



# Scoil Antoine Naofa

## December Newsletter 2021

### Scoil AntoNews

## Message from the Principal

A Cháirde,

Nollaig Shona daoibh go léir.

As we all prepare and look forward to the celebration of Christmas, can I express my sincere thank you to the whole school community, pupils, parents and staff. It has been a challenging time for everyone, Covid continues to test our strength, patience, character, health and ourselves in many different ways. Families have had different experiences, but what shines out brightly, like the star of Bethlehem guiding the Three Wise Men is the resilience, togetherness, calmness, determination, adaptability, flexibility, camaraderie, friendship, respect, goodwill, dedication, good-humour and strength that the pupils, parents and staff have shown daily. Here in St. Anthony's, we decided to take each day as it comes, make each day enjoyable, create real, positive learning experiences, listen to the children, enjoy the moments, the successes, the laughter and the stories. The uncertainty of Covid has brought increased anxiety to some students as well as some staff, but these staff have always put this to the side and have remained caring, professional and totally self-less.

Despite Covid and the restrictions it brings, we have had an action packed time here in the school. I hope that you enjoy reading 'Scoil AntoNews' and get to experience some of the wonderful activities and occasions that take place in our school daily. Thank you to all of the classes who have contributed to this publication and to Ms. Sarah McCarthy for putting this amazing publication of 'Scoil AntoNews' together.

Can I remark on the wonderful generosity of all of the pupils, so evident again this year in the different charities which our boys have supported, Brú Columbanus, Mercy Heroes, Penny Dinners, Cork Simon Community, Temple Street Children's Hospital, Irish Cancer Society, Marymount Hospice and our Christmas Charity St. Vincent de Paul. Our boys have raised much needed funds for all of these brilliant charities and I thank you for this.

We have really enjoyed the build up to Christmas here at St. Anthony's. The boys have been remarkable, uplifting, good-humoured, energetic, enthusiastic and heart-warming. They are absolutely brilliant. I wish you and all of your families a very happy, enjoyable, relaxing safe and holy Christmas. Remember please enjoy the little things this Christmas, the children have set the example for us, slow down, enjoy the family time and please don't laugh but I will leave the last few words to Dr. Seuss.

"And the Grinch, with his Grinch-feet ice cold in the snow, stood puzzling and puzzling, how could it be so? It came without ribbons. It came without tags. It came without packages, boxes or bags. And he puzzled and puzzled 'till his puzzler was sore. Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before. What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store? What if Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more?"

On behalf of all of the Staff, Board of Management and Parents' Association, I would like to thank all who supported the work of the school throughout 2021. The volunteerism, cooperation and goodwill has been remarkable. I would also like to extend our deepest sympathy to all in the school community who have been bereaved in the past year. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha dílis.

Nollaig Shona faoi shéan is faoi mhaise dhaoibh go léir agus guím gach rath oraibh don Athbhliain.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Seán & Foireann na Scoile.





# Christmas Jumper Day



On Friday 17th December, the boys in St. Anthony's wore Christmas Jumpers to raise money for St. Vincent de Paul and the Cork Simon Community







# Christmas at St. Anthony's



Christmas Lights were switched on by two Senior Infant Boys on Friday the 10th December following a fantastic singsong of Christmas Carols in front of the school



**€1200 was raised by dressing up for Halloween on the Friday of the Midterm.**  
**€400 was donated to 3 charities: Mercy Heroes. Temple Street and Brú Columbanus.**  
**Presentation cheques were made to all three charities on Friday 17th Dec.**



# Christmas at St. Anthony's





# A Special Visitor

A very special visitor came to see the boys  
on Monday 20th December. He was very happy  
to see ALL the wonderful boys on his GOOD LIST!





# An Stoirm

*Ar an 7ú lá de Mhí na Nollag, bhí stoirm mhór againn.*

*Stoirm Barra an t-ainm a bhí uirthi. Dúnadh na scoileanna agus bhí orainn fanacht sa bhaile.*

*Ar maidin bhí ghaoth láidir ag séideadh. Bhí cuma fearthainne air agus bhí an spéir ag dorchú.*

*Ní raibh aon duine amuigh mar bhí an lá go dona. Bhí na crainn mór ag lúbadh. Bhí na páistí ar bís mar bhí na scoileanna dúnta.*

