



## A Message From Our Principal



Nollaig Shona daoibh go léir.

As we prepare for the celebration of Christmas, I would like to wish you and your families a very happy, holy, healthy and restful Christmas and every good wish for the New Year.

2023 was again a wonderful year for the St. Anthony's BNS Community with many memorable moments, achievements and memories created. Over the past number of weeks, the fantastic boys of St. Anthony's have been diligently preparing for the School Mass, Concerts and Nativity plays where we remember and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ in music and prayer. The Christmas spirit of giving and sharing is truly alive in St. Anthony's BNS and the generosity and willingness to think of those less fortunate has been both inspirational and heart-warming. This year our boys and their families have raised much needed funds and items for many charities including St. Vincent De Paul, Shine, Pieta House, Penny Dinners, My Canine Companion, Marymount Hospice and UNICEF. Míle Buiochas daoibh go léir.

I would like to thank you all most sincerely for your co-operation and support in 2023. Huge parental and staff support were evident at all levels and I am deeply grateful to you all. It has been wonderful to work with such fantastic, happy, eager, energetic and engaged pupils, such talented, dedicated, hard-working and motivated staff, and positive, supportive and enthusiastic parents. I look forward to working with you all again in 2024 as we continue to make St. Anthony's BNS a school Community that we all love and enjoy.

On behalf of the new Board of Management, school staff and Parents' Association, I would like to thank everybody who supported our school in any way throughout 2023. I would also like to pay a special word of thanks to our outgoing Board of Management, who have done trojan work for St. Anthony's BNS during their governance, and with the support of many, they helped establish our two wonderful ASD Special Classes, equipped each classroom in the school with state of the art Interactive whiteboards and the purchase of 40 Ipads, all which have benefitted the teaching & learning opportunities here at our school.

I would 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.

I hope that you all have a beautiful Christmas and that Santa leaves you something nice. Nollaig Shona faoi shéan is faoi mhaise dhaoibh go léir agus guím gach rath oraibh don athbhliain!

# Move Over Mr Sheeran!



## STRUMMING UP A STORM

Written by Cian, 1st Class

My name is Cian. I am in 1st Class. This year I have started to learn to play the guitar. I go to practise after school on Mondays. I can play 'Jingle Bells.'

## TREBLE MAKERS

Written by Daragh & Harry, 2nd Class

At the start of December we performed Jingle Bells and another couple of tunes for Ms Griffin & Ms MacCurtain's Junior Infant Classes. We played on our guitars and they all sang along. We have been practising and will be performing for Mrs Hurley & Ms Howard's Junior Infant classes sometime soon.





# Kindness Matters



## CHRISTMAS ENTREPRENEUR

Written by Mike, 6th Class

My dad recently ordered a large trailer of logs for our stove. When we moved the logs into the garage, we put all of the half logs to one side. My Dad had an idea that we could make Christmas logs with the half logs.

We began by trimming the half logs to make them level and made a slight hole in the log to hold the candle.

After that, we bought acorns, bows, candles, Christmas robin decorations and some snow spray. I went to Glanmire, where my aunt lives, and we went up the Rocky Road to gather some holly. When I got home, I started to design two different types of logs to see which one was better. I decided on which one was best and took it around my park to advertise them and ask people if they wanted to buy them.

I decided to sell them for €10 each and that I would donate €2 for each log I sold to the Cork Simon Community. So far, I have sold enough logs to give €64 to the Simon Community.

I enjoyed doing this project and I might become a carpenter when I grow up!



## FUNDRAISERS

George, Conn & Liam selling Christmas teddies. The funds raised will be used to support the wide range of services the Shine Centre provides to support autistic children and their families in Cork.



# Sporting Moments



## IRELAND V ITALY

Written by Jack, James, Billy & Otto, 1st Class

On the 21st November James Hook, Billy McGrath, Jack O'Regan and Otto Mahony were mascots for the Ireland v Italy u21 match.

