

Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh – Senior Primary



Principal's Message

There is a wonderful Christmas atmosphere in our school this week – with Christmas artworks galore on display in the corridors and classrooms. There are Christmas play rehearsals underway, and music and singing is ringing down the corridors, in preparation for our upcoming **Christmas Carol Service, 18th Dec, in the Sacred Heart Church**. This is a beautiful seasonal occasion for staff, the children and their parents. We were delighted to receive a gift of beautifully crafted crib figures from a generous community member – and a donation of wonderful costumes which were used for enactment of the stations of the cross - both are so appreciated. Thanks also to parents who recently donated sofas, books, shelving and toys to help decorate our nurture room - all so welcome and being put to good use. At this time of year especially, we are mindful of others in our community who may be feeling vulnerable for a variety of reasons. So as part of a wider **good citizenship initiative**, the children are learning what it means to be a valuable member of the community. And some of those initiatives are featured here. My grateful thanks as always to my amazing staff, who work so diligently and with great kindness toward the children, and each other, all year. The BOM – who are generous with their time and so supportive of our school. And our wonderful PA – who have been extremely active this year with an array of successful fundraising initiatives. And to our parents – thank you for your support and co-operation of your child's education. Wishing you all a very Happy and peaceful Christmas, and a prosperous New Year. We look forward to welcoming the children back on 6th January 2025. *Blaithin Maguire, Principal.*



Bringing some festive cheer : members of the SSN Marching Band and the SSN School Choir, along with Ms O'Donnell and Mrs Carter, and accompanied on guitar by Mr Kavanagh – were very welcome visitors to residents of St

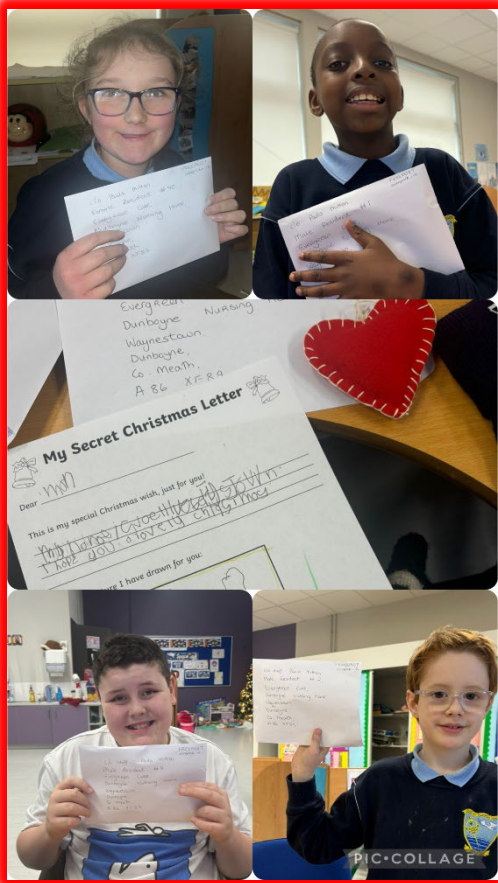
Ursula's Nursing Home.



Garda Deirdre Semple was thrilled to collect the lovely Christmas Cards produced by the children in 5th class for local Nursing home residents, as part of the Good Citizenship Initiative. Ms Mallon and her pupils pictured at the handover. *A big thank you to Garda Semple for her support and advice throughout the year.*

Children from Ms Moores class are proudly displaying some of the arts and crafts that they have been doing over the last few weeks. They have

also been working hard on the letters that they wrote to send to a nursing home, along with a Christmas decoration that the children sewed for the residents. Well done everyone in Ms Moores!



A special treat for 6th class children – a Visit to



Droichead Art Centre Exhibition: On 10th Dec, 30 students from 6th classes participated in a unique educational event as part of **Youth Engagement Programme**, where they visited the Droichead Art Centre organised by the Drogheda Credit Union. Students listened to a very interesting presentation about marine wildlife around our shores from Lauren at Seal Rescue Ireland. Afterward, there was a screening of the Oscar-nominated animated film 'Song of the Sea'. Grace Darley from Ms. Pawlak's

class reported that it was a very enjoyable and educational experience with a selection box, elements of mythology and a seal's amputated toe!. *Thank you to Sharon Skerrit, Drogheda Credit Union, for the kind invitation.* The Drogheda Credit Union are also running a savings club for 3rd class pupils in the school. Teaching them how to save, which is a very worthwhile habit to form.

Writer in Residence Programme launched at SSN. *Pic(L-R): Principal, Ms Maguire; Meath CCl, Barry Lynch; Author Brian Gallagher;*



Cathaoirleach of Meath CC, Cllr Sharon Tolan; County Librarian, Meath CC, Maedhbh Rogan-McGann; Class Teacher, Ms Brassil and Executive Librarian, Aoife Carberry. Children in Ms Brassil's class are one of 3 primary school classes in East Meath are set to

become published authors this year, releasing their own original works of fiction based on local history. Once completed, they will have their original works uploaded to BorrowBox, a free-to-use online service for library members, where they can be downloaded as eBooks for their friends and families to enjoy. *A special thank you to Author Brian Gallagher for his work with the children over the past several weeks.*