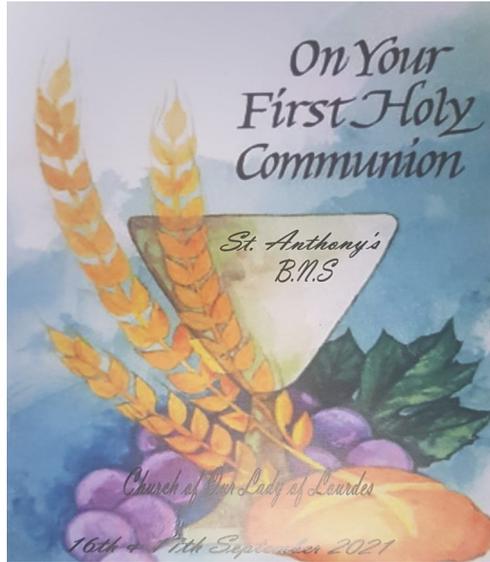
*Theip ar an leictreachas in gContae Chorcaí, Gaillimh, Maigh Eo agus An Clár.*

*An lá dár gcionn, bhí an stoirm imithe ach bhí na scoileanna dúnta arís.*

*Ar an Déardaoin d'oscail na scoileanna agus bhí díoma ar na páistí!*

*Le Seán O' Sullivan, Dan Geary agus Peter Whitnell (Rang 6)*





**September and October of this year saw the boys from Third and Fourth Class finally make their First Holy Communion.**

**Monsignor Gearóid Dullea celebrated each class separately in a personal and reflective ceremony. These special events were attended by the boys, their parents, class teachers, support teachers, snas, principal Mr. Lyons and vice principal Ms. Angland.**



**Accompanying music was kindly provided by Ms. Lucey and Mr. Dineen**



# Halloween Fun

## Pumpkin Carving



Oh my GOURD NESS, these pumpkins were FANGTASTIC! Winners from [Ms Barrett's pumpkin carving competition](#) were Ms.Feehily, Ms.Lucey, Mr.Cussen and Ms.O' Sullivan.



## Halloween Trail



*'If you go down to the woods today  
you're sure of a big surprise..'*

There were no teddy bears spotted in the Ballinlough Fairy Park when the Junior Infant, Senior Infant and 1st Classes went on a spooktacular walk this Halloween. They spotted many creepy characters including pumpkins, bats and ghosts. A friendly skeleton was seen resting his weary bones on top of the St Anthony's Fairy school. Thankfully all students returned to their classes unharmed and *in great spirits!* Thank you Ms Crean!



# Autumn Leaves



*'The falling leaves drift by my window,  
The falling leaves of red and gold'*  
November brought us some beautiful weather and with it many outdoor walks amongst the magnificent Autumn leaves.



# Halloween Ghouls



# GREEN SCHOOL NEWS

## Have a Holly Jolly Christmas And an eco-friendly year



Congratulations to all in St. Anthony's on earning our 4<sup>th</sup> green flag for travel. We are now working towards the 5<sup>th</sup> flag which is concerned with the theme of *biodiversity*.

*Biodiversity is the huge variety and variation of life that surrounds us - from the tiniest bugs to the biggest whale in the sea and this is important for all life.*



As we look forward to a magical Christmas with our friends and families, we can do our bit for our planet by reminding them to make choices which minimize the impact of our Christmas consumption.

### ARTIFICIAL CHRISTMAS TREE

VS

### NATURAL CHRISTMAS TREE

Scarcity & Resource poverty

End of life uncertainty? Do you really need one?

Stock & Space

Promotes consumption and all front-end processes

GHG and PM emissions. Air quality impacts Who is affected? Consumer or non-consumer of product? (Environmental justice)

Health impacts

Lack of sustainable and social responsibility & awareness

Clean Air & Fresh smell

Ecological Education

Circular Economy, Sustainable Awareness, Environmental Development and Social Responsibility

Compost, Soil conditioning, New products

Biodiversity

Community benefits

End of life uncertainty? Rent a rooted tree, grow it yourself or do you really need one?

Buy a real tree, from a sustainable source - plastic may be reusable but, eventually, it's going to landfill.

Decorate with LED lights and please **NO GITTER** which may look lovely but it sticks around long after the sparkle has gone – often in the stomachs of fish and birds.

## Gift ideas

Consumable presents (look out for fair-trade), books or a day out.

Gifts from local independent retailers and buy quality that is designed to last.

Wrap in old wrapping paper, newspaper or old calendars. If you are buying paper, be conscious of choosing something free of foil or glitter.



# Swimming News

On the 10th November a group of swimmers participated in a swimming time trial at Gus Healy Swimming Pool. The fastest four swimmers in each age group became eligible to represent the school in the relay events at the upcoming Munster Minor Schools Swimming Championship. These boys will compete against other competitors in Munster at the University of Limerick Sports Arena in February.