First, we went to a room where we got Irish jerseys. We walked out with the players and held their hands. We all sang the national anthem. We were feeling a little bit nervous but once we saw the crowd, we were excited.

The Irish players were great. Ireland scored two goals and Italy scored two goals as well.

We had a fantastic day!

## DUBLIN SWIMMING GALA

Written by Jack & Tadhg, 4th Class

Earlier this year, we took part in the schools' swimming gala in Dublin. We arrived at the National Aquatic Centre, and right away we felt the nerves kick in.

We went to the stands and got ready for the warm up. The water was freezing cold but we got used to it. After the warm up the girls' races started. A lot of races went by and a lot of winners.

Then we were up. Jack's 50 freestyle was up and he did very well. Then Tadhg was up for his 50 freestyle. He swam an amazing pb (personal best). Then was the backstroke, Jack and Tadhg both did brilliant races. Then the junior IM (individual medley) relay was up. Jack and Tadhg did really well in the relay. Jack's relay won bronze and Tadhg's relay won silver.

Everyone participating enjoyed their day and we had a blast!



Photo by Archie, 4th Class

# Sciath na Scol Success

## UP FOR THE MATCH

Written by Niall, 1st Class

On Wednesday 15th November my class and I travelled to Pairc Ui Chaoimh. We watched our schools' football team play and win against Ovens NS. The score was 4:7 to 1:1. It was a great day!



## SCIATH NA SCOL SPONSORSHIP

A big thank you to First South Credit Union & Georgie Cantwell, Youth & Marketing Officer for their generous sponsorship of the new St Anthony's BNS Sciath na Scol jersey.

Pictured above is Georgie presenting a cheque to St Anthony's BNS with some of the players from the victorious Sciath na Scol Football team. Míle Buíochas!





# Making a Racket!

## MUNSTER CLOSED U15 BADMINTON COMPETITION

Written by Vihaan, 6th Class

On Sunday the 26th of November 2023, I won the boys singles Munster Closed (Munster only) badminton competition in division 2. I played 4 matches and won them all.

The scoring system was best of 3 sets with 15 points per set with no deuce/setting, instead of doing best of 3 sets with 21 points per set with a deuce/setting.

I won my first match in straight sets, 15-3 and 15-3, and was in the quarter final. I won that in straight sets again, 15-14 and 15-4. In the semi-final, I won the first set 15-6 and the second set 15-7! My first time ever in the final!

In the final, I was very nervous. When I won the first set 15-5, I really felt like I could win this. Then I won the second set 15-13! This was my first ever win in a badminton competition!

Later on, I was presented with the medal by the Munster Badminton President. I felt really cheerful.



## A TRIP TO THE AVIVA

Written by George, Seán & Fred, 4th Class

Cork Constitution under 11's went to the Aviva Stadium last year. First, we gathered at Cork Con at 6:30 in the morning. When everyone got there, we got on the bus. Then, when we arrived we saw the Dublin Luas and lots of cars.

When we got off the bus we went to the training pitch and trained for an hour. While we were training, the coaches told us not to use all our energy. Next, we went on the pitch and the coaches made the teams. Then we started the matches and we drew the first match and won the following three matches.

After the matches we met Caelan Doris, Irish Rugby superstar! On the way to the bus we found out that we were bringing the Six Nations trophy and the Treble Crown back to Cork.

On the way home, we stopped off at Supermacs. It was a great day!



Photo by Archie, 4th Class



# Meet the Students



## BUDDING ARTIST

Written by Michael, 6th Class

My name is Michael. This is some of my collection of Garten of BanBan. I like drawing and making sets of these guys. Maybe you should try these drawings too. Who knows, maybe you might like it as well.

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

What's your name?

Ian

What age are you?

6.

What's your favourite animal?

A tiger because he has some strip patterns on his fur.

Do you have any brothers or sisters?

I have a brother Brian.

What is your favourite TV show?

Spinosaurus.

What do you like about school?

Doing cutting, drawing, and decorating Christmas trees.

