

School Newsletter



Scoil Lachtaín



Achadh Ur

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Important Dates to Remember:

School re-opens: Thurs. 6th Jan 2022

Welcome to our Christmas Newsletter 2021. It has been a strange old term. There has been almost a parallel existence within the one life of the school. On one side, we have the ever present worry of Covid 19, and on the other, we have the usual sounds and experiences of classroom and playground life!

To our 203 pupils, I say, “Thank you so much for being you. Your happy smiles and voices have kept us all going. You are a credit to your parents and your school.”

I thank all our staff for the extraordinary effort they’ve gone to in order to keep things flowing and to present school life in as normal a manner as is possible at this time. Just read through this newsletter to see all that has been going on in class!

To you, the parents and guardians, I say a heart-felt **THANK YOU** for your cooperation, support and your vigilance. You greatly assisted us in keeping classes open and children in school.

A huge thank you to our Parents’ Association officers for their hard work in helping us review school policies this year. We hope that 2022 will see us sharing our special events with both you and our parent body again.

We sincerely thank our Board of Management for all their hard work behind the scenes in 2021 and the many hours they put into helping us make our school as safe as possible for all. We look forward to working with you in the coming year.

*Christmas Hope Shoebox Appeal
A fantastic 152 shoeboxes were collected this year.
Thank you all for your amazing generosity.*

On behalf of all the staff at Scoil Lachtaín, may I wish you all a happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful New Year.



Our News



Junior Infants

We have been very busy and trying to do our best work here in Junior Infants. We've been learning all about winter and we went on a science walk to look at the signs of winter all around us. We've been learning about the robin and the reindeer. It's important that we feed the birds in the cold winter weather. We've been colouring, painting, gluing, pasting and singing about winter and Christmas. We've made winter collages of woolly mittens and hats. In maths we're looking at patterns. We can see lots of patterns in Christmas wrapping paper and Christmas jumpers. It turns out the power cut on Tuesday was caused by one naughty elf - Snowflake. We found his master plan drawn out on a piece of paper. Ms. Bolger says she's going to write to Santa to fill him in! She's hoping for a reply.

Hope Santa comes! HO HO HO!!



Rang 1

We have been super busy in first class since we returned after the mid-term. In our class, we have a new SNA called Mary, who we love having as part of our class. She plays fun games with us in the yard during break times and helps us during class. In the past couple of weeks, we have been learning about different types of woodland animals' footprints. We took a class trip to Millennium Park where we all gathered lots of Oak leaves. When we came back to class, Ms. Murphy taught us how to make some cool leaf rubbings!

We have been concentrating very hard in class practising our joined writing skills, we hope at home you have seen our hard work! We have been really enjoying arts and crafts, wait 'til you see what we have been creating, lots of snowmen, penguins, reindeer cards, and our Winter Wonderland scenes!

Ms. Murphy found an old school roll book that we have been reading together. We enjoy listening to everyone's stories about their grandparents long ago when they were in school. We had lots of giggles in class as we couldn't believe that chocolate was only 6 pence! We are very excited and we all look forward to hearing many more stories from our grandparents.

We are super excited for Christmas this year in first class,

We would like to wish all our families a very Happy Christmas and a wonderful new year.

We can't wait for Santa to come HO HO HO.....



Nollaig Shona from Rang a 2/3!

We have been really busy this term- from investigating bats/creating birds nests/investigating ways to conserve water in Science Week to learning about and creating oral and written Recounts in English.

We have enjoyed working in groups for Maths where we have learned about Data, Multiplication, Division, 2D shapes and Fractions.

On our return from Hallowe'en break, we were treated to a brilliant GAA lesson which we relished.

In Art we have been practising skills regarding Pointillism, Scratch Art and drawing. We recently entered the Christmas Art Competition in school and are excitedly awaiting the results!

In November we learned about keeping safe around electricity and we entered the ESB Schools' Competition for same.

We are looking forward to a fun Christmas and we would like to extend our thanks to all of the staff, management and Mams/Dads/Guardians for keeping us safe this term!



Senior Infant News

We have been very busy in Senior infants this month. We have been writing letters to Santa, making Santa art and there is even an elf in our classroom!

We have been learning Christmas words as Gaeilge and singing Christmas songs as well.

We are learning all about the day that Jesus was born and counting down the days on our advent calendar. We are very excited!

Nollaig Shona ó Rang a 5

We have been working hard on our European country home projects which we presented to the class this week. We learned a lot of interesting facts from each other. In October we created brilliant Mayan group projects along with some scary masks that celebrated the Mayan culture.

Science week was so much fun. We learned all about bats and hazel trees in Ireland. We completed experiments using bread and our hands to see what germs were living there. We also explored forces and friction using toy cars and created wormeries. During November we carefully monitored our pod wormeries. We made sure that the worms had enough moisture to absorb oxygen, leaves for nutrition and darkness for comfort.

