

# Scoil an Linbh Íosa News (*December 2015*)

*Prosperous, Naas, Co. Kildare*

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## **Christmas Concert - Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 7pm.**

We are sure you are all looking forward to our much anticipated Christmas concert. This year it is the turn of our younger thespians to take to the stage (infants to second) and our wonderful school choir will also be performing on the night. All have been busy practicing to ensure that it is the best show in town and we hope you all have a great night.

### **Tickets**

Every family will be allocated two tickets which will be sent home with the children. It is important to keep these tickets as they will be needed to gain entry on the night.

As in previous years we are unable to accommodate children at the evening concert. All the children in the school will have seen the full concert, on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>, and our priority is to ensure there are enough tickets for parents and guardians.

With over 200 children taking part, our hall will be at full capacity with just the parents/ guardians. As this is a health and safety issue your co-operation is much appreciated.

### **Donations**

There is no fee for the tickets but we would appreciate a donation to help towards the cost of our lighting and sound. In general this costs close to €1,000.

There will be a donation box at the door.

*Thank you for your support and enjoy the concert.*

## **Christmas Quiz**

There was a wonderful atmosphere in our hall on Wednesday night when 54 teams took part in our annual quiz. Well done to all the teams and congratulations to the winning team from Kildare Town.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the questions and in the hall on the night. A special thank to Muireann Kavanagh who co-ordinated the event. €1,000 was raised for St Vincent de Paul.

## **School Foyer and Library**

Thanks to our very hard working PTA both our library and foyer have been transformed into a magical Christmas Wonderland.

Feel free to pop in to the school to look at the displays.

### **Book Club**

Our book club was brought to a very successful conclusion with the children all enjoying breakfast before the start of school. Next session begins on January 7<sup>th</sup> at 8.30 am.

Children will have a note before the holidays.

Well done to all who took part.

## **Board of Management**

Our new Board of Management is now in place.

Declan O'Brien – Chairperson

Mary Kavanagh – Principal

Mary O'Shea – Teacher

Rosarrii McKennedy – Parent

Brendan Nolan – Parent

Father Bill Kemmy – Bishop's nominee

Michael Garry – Community Rep.

Conor Carmody – Community Rep.

The new board is looking forward to the new term of office and is committed to working tirelessly on behalf of the school community.

## Marcus du Sautoy (Celebrity Mathematician)

Thanks to our recent victory in Manga High we were delighted to welcome celebrity mathematician Marcus du Sautoy to the school.

He held a captive audience of 500 pupils for over an hour as he showed, in a fun and practical way, the importance and relevance of Maths

## Christmas Cards

We hope you were all delighted with the Christmas Cards that the children made. We certainly thought they were fantastic.

This was organised by the PTA who worked tirelessly to ensure that all orders were correct.

Thank you to all who supported this venture. €1,472 was raised.

## Lego Appeal

We have recently been working on Lego Mindstorms with some of our pupils. This involves many skills such as computer programming / reading and following instructions/ Maths skills / story creation etc.

It is in the early stages of development but we feel that the education and social benefits make this a very worthwhile venture.

At the moment we are working with Lego that we have on loan from The Kildare Education Centre. Unfortunately this will have to be returned in the New Year.

We are hoping that some of you, or members of your extended family, may have some Lego that is no longer being used and would be willing to donate it to the school.

The Lego would be put to very good use and would be very much appreciated –

*Note: We are appealing for the standard Lego not the large junior pieces.*

## Talk for Parents – A date for your diary (Wed Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> )

Mary Briody, a parent mentor, and a child and adolescent therapist will talk to us about how we can build self esteem and resilience in children and young adults. Working with, caring for and raising children is becoming increasingly challenging and we are very fortunate that the PTA are facilitating this evening, where we can listen to and seek advice from someone who is very skilled in this area.

Following on from this, Mary is willing to facilitate workshops on areas that may be of particular interest to some parents.

## Calendar Reminders

**Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> – Jan 5<sup>th</sup> Christmas Holidays**  
(The school will close Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 12 o'clock and will reopen Wednesday Jan 6<sup>th</sup> ).

**Note: There will be Mass, in the school, for the children on the 6<sup>th</sup> January. (9:30am)**

**Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> /10<sup>th</sup> (Tues/Wed)**  
(Parent/Teacher Meetings – Infant Classes  
(Times will be organised by class teachers)

## Science

Well done to Nathan Yap and James Byrne who went to Intel to represent the school in the next stage of the Mini Scientist Completion. Their project was titled 'The Cell Powered Car'.

**Well done boys. We are all very proud.**

*We wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a wonderful New Year.*