

# URLINGFORD NATIONAL SCHOOL

*Scoil an Chroí Ró-Naofa*

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## December News

### Newsletter

Welcome to the first of our monthly school newsletters in which we hope to share and celebrate the 'goings on' and achievements of Urlingford NS. We hope that the newsletter will allow information sharing between the school, parents and wider parish on topics related to school, from small projects in the classroom to 'big ticket' events such as fundraisers and ceremonies throughout the year. We hope you enjoy reading about the school each month and it sparks conversation at home. 😊

### Parent's Council AGM

The Parent's Council held their AGM on 19<sup>th</sup> November. There was a great turnout which bodes well for the rest of the year. We look forward to a similar turnout for the more 'fun' events during year 😊. The full details of the new Parent's Council were sent out to all families by letter.

### Coffee Morning, Cake Sale & Jumble Sale

The annual coffee morning and cake sale will be held from 10am on 7<sup>th</sup> Dec. We hope to see you there. Bring your friends and relations for a lovely morning where you can meet up with lots of other parents. There is usually a great turnout.



We would be very grateful to anyone who could do some baking for the cake sale. We will take in items at the school from 9am.



We also ask that you send in old toys, books, DVDs etc for the jumble sale on/before Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December. Items will be collected and sorted by Ms McHugh and 6<sup>th</sup> class; a big thanks to all involved. Only items in very good order should be donated. The children usually have lots of fun at the jumble sale. A little reminder also that the jumble sale is by the children for the children.

### School Carol Service

The school Carol Service will be held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 11am in the church. We would be delighted if any parents or members of the wider community could attend. It promises to be a festive affair. Who knows who might turn up ☺.



### Christmas Raffle

The annual Christmas Raffle will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> December again this year. One raffle card will be sent home to each family. As usual lines are €2 with a card of 6 lines for €10. Whatever support you can offer will be gratefully appreciated.

### Joe Byrne, RIP

It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing away of Joe Byrne, our school basketball coach of 20 years. Many children from our school also attended basketball with him in Johnstown. He will be sadly missed. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.



### Shoebox Appeal

This year the children donated 104 shoeboxes to this worthy cause. Well done to everyone!

### Junior Infants

Junior Infants have settled in well and are having great fun playing in our Aistear groups every morning. We have loved our Aistear themes of *Home, Autumn, Halloween, The Doctor's Surgery* and we are busy playing in *Santa's Workshop* at the moment. Our cribs are coming along nicely and should be ready for Christmas.



## Senior Infants

Senior Infants have settled in well in both Miss Ahern's and Mr Doyle's classes and are hard at work in *Literacy Lift Off*. We have also undertaken *Fit4Class* - a 10 week fun activity and athletics programme focusing on the use of games to develop fitness whilst enhancing agility, balance and coordination.



## 1<sup>st</sup> Class

The class are well settled into their longer day and are bursting with enthusiasm and energy! We have enjoyed a few visits to the local library and love our reading.

Hyacinths, daffodils and other spring bulbs we planted are beginning to peep above the soil in our pots. Tin whistle was started in September and we are coming along nicely. Christmas art is well under way and we are very excited about the upcoming festive season.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Class

2<sup>nd</sup> class have an exciting year ahead with First Confession and First Holy Communion to look forward to. We are always practising our prayers and preparing for our masses. We enjoyed doing *Literacy Lift-Off* and are currently doing paired reading with 5<sup>th</sup> class, which we love! We went on a nature walk and tried to identify various leaves. We like to keep our eyes open to see what's happening around us in nature.



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Class

3<sup>rd</sup> class are really enjoying our weekly training with our FAI soccer coach, Wil Kinsella. We are getting into the Christmas spirit with our Christmas art, making Santas. We are looking forward to learning new Christmas songs in English and as *Gaeilge*.



## 4<sup>th</sup> Class

4<sup>th</sup> class have had a Hallowe'en writing competition and are looking forward to the Christmas Handwriting Competition.



At the moment the children are painting copies of Kandinsky's Concentric Circles! The Green School's Committee (4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>) are busy with our Global Citizenship, Litter Waste Management theme and are currently preparing for a visit from the Green School's Co-ordinator from the County Council. We are also collecting cans for the Urlingford Tidy Town's Christmas Tree Project.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Class

5<sup>th</sup> class have been having great fun working with a new Maths programme called *Isak9*. It is really helping us work as a team and develop our problem solving skills. We have also been doing projects based on WW1 and we have enjoyed learning lots of new information.

6<sup>th</sup> Class are busy preparing for the Jumble Sale. Thank you to all the children who have donated items for the sale. We are really looking forward to the day.

We are taking part in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) project which has linked us with other schools in the locality. We recently completed the *Bebras Challenge* with Mr Dunne from Coláiste Mhuire, Johnstown. This involved completing an online STEM challenge.

### 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> attend Addams

#### Family

The children from 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class attended *Addams Family* on 26<sup>th</sup> November. The show was put on by Transition Year students in Scoil Mhuire, Johnstown. The children really enjoyed the show. Well done to all involved.

#### Parish Carol Service

The Urlingford Parish Carol Service will take place in the church on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 7.30pm. There are many children from the school who are involved, as well as other members of the community. All are welcome so please come join the celebration.

*We wish all parents, pupils and staff of Urlingford NS a very Happy Christmas.*

