



Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa

Summer Newsletter

June 2025

National Children's Choir

Children from 4th classes have been working hard since September learning a wide repertoire of songs for the National Children's Choir. We sang at a big concert in April in The National Basketball Arena in Tallaght. This was one of the Dublin regional concerts. Some of us were very lucky to have been selected to represent our school to sing in The National Concert Hall in May at the National Concerts.

There were three concerts held in The National Concert Hall and all the schools from Cork to Donegal had some children singing. We had a big rehearsal on the day of the concert. We were so nervous but really excited. Mary Kennedy from RTE was our Compere and Eimear Quinn (who won the Eurovision for Ireland!) was our guest performer.

On the night we were so thrilled to see our teachers and Mr. Lyons in the audience cheering us on! It is fabulous to be able to say that we have performed on stage in The National Concert Hall! The orchestra were amazing, we really loved the percussion. We were late going to bed that night so we came to school a little bit later than usual the next day. Our favourite songs were 'Viva la Vida' and 'Kusimama'. It was a wonderful experience and we will never forget it!



Visit to Draíocht

Ms. Donovan's 4th Class recently visited **Draíocht**, where they had the opportunity to tour both the art gallery and the theatre. The visit was both educational and highly enjoyable.



During our time in the art gallery, we explored a range of artworks and learned about different artistic techniques. We were encouraged to observe, ask questions, and share our interpretations of the artwork on display. We then toured the theatre, where we discovered how productions are brought to life behind the scenes. We learned about stage design, lighting, sound, costumes and how performances are prepared. It was a fascinating insight into the world of theatre.

The visit was a great success and provided a memorable learning experience that sparked creativity and interest in both the visual and performing arts. A sincere thank you to the staff at Draíocht for their warm welcome and for making the day so engaging.

Back to the Future

Have you ever wished you could time travel?

Well, we have done the next best thing! Thanks to An Post's "Letter to My Future Self" initiative, we each wrote a letter to our future selves — sealing it with our dreams,

hopes, memories and reflections. Ms. Fagan carefully posted our letters, which will be delivered back to us in **May 2026**. Opening these letters will be like meeting a younger version of ourselves.



Blanchardstown Library

We warmly encourage you to visit your local library during the summer holidays and dive into the world of books. Whether you're a fan of adventure stories, fun facts, or magical tales, there's something for everyone waiting on the shelves.



Why not spend a quiet afternoon with your parents or guardians at Blanchardstown Library, exploring new stories and enjoying some quality time together?

We hope this visit sparks a lifelong love of reading and a lasting connection with the library. There's a whole world to discover — and we look forward to welcoming you this summer and beyond!

A Message from our Principal

As we close the door on another incredibly successful year in Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa, it is wonderful to reflect on some of the highlights.

The year began with the very welcome arrival of a Sensory Pod to our school. The Sensory Pod was sponsored by The Lunch Bag and has been utilised by so many of our pupils during the year. We are so grateful to have received it.

Mr. Doyle organised his annual soccer blitz in September for 4th - 6th classes and it proved to be a hugely enjoyable event for all participants.

Our Student Council was elected in September and has had a very successful year, supported and mentored by Mr. O'Callaghan, Ms. Gillan and Ms. Fagan.

The first term also saw the return of the National Children's Choir programme in the school and 4th class pupils and teachers worked tirelessly to perfect a challenging repertoire in preparation for their performance in the National Basketball Arena in April. A further group of children were chosen to perform again on the stage of The National Concert Hall in May. Both performances were outstanding and our pupils performed and represented our school impeccably on both occasions.

We also saw the return of sports teams during the year including girls' and boys' soccer and Gaelic football, hurling and, for the first time in our school's history, we fielded a camogie team in the Fingal League!

Chess Club continued at lunch breaks during the year along with a school quiz team who took part in the Phoenix FM competition.

The festive season wouldn't be complete without our annual Carols for the Community event which took place in the Church of the Sacred Heart in December. This event is always so well received and is a magical night for pupils, staff and all in attendance.

We also hosted a wonderful Book Fair this year, supported by the Parents' Association and organised by Ms. Mullany. The success of the Book Fair has resulted in many new books being purchased for our school library.

We also had very successful Anti Bullying, Friendship and Catholic Schools Weeks during the year and our annual Easter Bonanza Raffle, organised by the Parents' Association, was very well supported once again.

Our 6th class pupils were incredibly fortunate to not only be invited to visit Hartstown Community School to have a tour and learn a little about the school, but were also invited to attend the dress rehearsal of their show '*Back to the 80s!*' in Draíocht Theatre! Both outings were thoroughly enjoyed by our pupils and we are most grateful to the staff of Hartstown Community School for these opportunities.