I can draw rabbits.

Do you have a pet?

Yes I have a spider, his name is Goldy.

Do you have any hobbies?

I play the ukulele.

I got a new haircut.





# Christmas Preparations



## LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

James, Cian, Hugo & Cearúil lighting the first candle of our Advent Wreath, the candle is the Prophecy Candle signifying Hope.

## THREE WISE MEN

Isaac, Dougie & Rian, Senior Infants, practising for their Christmas Play. One of the many Christmas performances that happened in St Anthony's this December.



## A BARK OUT TO THE PARENTS COUNCIL

Written by My Canine Companion Kali.

I was having a tale wag with Maire from the Parent's Council and what busy elves they have been so far this year! Here's some of the pawtastic events they organised.

All those busy mums and dads have been focused on giving, especially to those less fortunate. They held their inaugural Christmas Jumper sale, reminding us to try to be more sustainable this year. They raised €224 for Cork Penny Dinners. The St Vincent de Paul Giving Tree was a howling success with a huge amount of gifts all delivered to the Parish Centre to be distributed to those less fortunate in our parish.

Lastly the main man himself, Mr Santa Claus visited some of the classes! Those parents sure do make lots of memories for our boys in St Anthony's! They really are pawesome!







# A Christmas Story



## LAST CHRISTMAS

Written by Darragh, 4th Class



Last Christmas morning my granny, my sisters Saoirse and Caoimhe and my dog Millie decided to go to St Patrick's church in Rochestown. They thought that was a good idea so I went along with them.

When we arrived it was emptying out, that's because it was Christmas and most people were probably returning home to open their presents. When we were finished praying it was really quiet and peaceful. It was so very nice.

Just then, I heard something! Something like ringing bells coming from the sky?! When I looked up, it was gone, whatever it was! But there was a trail of twinkly lights. A plethora of them, in a trail. The kind of trail that a plane might leave in the sky.

Some people say the magic of Christmas isn't real. But I believe they are wrong.



# Recount Writing



## A TRIP TO THE CINEMA

Written by Eamon, 1st Class

Last week I went to the cinema with my family. It was my birthday. We went to see The Big Red Panda. We bought popcorn and sweets. It was a fun day.



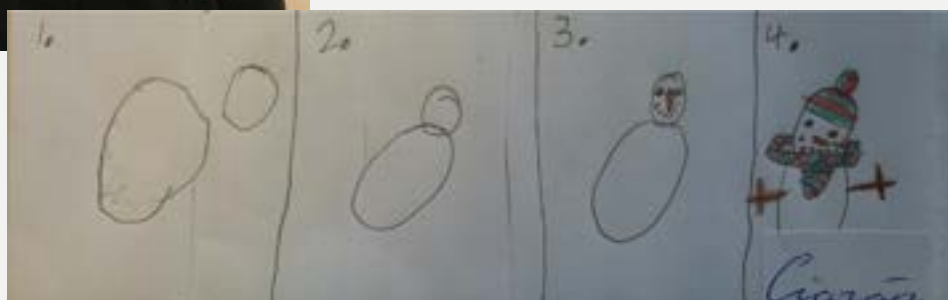
# Procedural Writing

## HOW TO BUILD A SNOWMAN

Written by Ciarán, 1st Class

You will need:  
snow, a carrot, coal, sticks, a hat & a scarf

1. First roll some snowballs.
2. Next stack the snowballs on top of each other.
3. Put coal for the eyes, noes and mouth.
4. Finally add the hat and scarf and sticks for arms.





# Festive Tasty Treat



## HOW TO MAKE HOT CHOCOLATE

Procedural Writing by Liam & George, 3rd Class

1. Heat some milk in the microwave.
2. Add a chocolate lollipop stick to the hot milk.
3. Stir until melted.
4. Sprinkle some marshmallows on top.
5. Drink and enjoy!

