

# Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa

Christmas Newsletter - December 2022

## Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal



Our school proudly supports Team Hope in their Christmas Shoebox Appeal every Christmas. Team Hope helps children in need. These are some of the poorest children in the world.

Our class designed posters explaining how the Shoebox Appeal works. We went to the different classes around the school and gave a short presentation on what to put in your shoeboxes.

First, you pick whether you are filling a box for a boy or girl. You have to fill your box with the 4 W's - Wash, Write, Wear and Wow. We put in toothbrushes, face clothes, soap, colours, paper, pens, pencils, hats, scarves, underwear and some toys. We also put in some sweets and teddies. You are not allowed to put in chocolate in case it melts and you cannot put any electronics, battery toys or liquids in. You are definitely not allowed to put in war related toys as some children have witnessed war.

Our school donated over 110 shoeboxes with 3 extra bags of items for the volunteers to add to other boxes. The volunteer's car was full to the brim! We enjoyed helping some of the world's poorest children and it helped us realise just how lucky we are.

For more information, please see [www.teamhope.ie](http://www.teamhope.ie). By James Buckey & Bianca Dobos, Ms. Murray's 5<sup>th</sup> class.

## Science Week



In November, we celebrated Science Week. Students from across the school explored topics such as 'static electricity', 'bubble making' and 'acids and bases'.

2<sup>nd</sup> class students enjoyed a webinar from Teagasc about the story of milk and dairy.

Students from 6<sup>th</sup> class visited Hartstown Community school where they enjoyed a series of scientific

investigations in the science laboratories. 6<sup>th</sup> class students also visited the 3D printing workshops in Blanchardstown Library at the 'Maker Space'.

It was a wonderful week of exploring, questioning, investigating and reflecting.

## Logo Competition



In October children were invited to design a logo for the upcoming musical 'School of Rock'.

The winning logo was designed by Kamile in Ms. Dwyer's 6<sup>th</sup> class.

This logo will feature on all musical material in the coming year.

Congratulations Kamile!



## Enrolment for 2023/2024

We are now accepting admission applications for the 2023/2024 school year (including Junior Infants and Coiscéim ASD classes). Please see our dedicated Admissions page on our website at <http://sacredheart huntstown.weebly.com/admissions-2023.html> for full details.

Our school participated in the Food Dudes programme during the month of November.

We have learned a great deal about healthy food choices and we have enjoyed making fruits and vegetables part of our every day life.

Thank you to Ms. Fagan and the Students' Council for coordinating the programme.

## A Message from Mr. Lyons

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Term one has been incredibly busy in Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa. As we returned after the summer break, staff and pupils began the new term full of enthusiasm and hope for a return to normal school routines and activities.

Our senior soccer blitz was a huge success in September and October and was thoroughly enjoyed by all participants. Thank you to Mr. Doyle, Mr. Kestell and Mr. Harraghy for organising the blitz.

Auditions for our school musical, School of Rock, also took place in September and rehearsals have been ongoing since. The production team are working tirelessly to ensure that our show in February will be a huge success.

Science Week was a very busy week with children taking part in experiments and investigations in their classes. Some members of our SET team visited classes and all enjoyed the lessons. Well done to all involved and thank you to Mr. O'Callaghan and Mrs. Boyle for organising and overseeing the event.

The community of Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa gave generously to the Shoebox Appeal and we were delighted to see a return to the traditional shoe boxes this year. Many thanks to all who supported this very worthy cause and to Ms. Murray for organising.

We were very fortunate to have a return visit by the PLAYground Orchestra.. On Friday, November 11th the 29-piece orchestra under the direction of Paul Frost and joined by renowned singer, Susan McFadden, performed some well known favourites for our staff and pupils. This was a fantastic event enjoyed by all.

Our school raffle was a great success, raising over €5,000 for our school.. Again, our thanks to the Parents' Association for organising and congratulations to the lucky winners. Sincere thanks to everyone who donated prizes for the raffle and to parents/guardians who supported the fundraiser so generously, your support is very much appreciated.

Staff and pupils of Sacred Heart were overjoyed to open our doors to parents/guardians for school plays and Nativities this Christmas. Many classes performed Christmas themed shows to delighted audiences and we are so thankful that this could go ahead this year. My thanks to staff for their efforts and to parents/guardians for their attendance and well done to all our talented stars!

