

## A Message from your Principal

Let us hope that the cold and unseasonable weather of the spring and early summer will give way to bright sunshine for the children and teachers to enjoy after their year of hard work. And what a year it has been! Last week the National Children's Choir completed its run of concerts which began in April in the National Basketball Arena. All our fifth class children and teachers were part of that massive undertaking which culminated in a number of concerts in the National Basketball Arena and in the National Concert Hall. The boys and girls did Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa íosa proud and the standard of singing was amazing. Well done to all the class teachers and to Ms. Murray who is a member of the NCC committee.

On June 11th, Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa íosa was evaluated for the awarding of a Yellow Flag. This evaluation was the final activity in what has been a very busy year for the Yellow Flag committees and the Diversity Committee which comprised teachers, children and parents. You can read all about the Yellow Flag campaign elsewhere in this newsletter. However, I want to pay tribute to all those who led the initiative, to the staff who implemented the various stages of the project, to the children for their work and to the parents for their support. As a result of the Yellow Flag Initiative, I think we have a much better understanding of diversity, difference and equality and much credit goes to Ms. Mullany for her tireless work in bringing the project together. I expect that all the effort will receive the recognition it deserves by having the school awarded Yellow Flag status.

By now most of you will be aware that the school opened a new playground recently at a cost of over €60,000. This new facility is primarily for the younger children and particularly for our Coiscéim classes. I hope the children enjoy it and that it will prove to be a very positive addition to the school infrastructure. Unfortunately some undesirable elements have vandalised the playground in its first few weeks. Thanks to the vigilance of our good neighbours the Gardaí have been following some leads and have spoken to some of those who were trespassing. The playing field is also progressing well and the contractor hopes to re-seed and complete that project in July. Apologies to those who use the field entrance for any inconvenience caused by the works. We hope that the children will be able to enjoy this new facility early next year.

Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa íosa received a number of awards this year in recognition of the children's work in Maths and Science and Ms. O'Connor's class for its participation in a Lego project. Well done to all. The school was very successful in Mathletics and in the Khan Academy maths challenges.

The school was honoured by visits from An Tánaiste, Ms. Joan Burton and Minister for Health, Mr. Leo Varadkar recently during our Intercultural/Interfaith Week. They viewed the magnificent display in the atrium and chatted to the children and their parents.

Congratulations to all our athletes who participated in a number of athletic meets during the year and in Santry recently. Thank you to the teachers who willingly help to promote athletics and travelled with the children to the various venues. Thank you also to all those teachers who give of their free time to bring boys and girls to football, hurling and soccer games throughout the year. Very often this work is taken for granted as part of the teachers' work but it is important to remember that their participation is voluntary. Children take part in the annual Credit Union quizzes organised by Ms. Connell and always give a good account of themselves.

Teachers have worked extra hours under the Croke Park Agreement during which they undertook school planning, engaged in teacher professional development, attended staff meetings and held parent teacher meetings. As part of the school's development, we continue to be engaged in the School Self Evaluation (SSE) programme. The SSE has focussed on elements of English and Mathematics. In September, the school will add Irish to its evaluation process and continue new aspects of English and Maths. Details of these activities will be posted on the website.

Our Parents' Association has been very active throughout the school year. The contribution of parents to the school is greatly appreciated and I encourage more parents to join the Association and support its great work. You can read all about the Association's work elsewhere in this newsletter. Congratulations to the children from Second Classes who made their First Holy Communion and to the Sixth Class boys and girls who were confirmed in April. They were all a credit to the school and to their parents. We wish our Sixth Class boys and girls every success in secondary school and hope that they cherish happy memories of their time with us at Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa íosa.

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Mr. Kieran Lyons as principal of Scoil Cholmcille Boys' School, Swords and we wish him luck in his new position. Mr Lyons has been an integral part of Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa's management as an assistant principal for many years and has played a vital role in the development of the school. Mr. Lyons' contribution to the IT infrastructure in the school has been enormous as has his contribution to sport and the general ethos of the school. Thank you for your 17 years service to the Huntstown community agus go fada buan thú.

We also say goodbye to Ms Maria O'Regan who has been on a teacher exchange here for the past 3 years from Cork. Ms Ciara Brogan returns from Cork to Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa íosa in September. A talented musician, Ms. O'Regan was a great help to the school during our musical, for Communion and for Confirmations. Thank you and best wishes Ms O'Regan and good luck.

Belated thank you to one of our parents, David Tierney who generously donated 25 laptop computers to the school from his place of work where they were upgrading to newer models



Thanks to the Students' Council for all its work during the year. The members of the council are a shining example to their peers.

