



# Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa

Summer Newsletter

June 2024

## We are the Champions!

Once we were victorious in the semi-final, we were so excited. Around two weeks after, we gathered around in the atrium ready to win. We got on the bus and then it hit me; we were going to play in Parnell Park!

Once we arrived we got into the changing rooms. Ms Kelly & Ms Byrne had chosen Millie as our team captain. We walked out onto the pitch, did some drills, huddled up and then Millie gave us a powerful speech. We ran out to our positions, ready to go!

The referee blew the whistle and the ball was in the air. It was so hard not to get distracted by our biggest supporters: Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa.

There were a very tough team. It was goal upon goal, free upon free and in a flash it was half time. Everyone ran back to take a sip of water and we were off once again. We got the ball and scored a goal! We dug deep and kept going and before we knew it...we had won and were champions! It was an amazing feeling. Everyone ran onto the pitch cheering. I had never felt anything like it and it was all thanks to our amazing coaches Ms Kelly & Ms Byrne for all their guidance and hard work. By Megan (Rang a 5, Ms Gillan & Ms Furley)



## JEP Award Ms Lee's 5th class

Well done to Ms Lee's class on achieving their plaque for completing the Junior Entrepreneur Programme 2024.



The class were divided up into marketing, design, finance and IT teams and created a business called "Picture Perfect" where they designed personalised frames. Some future entrepreneurs in the making! By Darragh (Rang a 5, Ms Lee)

## School Garden



Boys and girls from third class created a community vegetable garden again this year. Firstly, we prepared the soil,



nourishing it with seaweed. In February we planted seeds indoors and cared for them until the seedlings began to flourish. The weather was unfortunately against us this year and we were unable to plant outside until late

spring. The lack of sun and heat made it very difficult for the vegetables to grow. We were undeterred and we have thankfully grown some delicious kale, onions, potatoes, carrots, spinach, broad beans and peas. It has been a wonderful experience and we have learned so much from it. By Alex (Rang a 3, Mr Mullally)

## Student Council Dáil Éireann Visit



The student council visited Dáil Éireann this term. We learned that decisions are made here that affect the country such as healthcare, education and the economy. The Dáil is where the government works to make sure everything runs smoothly and people's voices are heard. We met with Jack Chambers TD when we visited and he told us there are 160 members of the government called TD's or Teachta Dála. The leader of our country is called An Taoiseach and is usually from the party with the most seats. We saw the election room and paintings from the previous Taoisigh. By Nora (Rang a 6, Ms Dooley)

## FÍS Awards 2024



The FÍS Film Awards celebrate the creativity of primary school students in Ireland by recognising their achievements in filmmaking and digital storytelling.

This year we won two storyboard awards for all our hard work and dedication. Well done to Ms Lee's class & to special mention to Mr Doyle for another amazing achievement

with FÍS. By Adriel (Rang a 5, Ms Lee)

### A Message from our Principal

We have come to the end of another incredible year for pupils and staff of Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa. This year began with the arrival of our new caretaker, Adrian Nedelca who had huge shoes to fill following the retirement of our beloved Mr. Kestell however, Adrian has become a welcome addition to our Sacred Heart family with his warm smile and generous spirit. Welcome aboard Adrian!

The new school year saw the introduction of 'Class of the Month' where each month, classes at each level tried to earn points through good behaviour, positive attitude, hard work in class and following school rules and policies. Every month, classes (and teachers!) waited eagerly for the announcement of the winning classes on the intercom. Cheers and roars would be heard throughout the school from winning classes and they earned some very creative and inventive rewards for their efforts! The battle of the classes will continue next year!

Mr. Doyle's soccer blitz resumed in the first term for 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> classes and the final took place on Huntstown Community Centre's astroturf pitch before the Halloween break. Sincere thanks to Mr. Doyle and congratulations to all the participants and to the victors.

The Student Council's Halloween fundraiser was a huge success; we saw some very creative costumes lurking around the corridors and it was a very enjoyable event for all!

November was a busy month with internet safety workshops delivered by Zeeko in our 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> classes, our Parents' Association AGM and trips to the Phoenix Park and Hartstown Community School for Science Week for our 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils.

