of Christmas Crafts. 3rd Classes were on the 3/12 and 4th Class were on the 2/12. Thanks to those who were able to come along!

Ms Gleeson and Ms Murphy ran a very successful Parent & Child Cookery course with some of our 3rd and 5th Class children and their parents. Ms Gleeson and Ms Murphy will be back in the spring for more cooking and baking. Thanks to the Cookery Fundays team!

The children designed some beautiful Christmas cards which will take pride of place in many homes this year. Thanks to all who got involved. The school made almost 500 euro which our Student Council will allocate towards a project/activity of their choice.

We had a very successful Attendance Drive in November with a poster competition and lots of Be In To Win prizes.

We look forward to more parent's activities, Maths For Fun, Lego activities, Family Games, First Aid training and parent's trips in the new year.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

Karen, HSCL

Junior Safety Forum 2025/26

Ten of our 6th Class pupils were selected to be part of the Junior Safety Forum this year. The South Dublin Junior Safety Forum is a youth-led initiative by South Dublin County Council that gives 6th class students a meaningful voice in creating safer, healthier communities. Meetings take place in the Council Chamber, giving the Forum official recognition and are attended by the Chief Executive, Directors, Senior Management of SDCC, and An Garda Síochána and key stakeholders. Through workshops and structured meetings, students raise concerns, propose solutions, and actively contribute to local decision-making.

Well done to our Forum members from 6th Class!



Student Council 25/26

The elections for the Student Council ran in every class in September and one child was voted as the Student Council representative for their class.

Each Student Council representative attends monthly meetings and has the important responsibility of holding meetings with their classmates, identifying key issues and reporting back to the monthly meetings. The Student Council have had input into spending in our school in recent years and chose to purchase our buddy benches on the yard and an IWB for our new Seomra Sonas.

The Student Council is represented in the Board of Management meetings in the school and three members of our Student Council attended the first Board of Management meeting earlier this year.

The Student Council reps were the judges of our Attendance Poster competition in November and selected our winners for 2025.



Caife Aón Scéal

Chuaigh paistí ó rang a 3-rang a 6 go dí caife Aon Scéal. Labhair muid Gaeilge le chèile. On Thursday 4th December Fr. Fintan brought 30 lucky children to Aón Scéal in Tallaght Village for hot chocolate and a cookie 🍪😊. It was such an enjoyable experience, and the children were ag caint as gaeilge while they were there.

Thank you to Fr. Fintan and Aón Scéal for an enjoyable trip





Cookery Fundays Afterschool

It's so much more than just cooking; it's a wonderful opportunity for children to develop practical life skills in a fun, safe, and engaging environment. Each week, the children cooked a sweet or savoury recipe. They would turn up each week bursting with excitement, eager to learn how to cook and chatted about what they've learned.



Sambanarden

On the 15th of December the Sambanarden drumming group went to Dublin airport to welcome everyone home for Christmas with their amazing drumming performance! We had a fantastic time and the children were outstanding!



