



ST. MARNOCK'S N.S.



MESSAGE FROM MS TRIMBLE

Welcome to our Christmas Newsletter with all the latest news about what's been happening over the last few weeks in the run up to Christmas! We were delighted to welcome all of our parents and guardians to our Christmas concerts which took place this week from Monday 18th - Wednesday 20th December. Thank you all for coming along to support us!

A big thank you to all our teachers for their hard work and preparation for these shows and thanks also to our SNAs who are a great support too. Thanks is due as well to our wonderful Parents' Association who are so supportive in organising our Christmas raffle fundraiser at our concerts. Thanks to all who gave generously.

On behalf of our 6th class pupils and their teachers, thanks to so many of you who donated non-perishable goods to our Christmas Charity appeal in aid of the Lions' Club. Thanks to all of you, Christmas hampers will be distributed to a great number of needy families in our community. Representatives from the Lions' Club came to collect everything last Friday and they were delighted with the fantastic response from the St. Marnock's NS community. Your generosity and kindness is going to make such a difference to so many families. Thanks to our 6th class teachers, Ms. Whelan, Mr. Maughan and Mr. Spellacy for their guidance and support with the Charity Appeal.

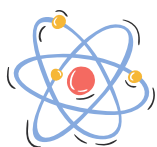
Thank you for your co-operation and support and wishing you and your families a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year! We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the New Year, on Monday 8th January 2024.

Nollaig Shona daoibh go léir!
Sinéad Trimble



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Collection times for children on Friday 22nd December:** In the interest of health and safety to avoid overcrowding, please observe the following staggered pick up times:
11.45: Junior and Senior Infants
11.50: 1st, 2nd classes & Speech and Language Class
12.00: 3rd - 6th classes
- **Junior Infant Admissions** will open on Wednesday 10th January 2024 and will close on Wednesday 7th February 2024. Application forms will be available to download from our website from 10.01.24. Please monitor our website www.stmarnocksns.ie in the New Year for further details.



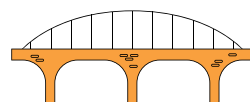
S.T.E.M. WEEK



We celebrated S.T.E.M. week in the school from 11th – 15th November . Ms. Whelan, Ms. Curtin and Ms. Cullen organised a series of science/maths related activities and supplied resources to classes to help them do experiments. Some classes built balloon rockets while others built bridges or investigated the density of different liquids. Senior classes paired up with their junior class buddies and went on a maths trail around the school. The week was a great success.



BRIDGE BUILDING IN SIXTH CLASS



During STEM week, sixth class held a bridge building competition. All children had to make a bridge that was at least 50 centimetres long and that could hold at least 500g in weight. The children embraced the task and showed creativity and resourcefulness in their creations. All the sixth classes went to the hall on Friday with their bridges for a "Mr. Spellacy' stress test!" First, Mr. Spellacy suspended the bridges between two tables. Then he tested them with weights of varying sizes. Lastly came the earthquake test which consisted of Mr. Spellacy shaking the tables to see if the bridges could withstand the impact. Many bridges passed the test, much to the delight of their owners. Alas, some bridges were destroyed, much to the delight of the crowd!



GARDA VISIT



The three first classes have been learning about people who help us in our community and they were so lucky that some Gardaí stopped by to visit them. Thank you to the local Gardaí who took the time out to visit Ms. O'Dowd's class. The children had lots of questions prepared and learned lots about a day in the life of a Garda. The first classes really enjoyed the visit and after a show of hands it seems lots of girls and boys will consider joining An Garda Síochána when they are older.



HALLOWEEN COSTUMES

There were some great Halloween costumes on show before the mid-term break in October. Thank you to the Parents' Association who collected money for the Trick or Treat for Temple Street charity.



LIBRARY LAUNCH



As part of the library launch in the New Year, the Parents' Association are planning a project whereby your children will get the opportunity to have their short stories and illustrations published in a book for each year group. What a great creative opportunity for all budding writers! So children, you can get thinking and planning stories during the Christmas break. Thanks to Ciara O'Brien from the P. A. and our Library team; Mr. Maughan, Ms. Curtin and Mr. Martin Carroll for co-ordinating this exciting initiative along with the class teachers.

Notes

- Thank you to the Parents' Association for their efforts in organising the Tara Books book fair which was a great success. Money raised has gone towards buying books to restock the school library.