The relay teams are as follows:

Under 10: Jamie Keary    Sonny Barrett    William Egar    Hugo O’Riordan

Under 12: Harry Whelan    Patrick O’Sullivan    Ciarán Galvin    Ruairí O’Sullivan    Sub: Pádraig O’Flynn

A special mention to Eoghan Galvin, our youngest competitor, who will be participating in individual events also. Best of Luck to all our swimmers!

A special mention goes to Sonny Barrett, in Mr. Cussen's 4th class.

He recently qualified and competed at the Community Games National Finals swimming competition.

Sonny swam against competitors from all over Ireland and came fourth overall in the 25 meter backstroke swim, making him the 4th fastest under 10 backstroker in Ireland!

The competition took place at the University Sport's Arena in Limerick.

Well done Sonny!



# Science News



David, Cian and I (Michael) were so happy to win the Intel - Mini Scientist in our school.

We met up to discuss our project and we picked the topic of bacteria and how easily it can grow.

We decided to do a project where you have three slices of bread - one control, one dirty and one clean.

The 'clean' bread was handled by a freshly washed hand, the 'dirty' one was handled by a hand first thing in from school and then we had the control slice.

We put them in zip lock bags and took pictures every day for one week.

Mr. Moylan helped us and our parents helped us too.

# Science Week



Science week was a busy one in St. Anthony's and the boys worked on all sorts of experiments and research projects. The Lifetime Lab did a 'House of Circuits Zoom' with each of the 5th Classes. The boys had fantastic fun actively learning about electricity and how circuits work. Safety is very important was emphasized throughout.



The Research Project for Ms O' Neill's 3rd Class was based on learning about the importance of trees in the locality and the role that they play in relation to our health. They focused on the area 'Creating Our Future - Health'. In the photographs, the boys can be seen identifying the trees which are growing on the grounds of St. Anthony's, on the green across the road, and also the area around the playground in the park. They also took a closer look at the lichens growing on some of these trees.



## The Tony Baloney Show

Tony Baloney is a guy who blends science, entertainment and education. He goes from school to school like a scientific troubadour. When he paid a visit to our school he did three experiment shows.

For his first experiment he got a plastic tube, some baking soda and vinegar. Then he said what he was going to do which was make the cap of the tube launch up in the air by putting the baking soda and vinegar into the tube and putting the cap on afterwards. He did exactly what he said he'd do and after a few seconds, the cap flew up into the air, almost hitting the gym ceiling (which is quite high up if you ask me) and I thought it was brilliant.

In the beginning of the second experiment he got out an Erlenmeyer Flask (look it up if you don't know what they are), caustic soda, some warm water, tinfoil and a balloon. He said that if you washed your hands with caustic soda and water the skin and flesh would burn off your hands, and that he was using a tinfoil finger for the experiment in which he would put the caustic soda and water into the flask, put in the tinfoil finger and put a balloon over the flask. He did just that. When he put the finger in it started dissolving right away and the balloon started filling up with gas. When the tinfoil had completely dissolved and the balloon looked as if it was going to pop, he took the balloon off the flask and quickly tied the bottom of it closed and put it aside.

For the third and final experiment he got some flour, lighter fluid, a lighter and the balloon from the previous experiment. What he did first was pour a bit of flour on the table and tried to ignite flour with the lighter but failed. Then he got the balloon filled with gas, the lighter and the lighter fluid.

What he did was hold the balloon with his arm stretched out in front of him, put some lighter fluid in his mouth (I don't think it was lighter fluid), turned on the lighter underneath the balloon and blew the lighter fluid out of his mouth towards the lighter and balloon and the balloon burst into flames for a split second

and then went out again.

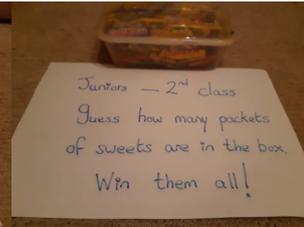
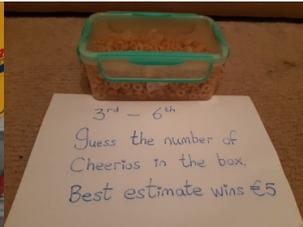
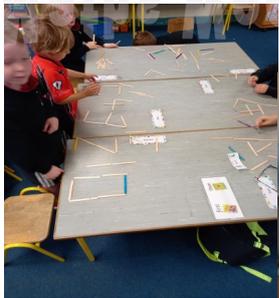
In my opinion the show was fantastic!