Mr. Doyle had another successful year in the FÍS competition and his 2023/2024 4th class pupils were awarded the Outstanding Achievement in Filmmaking Award! Our thanks to Mr. Doyle for all his efforts in this initiative and for donating the prize of an iPad to the school Easter Raffle!

We were incredibly proud of the 2nd class, 6th class and Coiscéim pupils who received Sacraments this year. The First Holy Communion and Confirmation ceremonies went off seamlessly, thanks to the hard work of the class and Coiscéim teachers and SNAs, and were enhanced by our wonderful school choir. The Parents' Association hosted lovely receptions for sacrament children and their families, which added to the enjoyment of their wonderfully special days.

In December and March, we were visited by Department of Education and Youth inspectors who visited almost half of our mainstream classes and some of our Special Education Classes and teachers. We were thrilled with our feedback and the recognition of our wonderful pupils and the hard work and dedication of our staff.

The last term was a busy one with school tours, sports days and Active School Week. We also revisited the Food Dudes initiative and our hot food provider, The Lunch Bag, launched their fruit initiative with fresh fruit being delivered to each classroom daily by our operatives.

In May, our school welcomed a group of visiting Principals from Holland who had the opportunity to have a look around our school, have a question-and-answer session with our Student Council about school life in Huntstown and speak to some staff members about our education system here in Ireland. They were very impressed when they visited Ms. Kirby's 6th class to see their Science Blast and film projects and Mr. Mullally's 3rd class to see their Lego League project. They were also treated to a performance by our school choir and were incredibly complimentary of our fabulous school.

We had a wonderful evening on Wednesday, June 25th at the Graduation Ceremony for our 6th class pupils. It was such a special evening for pupils and their families and for their teachers and SNAs, as we gathered to celebrate them and to mark the end of their primary school journey. There were poems, songs, speeches, awards, plenty of tea and cake and lots of tears of pride and joy. Thank you to all involved in organising this truly special event.

As you can see, we have had another busy and successful year and I would like to sincerely thank you, the parents and guardians, for supporting your children and our school throughout the year. This partnership is a vital part of our school's success. However, as the school year draws to a close, there are sadly some farewells we must say.

To our amazing 6th class graduates, the Class of 2025! We are beyond proud of the young people you have become and it has been our privilege to support you on your journey. Go forward now with confidence in yourselves and look fondly on your time here with us in Sacred Heart. You are the future, so take your gifts, talents and enthusiasm and aim for the stars!

To the talented and energetic Ms. Maher and Ms. Doheny, thank you for sharing your talents with our pupils and for your dedication to our school during your two years with us. Thank you to Ms. Lyons for your tireless work and dedication to pupils with additional needs in the school; you truly are an inspiration! And finally, on your retirement Ms. Clíodhna Morris, there are no words to adequately express my gratitude for your long and dedicated service to the community of Huntstown, so I will defer to my colleague, Mr. Rory Thynne, to express our appreciation in a poem. Best wishes all and enjoy the summer holidays.

Kieran Lyons, Principal

Go Your Own Way

Ms Morris is Leaving Today
There's something wrong in Huntstown Way,
The sun is in hiding, the laughter's away.
The birch trees are weeping and seeming to say,
"Ms Morris is leaving today."

For years she arrived as the morning was new,
Turned on the Burco, the first in the queue.
Kind and generous, patient and wise,
A light in the classroom, a guide in young eyes.

She led with compassion, steady and true,
Finding each child the path to pursue.
Support plans written with thought and with care,
Ensuring each learner knew she was there.

She knew every child, their worries, their dreams,
She saw what was hidden, heard unspoken themes.
Her kindness a shelter, her patience a guide,
A steady, warm presence with arms open wide.

Her hands shaped more than just lessons and books,
But also in baking, with care as she cooks.
Lasagne, brown bread, and chocolate so sweet,
Mini-egg buns, each morsel, a treat.

She never forgot a birthday or name,
Made all feel valued, no two quite the same.
Now silence lingers where laughter once lay,
For Ms Morris is leaving today.

But echoes remain in the hearts that she taught,
In kindness she planted, in lessons she wrought.
Though we will all miss her, though school must go on,
Her legacy lingers long after she's gone.

So off to new journeys, to rest and explore,
With time now for family, for friends, and much more.
May laughter and sunshine fill all of your days,
Ms Morris, we'll miss you in so many ways.

1st Lego League



This year, our 3rd Class students enthusiastically participated in the First Lego League 2024 'Submerged' challenge — an engaging and hands-on STEM initiative that encourages innovation, teamwork, and problem-solving. The theme, Submerged, focused on the wonders and challenges of our oceans, prompting students to explore real-world issues such as overfishing, marine pollution, coral reef degradation, and habitat destruction.