December saw the beginning of a new four-year term for the Board of Management, with parent Julie Burke, teacher Sinéad Fagan and community nominees Sinéad Joyce and Eddie Rooney joining chairperson Margaret Condon, patron nominee John Regan, parent Luke Stynes and myself on the Board. I would like to thank present and past Board members for their wonderful support of our school community. We were also saddened to learn of the passing of Fr. Ralph Egan, previous chairperson of our Board of Management, in November. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

Our build up to Christmas was as hectic as ever and Ms. Murray organised the annual Shoebox Appeal in our school. Ably assisted by Ms. Fagan, Ms. Murray also planned and prepared pupils and staff for the Carols for the Community event which took place in the church on December 14<sup>th</sup>. This was a magical event and there was neither an empty seat nor a dry eye to be seen!

The FAI Future Stars programme was launched in our school also this year. The programme ran as a partnership between the FAI and our local Hartstown-Huntstown Football Club and encouraged girls between the ages of 9 and 12 to get involved in football. A 10-week football programme was delivered in the school by an FAI coach to some of our 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class girls on Tuesdays after school and it was enjoyed by all.

The second term saw Catholic Schools Week in January, Internet Safety Week in February and our annual bookfair in March. Our Parents' Association also held our first ever Easter Bonanza Raffle. Thank you for your support of this really vital fundraiser and sincere thanks to our Parents' Association for their wonderful work on behalf of all of our pupils throughout the year.

Our third term began with a visit to Dáil Éireann for our Student Council and also our Confirmation Day. Our 6<sup>th</sup> class and Coiscéim teachers and SNAs worked incredibly hard with the children to prepare for this special day and the ceremony was a really lovely celebration.

May was an incredibly busy month which included our First Holy Communion ceremony on May 18<sup>th</sup>. The children were brilliant on the day and so well prepared by their dedicated 2<sup>nd</sup> class and Coiscéim teachers and SNAs.

Ms. Lee's 5<sup>th</sup> class took part in the Junior Entrepreneur Programme and Ms. Cullen's 6<sup>th</sup> class took part in the Junior Achievement Programme, both of these programmes gave opportunities to the pupils to develop new skills and talents.

We were incredibly proud of our Senior Girls' Gaelic team, coached by Ms. S. Byrne and Ms. Kelly, who lifted the cup in the Fingal League final in Parnell Park on May 25<sup>th</sup>! Well done to the team and their coaches on such a great display of skill and teamwork! Go Team Huntstown!

The month of May also saw the launch of the Hot Meals Programme in our school and what a huge success it has been. Staff, pupils and our wonderful partners The Lunch Bag have all worked in co-operation to make the launch a resounding success. Our operatives can be seen scurrying on the corridors delivering delicious hot meals to our pupils ... and often with some hungry staff members in pursuit!

The last term included some really exciting initiatives such as the Computational Thinking Workshops organised by Ms. R. Byrne, the Lego Leagues Project with Mr. Mullally and his 3<sup>rd</sup> class and the Robotics Workshops for some of our 6<sup>th</sup> classes.

The end of the school year is a time to reflect on the year gone by and this year has certainly been a busy one! The staff and pupils have worked incredibly hard and our school has been a hive of activity all year long. Our pupils continue to impress us with their talents and their enthusiasm for learning. The staff work tirelessly to develop these talents and inspire this enthusiasm. The school community of Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa is a vibrant and collegial community and one that I am proud to lead. Thank you most sincerely to the pupils for such a successful year and to my colleagues for your hard work and dedication to your profession.

The joy of a year's work well done is tinged with sadness as we must say some goodbyes. To our graduating Coiscéim and 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils, go forward into the next chapter of your lives with confidence and self-belief. Remember some of the most important lessons you have learned in Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa: to always show kindness and respect for others, to do your best and to never give up, even when faced with great challenges.

To some of our colleagues who are leaving us this year: Esther Harrison, Jackie King and Shauna Concannon. Thank you for your contributions to our school community during your time here and best wishes for the future.

Finally, thank you most sincerely to you, the parents and guardians, for supporting your children and our school throughout the year. This support is vital and very much appreciated.

Have a wonderful summer break.

*Kieran Lyons, Principal*

# Graduation and Awards Ceremony

The school year was completed with a graduation and awards ceremony for 6<sup>th</sup> class students on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June. All children were commended for their special contribution to the school over the past eight years.