*Written by Max Gering Regan from Mr. Hogan O'Connell's 5th Class*



# Maths Week

Maths Week was a busy one this year. Classes worked on fun Maths activities throughout the week and Mr. Hogan O'Connell challenged the boys to estimate the number of cheerios and jellies in boxes. Winners from Ms Lucey's 3rd Class were Tadhg O'Dowd and Ardis Berisha.



# Achievements



Andrew Hall with the Douglas GAA under 7 winter league trophy for hurling & football



Douglas GAA under 7's Alan Cadogan Trophy for hurling & football.



Past pupil Patrick Campbell at the age of 19, won his first senior cap for the Munster rugby team in their European Cup game v Wasps and even scored a try.



Patrick O' Sullivan who joined St. Anthony's BNS in 3rd Class from Our Lady of Lourdes winning RTE's 'Last Singer Standing' and a prize of €25,000.



Rugby legend brothers Niall, Rory and Billy Scannell competing for Ireland and Munster.



Past pupil Ronan Byrne competing in the Semi finals in the Olympic Double Sculls with rowing partner Philip Doyle.

# Sporting Achievements



Brian Hayes past pupil and winner of back to back ALL- Ireland u20 medals either side of captaining Cork U20 footballers to Munster Final victory.

Brian also won the Cork County Senior Football final 2021 with the Barrs, joining another past pupil John Kerins on the team.

John the goalkeeper had the distinction of saving a penalty and scoring a penalty in their sudden death penalty shootout in the semi-final v Castlehaven.



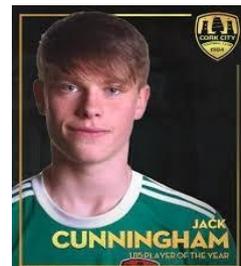
Michéal Aodh Martin, Cork Senior Football goalkeeper and past pupil, captained Nemo Rangers to success in the postponed 2020 Cork Senior Football Final played in 2021.

He was joined on the Cork team by another past pupil Kevin O' Donovan.



Past pupils Shane Kingston and Alan Cadogan represented the Cork Senior hurlers in the All-Ireland Senior Hurling Final.

Hopefully they'll go one step further this year and bring back Liam McCarthy to Leaside.



Former past pupils who tasted success also this year were Robbie Cotter, Cork U20 All-Ireland double Hurling winner and County Final Winner with The Rockies in 2020, Luke Horgan, Munster U20 football winner and Cork Minor Footballer Munster Champions, Mikey O'Connell, Luke O' Herlihy, Bryan Hayes and Jack Cunningham.



Peter Stringer, former St. Anthony' past pupil, Munster and Ireland scrum half and joint winner of the recent 'Ultimate Hell Week' broadcast on RTE television.

A sincere congratulations to all of these athletes.



# Páirc Uí Chaoimh



All of the pupils from our four 4<sup>th</sup> Classes had an absolutely wonderful, fun and enjoyable trip to Páirc Uí Chaoimh in October. There was wonderful skill on display here as the boys got to play an internal fun football blitz followed by a V.I.P tour of the stadium.

A huge thank you to Paudie O'Brien, Development officer and his daughter Muireann O'Brien for organising this fantastic experience.





# Elf Mischief in the Japanese Gardens



Many mischievous elves were spotted in the Japanese Gardens this December. The 10 elves (including 2 elf huskies) set out some challenges for the boys to complete. The students of Junior Infants, Senior Infants and 1st Class thoroughly enjoyed the Elf trail. The playful pixies put the boys through their paces asking them to sing songs, hug trees and fulfill other fun tasks. Holly Ginger Snaps explained how to do 'Ho, ho, ho!' breathing and Yo Yo Silly Stockings taught the boys a Christmas rap. A reliable source in the North Pole reported that Santa was very impressed with the boys in St Anthony's and that as of 22nd December all boys were on the nice list!



## National Tree Planting Day



The boys are giving Clodagh and Mr. Keith Falvey a hand planting a tree for National Tree Planting Day on Thursday 7th October 2021

# Cookie the Hedgehog

This is Cookie the hedgehog. She is an African Pygmy hedgehog. I got her a year ago from a specialist hedgehog breeder in Co. Meath. She is 1 year old. She usually eats cat food but on Christmas day she will have a special dinner of chicken and mashed potato.

We keep her in a specially built vivarium (box) that simulates African heat.