As we close for our Christmas break, I would like to sincerely thank the staff of Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa for their tireless work for the pupils in their care. I would like to thank parents/guardians and families for supporting your children in their education.. I would like to thank the community of Huntstown for supporting our great school and last but by no means least, I would like to sincerely congratulate our pupils on an excellent first term and thank them for their hard work so far this year. Tús maith, leath na hoibre!

I would like to wish everyone in our school community a happy and peaceful Christmas and I look forward to welcoming everyone back to school in the New Year. Nollaig shona agus athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh.

*Kieran Lyons*

*Principal*





## Halloween Fundraiser

The Student Council's ran a Halloween Fundraiser just before Midterm. We were overwhelmed by the creativity and thought behind all of the wonderful costumes we saw and almost €700 was raised.

Well done to our dress up winners. Wonderful creativity and fabulous costumes!



## Soccer Blitz



Mr Doyle ran the soccer blitz with senior classes in October. Teams Brazil and Spain made it to the final where they played an incredibly close match. It was 1-1 at the end of extra time and after some terrific saves, Brazil finally won on penalties. Special mention must go to Ciaran, who was the top scorer with 15 goals! Well done to all involved!



Why not consider giving the gift of a book this Christmas?

A gift that can be opened again and again!

...YOU CAN FIND  
magic  
WHEREVER YOU  
look.  
SIT BACK AND  
relax,  
ALL YOU NEED IS  
A book!  
~ DR. SEUSS



## National Children's Choir

This year, all of our 5<sup>th</sup> classes are participating in The National Children's Choir. Over 8000 children around Ireland are taking part this year. We are divided into 2 separate groups, altos and sopranos. In July, all of the 5<sup>th</sup> class teachers did a course for 1 week. They learned the songs and how to teach them to us. Each school will have a regional concert in March or April 2023. We will perform in The Basketball Arena in Tallaght with other schools from Dublin. A small number of children will then represent our school in The National Concert Hall at the national concerts in May 2023.

Our school is paired with 2 other schools for our rehearsals. We hosted the first of three rehearsals in our school. Ms. Donohoe played the piano and Ms. Murray was our conductor. We had to know our music off by heart. So far we have learned songs in Irish, English, Italian, Spanish and Latin! We can't wait to perform for you all. Our favourite songs are 'Shut De Do' and 'Oh Shenandoah.'

For more information please see [www.nationalchildrenschoir.ie](http://www.nationalchildrenschoir.ie).

By Amelia Madden & Armandas Zibas



## Hospice Coffee Morning

In September we supported St. Francis Hospice, Blanchardstown. Our class designed posters to display around the school and we had a big coffee morning on Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Our staff raised over €500.

We are very lucky to have a local hospice. Did you know in 2020 it cost €17.2million to provide its services? €14.9million comes from the HSE. The rest comes from donations and fundraising so it is a very worthy charity to support.



## School Calendar 2023 – Terms 2 and 3



School will reopen after the Christmas break on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023**.

**Public Holiday:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023

**February Mid-term Break:** Monday 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023 inclusive

**St. Patrick's Day Public Holiday:** Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**Easter Break:** The school will close at **12 noon on Friday 31st March** and remain closed until **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April** inclusive

*If changes are required to be made to the Easter break as part of contingency arrangements to make up for time lost due to unforeseen school closures the school may remain open up to and including Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023.*

**May Public Holiday:** Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023

**June Mid-term Break:** Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023 inclusive

School will close for the summer holidays at 12 noon on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

**Please Note:** There will be one full day or two half-day closures to facilitate Primary Language Curriculum in-service training for teachers during the remainder of the 2022/23 academic year. The date for inservice training will be communicated to parents when it has been finalised.



### The Playground Orchestra



In November we enjoyed two incredible performances by the Playground Orchestra. We learned all about the instruments and listened to lots of wonderful music. What an Extraordinary experience for our students. Thank you to the Playground Orchestra!



To keep update on all things school, log on to our website at

[www.shns.ie](http://www.shns.ie)

and follow us on Twitter at

<https://twitter.com/sacredheartns>