We love singing in Rang 5. We have been practising for the Peace Proms and are very excited about our performance in Waterford later this year.

Táimid ag obair go dian lenár gcuid Gaeilge sa rang. Bímid ag labhairt a lán Gaeilge agus tá sé deacair. Ach tá súil againn go mbeidh sé i bhfad níos easca go luath dúinn.

We are currently working on our Accelerated Reading points and have reached 850 points as a class. We are delighted and are going to have a big celebration when we reach 1000 points.

Helping us to keep up our Christmas cheer we created winter scenes and a 'Winter Wonderland' which we are really thrilled about. We will display it in our Rang a 5 class window for others to enjoy.

We hope you enjoyed our newsletter. Go raibh míle maith agaibh.

Rang 5



Preschool Lachtaín 1

In Preschool 1 we have been getting ready for Christmas. We have been working really hard learning some Christmas carols and making lots of Christmas art. We have been busy and having lots of fun each day learning some actions to go with our Christmas carols. We have been learning about the season of winter. We have learned that the weather gets colder and what kind of clothes we need to wear, such as our hats, scarves, gloves and big winter coats to keep us warm. Merry Christmas everyone, from all in Preschool 1.



Preschool Lachtaín 2

We have been very busy in Preschool 2 over the last few months. We loved learning about autumn. We learned the rhymes "Autumn Leaves" and "Five little Leaves". We also painted some autumn trees and used our finger prints to make the leaves. We loved going on walks around the school looking at the autumn colours.

We enjoyed the story of "Little Red Riding Hood" and learned about Winter. We made some hats and gloves out of fabric and fibre for winter, and we had great fun making snowmen.

We have been very busy practising our Christmas songs the last few weeks. The children are getting so good at doing the actions to the songs and are enjoying themselves while doing this. We painted a Santa hat and painted and decorated a Christmas tree. We are all looking forward to Christmas. Hope everyone has a lovely Christmas and best wishes for 2022.

Mary, Catriona, Rachel and all in Preschool Lachtaín 2



Season's Greetings from all in Rang 6!

We have been busy preparing for the festive season here using our Class Advent Calendar to count down the days! We chose a treat or activity for each school day in the run up to Christmas and have already had extra break time day, no homework day, fluffy socks day and look forward to pizza party day, hot chocolate and movie days to come!

We have just finished reading the novel Wonder which we really enjoyed. It's the story of a boy, Auggie Pullman, who was born with facial deformities. We follow his journey as he navigates starting school, making friends and dealing with adversity. We also watched the movie after we had finished the book. It was interesting to see the characters brought to life on screen. Most of us still preferred the book to the movie!

We have also been doing lots of arts and crafts. We have worked with a new technique, tinfoil printing, which we love! Some of us have even tried it out at home. We created a beautiful woodland scene using this technique and have since tried it out on our classroom decorations and some of us have even used it on our Art competition entries.

We have been working on some interesting projects, exploring Renewable Energy Sources – tidal energy, solar energy, wind energy and geothermal energy. Hopefully we will see these new technologies used more into the future. We are enjoying doing lots of research based project work as we prepare for our transition to various secondary schools in September.

We are also working on developing our Oral Irish and trying to use Irish throughout the day in our social conversations and interactions. We have been working on our grammar knowledge also and Ms. Bergin is very impressed with the effort we are all putting in. We are embracing the responsibilities that come with being the senior students in the school and really feel we are gaining confidence for the new opportunities ahead!

From all in Rang 6, Nollaig Shona agus athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh go léir!

Happy Christmas Everyone



Preschool Lachtaín 3

In Preschool 3 we have been learning all about winter and Christmas. We have been practising singing Christmas songs and doing activities to get into the festive spirit.

We have been working on our fine motor skills and our pencil control. We enjoyed getting new equipment for the hall to help develop our Gross Motor skills.

We really enjoyed the look of our door too!



Rang 3/4

It's been a busy term in Rang 3 and Rang 4 with all the children working hard and now looking forward to a well-deserved break at Christmas. The children really enjoyed Science Week particularly some of the presentations from CALMAST WIT which were extremely interesting and educational.

'Bookville' was another very enjoyable experience for the class with some of the presentations from Authors and Illustrators being very well received and hopefully providing some inspiration for some of the budding writers in our class.

We've had lots of exercise being done the past few weeks with a number of the children from our class completing 'The Medieval Mile' last Friday night and other group taking part in 'The Santa Run' last Sunday. Great to see everyone getting out and being active!

Out of school there have been lots of new baby cousins born and two of the class getting new baby brothers! Faith has a new baby brother called Donnacha and Rhea has a new baby brother called Odhran, exciting times!!

Finally, well done to all the soccer players in our class who play with Freshford Town AFC especially our u-11 boys who have only lost one game this season!!