When I wash her I put some soap on a soft bristled toothbrush and I brush her spines while she plays in the water. She has an exercise wheel to keep fit. She doesn't like being held too often. If you are very busy and don't have much time a hedgehog is a good choice of pet because they are solitary animals and don't need too much care.

I would recommend a pet hedgehog to anyone.

*Written by Calvin O'Connor in Ms O'Callaghan's 6<sup>th</sup> Class*



# Christmas Cracker Jokes

**What is an elf's favourite music?**

**Wrap music**

**How do you know Santa is an expert at karate?**

**He has a black belt**

**What do monkeys sing at Christmas?**

**Jungle Bells**

**What's the difference between a knight and Santa?**

**A knight slays a dragon while Santa drags a sleigh**

**How does one snowman greet another snowman?**

**Ice to meet you!**

**What would Santa say when if he fell out of his sleigh?**

**Ho Ho No!**

**What do you call Santa when he goes to the beach?**

**Sandy Claus**

**What is it called when Santa takes a little break?**

**Santa Pause**

**How do snowmen travel around?**

**By..icicle**

*Thanks to Ms O'Sullivan's 4th Class for supplying Christmas Cracker Jokes*

# Guess the Door



From left to right 1. Ms. Coughlan 2. Ms. Feehily 3. Ms. Allen 4. Ms. Holland 5. Mr. Lucey 6. Ms. Lucey 7. Mr. Cussen 8. Ms. Fahy 9. Ms. Griffin 10. Ms Barrett 11. Mr. Lyons 12. Ms MacCurtain

# Staff Announcements

## Retirements

November saw two wonderfully talented teachers retire from St. Anthony's BNS, Mr. Tadhg Harrington who served the St. Anthony's BNS Community for 40 years and Ms. Carol O' Callaghan who served the St. Anthony's BNS Community for 32 years. They are two extremely positive, dedicated, caring, loyal and professional teachers and we thank both of them for the kindness, care, professionalism and example you have shown the pupils and school over your very successful careers.

Míle Buíochas Tadhg agus Carol.

Guímíd gach rath oraibh agus ar bhúr gclann agus gurab saol fada buan é.



## We Welcome new Teachers

Colm Kiely, Laura Cleary, Kate Leneghan, John Bourke,  
Louise Coughlan, Ashlín O Callaghan and Katherine Mangan



## Parent's Association – Creating New Memories!

As 2021 draws to a welcome close, it is heart-warming to reflect on the wonderful fun memories which have been created for the boys since September. The pre-loved uniform sale returned to the gym, albeit it on a Saturday with plenty of space and social distancing and lots of pre-loved tracksuits found new homes. Despite not being able to welcome our junior infant parents in the traditional coffee morning way still, our current senior infant reps sent them a "What I Wish I had Known" video full of useful tips and tricks. And of course, we are delighted to welcome our new junior reps who are currently busy elves with the senior reps preparing virtual readings for a very special visitor coming to the juniors and seniors next week.

The Volcano Pizza Party for the communion class of 2021 was another a big hit, and this lovely new tradition is one that brought fun and excitement to the boys who have patiently waited for their celebrations. Thank you our rep Izabella for the delicious, individualised cupcakes.

We have many talented bakers in our parent body and they came out in force to bring homemade treats for Staff Appreciation Day on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. We hope the staff felt a tsunami of appreciation for all you have done for our boys in keeping school a happy learning environment and enjoyed the many videos you received that morning.

A big change for the Parents' Association this year was the introduction of our new funding model, moving away from the old voluntary contribution and replacing it with a fun annual event, our 5K Sponsored Zombie Walk.

The ghosts of weather were on our side on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November, and in glorious winter sunshine, the boys arrived to walk the 5K with their classes and enjoyed well deserved treats at the finish line.

The costumes were outstanding and we struggled to pick our winners of the three €25 vouchers which went to Ronan O'Sullivan, Leo Nodwell and parent, JP Kelly. A big thank you to all those who completed the walk virtually and well done to Sam Forde who won the virtual walk voucher. To date through your generosity, we have raised almost €9,000 which will ensure that we can continue to bring fun memories for the boys this year. I have no doubt your generosity has extended to the virtual SVDP Giving Tree and the monies raised will be collected today as I write this and help families in need in our community to enjoy this Christmas. We wish you and your families a safe, happy and peaceful Christmas. We hope to see you in the New Year, with the return of Healthy Eating and hopefully more traditional communion and confirmation celebrations for the classes of 2022.

Your PA Officers - *Margaret, Máire and Aoife*