Working in small teams, students conducted research to better understand these environmental problems and their impact on marine life and global ecosystems. Guided by curiosity and collaboration, each group selected a specific issue to address. They then went on to design, build, and code a LEGO model that represented their chosen challenge and proposed a creative solution.

From underwater clean-up robots to sustainable fishing technologies, the projects demonstrated remarkable imagination and technical skill. Throughout the process, students developed their computational thinking and engineering design abilities, while also enhancing their communication and teamwork skills.

Graduation and Awards Ceremony

The school year was completed with a graduation and awards ceremony for 6th class students on Wednesday 25th 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: Karen Kelleher

Scientist of the Year: Jamie O'Brien & Oscar Donovan

Gaeilgeoir na Bliana: Nicoleta Motricala

Musician of the Year: Raquel Dos Santos Solo

Mathematicians of the Year: Alex Cristea

Gradam na Scoile: Megan Greene

Artist of the Year: Bogdan Melnic

Innovator of the Year : Conor Ryan

John Lynch Award: Ethan Naras Lawlor

SPORTS AWARDS

Boys' Soccer Player of the Year: Jake Duffy

Boy's Hurler of the year: Daniel Finn

Boys' Gaelic footballer of the Year: Derick Okwaraji

Girls' Soccer Player of the Year: Millie O Reilly

Girl's Gaelic footballer of the year: Eve Gallagher

Girl's Camogie Player of the year: Ailbhe Burke

Sportsperson of the Year 2024/25: Pippa Flanagan

Up the Dubs



Congratulations to Ms. Mullany's son, Cian O'Sullivan, and the Dublin hurlers on their momentous win against Limerick in Croke Park today! It was an unforgettable match, filled with passion, grit, and incredible teamwork.

What a game, what a result — and what a heart-warming photo capturing the special moment between Ms. Mullany and Cian at the final whistle. A proud day for their family and for all Dublin supporters. Best of luck in the semi final against Cork. Up the Dubs!

FIS Awards 2025



Joshua, a talented student in Second Class, was awarded Second Place in the 1st to 2nd Class category for his imaginative and heartfelt storyboard entitled "*Invisible Me.*" His work stood out for its creativity and emotional depth, earning him well-deserved recognition.

Meanwhile, Donna in Rang 5 received a special *Commendation* for her powerful and thought-provoking storyboard titled "*The Betrayal of Barnaby.*" Her storytelling and artistic expression impressed the judges and showcased her growing skill and insight as a young writer and illustrator. Congratulations to both students on their outstanding achievements!

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



Log on to our website:

www.shns.ie



Follow us on X

<https://x.com/sacredheartns>

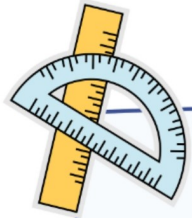


SACRED HEART PARENTS ASSOCIATION

NEEDS YOU



WHY JOIN?



STUDENT BENEFITS

When parents volunteer, children feel supported and inspired, leading to improved academic and social success.

SCHOOL BENEFITS

Your involvement directly supports enriching programs, better resources, and a stronger school community for every student.

MAKE CONNECTIONS

Build lasting relationships with fellow parents, teachers, and school staff while fostering a sense of community.

YOU BENEFIT

Gain fulfillment, new skills, and a closer connection to your child's education and school environment.

READY TO
SIGN UP

Whether you have a little time or a lot, your involvement helps create a better experience for all. Sign up today and be part of something meaningful! Contact Holly and the team via the QR code.





Sacred Heart of Jesus NS 2025/2026 School Calendar

August 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
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31						

September 2025						
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October 2025						
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November 2025						
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30						

December 2025						
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28	29	30	31			

January 2026						
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February 2026						
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March 2026						
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April 2026						
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May 2026						
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31						

June 2026						
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July 2026						
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26	27	28	29	30	31	



First day of school year



School holidays



12 noon closure

- The school will open for the 2025/2026 academic year on Thursday, 28th August 2025.
- Where contingency arrangements are required to make up for time lost due to unforeseen school closures the length of the Easter break may be reduced by remaining open up to and including Wednesday, 1st April 2026.
- Primary Curriculum in-service training for teachers will take place during the 2025/2026 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 Tuesday, 30th June 2026.

Useful links:

School requisites lists 2025/26:

<https://tinyurl.com/yc7hzbvc>

School calendar 2025/26:

<https://tinyurl.com/mv8juaru>

Classes, teachers and rooms 2025/26:

<https://tinyurl.com/3dv7k5yu>

School uniform policy and suppliers:

<https://tinyurl.com/y68cyrbu>