Enjoy the summer holidays everyone!

Seán Ó Díomasaigh  
Principal

## School Website

Our school website contains a wealth of information about the day to day events in the school. It is updated regularly with links to the school calendar, school news and sporting achievements. The boys and girls contribute art work and projects which are available to view on the site. Parents can also download policy documents and access important educational links. Our current address is:  
[www.sacredhearthuntstown.weebly.com](http://www.sacredhearthuntstown.weebly.com).

## Student Council Update

The Student Council has had a very busy and productive year. Building on the success of their predecessors, the boys and girls have worked hard to represent the larger student body, bringing forward issues, supporting school projects and making the school a better place for everyone. The student council aims to be a voice for all students in the school. One of their biggest projects this year was the investment in 'wet day' games for every class in the school. With the support of the Parents' committee, the council raised money and bought a selection of educational board games for every classroom in the school. The council members worked collaboratively to select activities that would support friendship, cooperation and oral language. They made lists of the best games for each class level and purchased the games at the best possible value. These games will be used by the boys and girls during lunch

breaks when they remain indoors due to inclement weather. Well done to all involved.



## STEM Learning Project

Well done to Caoimhe Kelly, Ryan Lawlor, Elisha McAuley and Aaron Scully from Mr Sullivan's 5th class who represented the school with pride at the launch of the RDS STEM Learning Project on May 5th.



## Rainbows

Our school offers the Rainbows Support Programme for pupils (1st to 6th Class) who are suffering loss as result of bereavement or parental separation/divorce. The programme can begin once sufficient applications have been received to make up groups of same age children suffering from similar loss. Further information on the Rainbows Programme is available on [www.rainbowsireland.ie](http://www.rainbowsireland.ie). Application forms are available on request from the school office. Please return completed forms to the school office for the attention of Ms Mullany.

## Maths and Science Awards

We are delighted to announce that the school recently received its second Award of Science and Maths Excellence. There were five steps to achieving the award, run in conjunction with Science Foundation Ireland. These include conducting experiments across all disciplines, recording and presenting mathematics using ICT, delivering a science talk to groups of students and inviting a science speaker to the school. The whole school was involved this year and the standard of work was exceptional. We were awarded a plaque and certificate of STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Maths) Excellence. Congratulations and well done to all teachers and pupils involved and in particular to Ms. Coady, Mr. O'Callaghan and Ms. Heslin.

## Boys' Soccer 2014/15

The boys' soccer team had a good year despite not successfully defending their title of F.A.I.S. West Dublin League winners. St. Patrick's N.S., Corduff won its first league title with St. Brigid's N.S., Blanchardstown taking the runners-up spot. There was an early exit in the Dublin Senior Cup as the boys narrowly lost 3-2 to eventual runners-up St. Oliver Plunkett's N.S., Malahide.

A fine display in the F.A.I.S. Dublin 5-a-side competition in Irishtown saw the team win its league section before losing on penalties to eventual winners Ballyroan N.S.

At the time of going to print, the boys still had to play in the Dublin West Cup in Lucan where they hoped to regain the trophy from last year's winners Divine Mercy N.S., Ballygaddy.

Well done to all the players and thanks to the team's coaches Mr. Kestell and Mr. Sullivan!  
Squad: D. Aston Tella, A. Bagily, K. Bakare, S. Blood (c), J. Brennan, C. Byrne, R. Devine, C. Doyle, S. Dwyer, G. Gago, R. Hatab, C. Hopkins, J. Jackson, D. Kesse, A. Kestell, M. Lawal, R. Lawlor, K. Lemba, J. McKeever, D. McMillen, D. Ndukwa, H. Nzingo, L. O'Grady, D. Okanume.

## Girls Soccer

This year we had a very enthusiastic group of girls playing soccer. Everyone played very well and represented their school with great pride. Well done girls and thank you to team trainers Miss Quinn and Mr. Barry.

## Athletics

We finished off this year with a fantastic day in Santry for the Cumann na mBunscoil Sports Day. We had children competing in both individual sprint races and also on relay teams.



Everyone performed very well and did their school extremely proud. Glory Nzingo finished 2nd in his 60m sprint heat and then went on to claim bronze in the final. Well done to all of the boys and girls who came out to training during their lunch time over the last year. Everyone was so well behaved and always gave their best efforts. Thank you to team trainer Miss Quinn and also to Ms. Fortune and Ms. Hegarty who accompanied the team to Santry Stadium.

## Science Club

Well done also to all 6th class pupils involved in the after school Science Club who engaged in many scientific investigations earlier in the year. Keep up the good work!