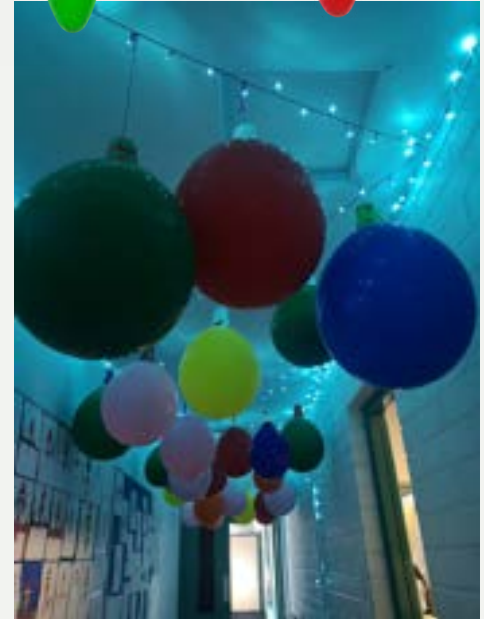


## MÉ FÉIN

Scríofa Ag Andrew, Rang a Trí

Dia duit. Is mise Andrew. Tá mé naoi mbliana d'aois. Tá gruaige dhonn orm. Tá súile gorma agam. Tá ceathrar i mo theaghlach. Níl aon deirfúir agam. Tá deartháir amháin agam. Tá mé i mo chónaí i gCorcaigh.

# Christmas Lights



*Here comes the science bit!*



## HOW TO MAKE A LIGHT SWITCH USING PLAYDOH

Written by Freddie, 4th Class

I had a 9 volt battery and a 3 volt light. The electricity flows through the playdoh and gets less and less. If the 9 volt battery was attached to the 3 volt light it would be too powerful and break the light.

The playdoh is the opposite to a conductor, instead of making the power stronger it made it weaker.

You need two different pieces of playdoh with 2 wires going to each side. If the playdoh touches the light will work so that's how you can make a light switch.

Touching the playdoh and moving the playdoh apart to turn the light on and off.



# Kali's Corner



## ST ANTHONY'S SPARKLES AS CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCHED ON

Written by My Canine Companion Kali

Woof, let me tell you about the most paw-some event of the year – the annual turning on of the Christmas lights at St. Anthony's!

So, last year was a bit of a ruff experience. I couldn't quite reach that magical button that brings the twinkling lights to life. But this year, I had a feeling, a wagging feeling, that things were going to be different. I knew I had a chance of being the one press that button.

I asked my trusty pal Larry to give me a paw on the big day. The crowd gathered, a real whos who of Junior Infants to 2nd Class students, all buzzing with Christmas cheer. The anticipation was palpable, and my tail couldn't stop wagging. As the moment arrived, Larry and I strutted up to the pole. With Larry's assistance the Christmas lights burst to life. He had a big grin on his face, I too was as happy as Larry!

## M C LYONS IN DA HOUSE!

Move over Swedish House Mafia & David Guetta there's a new act in town! Mr Lyons regaled us all with a festive rap at the turning on of the Christmas lights ceremony. Here I am with the top dog himself while he was entertaining the troops!

I go wherever the story brings me, here's hoping next term it's to the butchers!



## Come on Eileen!

Never thought I'd see the day when I'd meet my hero, and turns out, she's not a four-legged furball like me but our amazing lollipop lady, Eileen. Rain or shine, she's out there, guiding the good boys of St. Anthony's on their way to school. Eileen always has a smile on her dial, and I can't help but admire her dedication, making sure the boys cross the street safely. She's a pawsome lady!

# Nollaig Shona Duit!



GO RAIBH MÍLE  
MAITH AGAT!

Sincere thanks to all who contributed to this issue. We wouldn't have a newsletter without you!

## CALLING ALL BUDDING JOURNALISTS!

Do you have a story idea you think parents and students would like to read? Why not write a draft, hand it up to your teacher and you too could be in the next issue!



## For more news..

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[www.stanthonys.ie](http://www.stanthonys.ie)