The following awards were also made :

## **ACADEMIC AWARDS**

*Literary Student of the Year* – Amarachi Nnadi  
*Gaeilgeoir na Bliana*– Millie Reid & Ava Hayes  
*Musician of the Year* – Guilherme De Matos Vergueiro  
*Mathematicians of the Year* – Daniel Figala & Jake Fowler  
*John Lynch Award* – Dara McDaniel  
*Gradam na Scoile* – Beth Horrigan

*Scientist of the Year* – Max Lyons  
*Artist of the Year* – Ariadna Berzan  
*Innovator of the Year* – Mihai Vladulescu

## **SPORTS AWARDS**

*Boys' Soccer Player of the Year* – James Buckley  
*Boys' GAA Player of the Year* – Adam O'Neill  
*Sportsperson of the Year 2023/24* – Jack Grehan

*Girls' Soccer Player of the Year* – Sienna Daly  
*Girls' GAA Player of the Year* – Ayla Egan & Kayleigh Arkins  
*Athlete of the Year* – Chisom Nwaejim

## **Bid Dig 2024**



The children from 3rd & 4th class really enjoyed the 'Big Dig workshop'. It allowed the children to delve into archaeology and uncover the past. This workshop simulated a real archaeological dig, providing tools and guidance to excavate and

analyse artefacts. The left the workshop with an appreciation for history and archaeology, making learning interactive and fun. The children got to see and handle an interactive and hands-on display of artefacts and learn all about them, as well as learn about the job of the archaeologist. They got to excavate and dig their very own Viking House and find artefacts dating back 1,000 years.

## **Bon Appétit - Yum!**

Hot lunches arrive in our classrooms everyday, the class gets so excited. They are delicious and nutritious. Thank you to Monica, Ester & Joan for delivering the hot food on time with a smile. By Fiona (Rang a 5, Mr Shelly)



## **Robotics workshop**



The Lego robotics workshop was one of our best 6th class activities. John from Think BIG showed us how technology and robots are used in the real world. We used Lego and learning basic coding to programme the swing ride and ferris wheel. We all had a great time. By Mihai (Rang a 6, Ms Murray)

## **3D Printing @ Blanchardstown Library**

Mr Thynne's 5th class visited Maker Space in Blanchardstown library. We learned all about 3D printing and how it's done. We created an egg cup using the 3D printing programme on laptops. When the egg cups were printed, we were happy with the results. By Eve (Rang a 5, Mr Thynne)



**Keep up-to-date on everything that's going on in the school:**

Log on to our website:  
[www.sacredhearthuntstown.weebly.com](http://www.sacredhearthuntstown.weebly.com)

Follow us on Twitter:  
<https://twitter.com/sacredheartns>



## Computational Thinking Workshop

The 4th, 5th & 6th classes had great fun taking part in a computational thinking workshop held by Aoife and Julia from the Maynooth University Computer Science Department. The children solved tasks and played games that encouraged them to use problem solving skills that computer scientists use. It was an excellent opportunity for the children to work collaboratively together and find solutions to some very tricky questions. A special thank you to Ms R Byrne for organising this event!

## Lego Spike

We took part in the first Lego league this year, where we were able to use Lego robotics. For this league, we had to create our favourite hobby using Lego Spike essential. We learned how to code our hub to control motors, light sensors and lights. We then displayed our Lego to different classes who came in and explained how our code worked for them. Our parents also got the opportunity to come and see our projects which was really fun! By Adam (Rang a 3, Mr Mullally)



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### Sacred Heart of Jesus NS 2024/2025 School Calendar

August 2024							September 2024							October 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

  

November 2024							December 2024							January 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	

  

February 2025							March 2025							April 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1						1			1	2	3	4	5	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
							30	31												

  

May 2025							June 2025							July 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

■ First day of school year     
 ■ School holidays     
 ■ 12 noon closure

- The school will open for the 2024/2025 academic year on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> August 2024.
- Where contingency arrangements are required to make up for time lost due to unforeseen school closures, the length of the February mid-term break may be reduced by remaining open up to and including Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2025 and/or the length of the Easter break may be reduced by remaining open up to and including Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2025.
- Primary Curriculum in-service training for teachers will take place during the 2024/2025 academic year. The dates for school closures to facilitate this in-service training will be communicated to parents/guardians when they have been finalised.
- School year will finish on Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

Príomhoide: Kieran Lyons  
Leas Príomhoide: Clara Donohoe

### Useful links:

#### School requisites lists 2024/2025:

<https://tinyurl.com/6w9crkj8>

#### School calendar 2024/2025:

<https://tinyurl.com/yynn324da>

#### Enrolment/admission information:

<https://tinyurl.com/ea7n4jx8>

#### Classes, teachers and rooms 2024/2025:

<https://tinyurl.com/3furajfy>

#### School uniform policy and suppliers:

<https://tinyurl.com/y688cyrbu>

#### Healthy lunch policy:

<https://tinyurl.com/3s7psvyd>