



# St. Anne's National School

Roll No; 19317K

## Newsletter December 2022

### Enrolments

We are now accepting enrolments for Junior Infants 2023/24. Go to the Enrolments section of our website at [stannesns.weebly.com](http://stannesns.weebly.com) to find our Annual Admission Statement, Admission Policy and Enrolment forms. Alternatively, enrolment forms can be collected from Jenny in the school office.

### Christmas Carol Service

After a three-year gap, our annual Christmas Carol Service returns to Rathangan Church on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> of December at 7pm**. The school choir has been busy rehearsing for the past number of weeks and Ms. Power's 4<sup>th</sup> class will be performing a nativity. There will be a bucket collection on the night for charity. All parents, pupils, grandparents and parishioners are invited to come along for what promises to be a beautiful performance.

### Voluntary Contribution

Thanks to all who have paid the Voluntary Contribution already. The response has, as usual, been fantastic.



Rackard League Roinn A & Mini 7s Winners 2022

### Rackard League Glory

Our boys' football team swept all before them on their way to capturing both the Roinn A and Mini 7s Rackard League titles. Bree were our opponents in both finals played under lights in St. Patrick's Park in November. It's the first time in 20 years that Rathangan have won the top division of the Football Competition. In fact, Jack Jones' dad, Paul Brennan, actually played on that team of 2002! We now hold the Roinn A Cups in both hurling and football. Well done to the entire panel and to team manager Mr. Murphy.

### **Schools' Debating Competition 2022/23**

The School Debating League is currently in full swing with both Rathangan teams beating Murrinstown NS recently. Well done team members Lucy Cornille, Grace Byrne, Lillie Purcell, Kate O'Reilly, Charlie Fogarty and M.J Bennett. The adjudicator had high praise for all the debaters. The League will continue after Christmas when we go up against Kennedy Park NS.

### **Swimming Lessons**

Pupils in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> class have been going for swimming lessons in Ferrybank Pool for the past number of weeks. They finish their 6 week course this Thursday. Thanks to Ms. Power and Mr. Codd for facilitating.

### **Credit Union Art**

Congratulations to all our winners in the Credit Union Art Competition. In the 8-10 years category Felicia Aleman was 1<sup>st</sup>, Harriet Bolger was 2<sup>nd</sup> and Leah Murphy was 3<sup>rd</sup>. In the 11-13 years, Freya Barry was 1<sup>st</sup> and Lucy Cornille was 3<sup>rd</sup>. Finally, in the Special Category, James Doran was 1st.

### **Green Schools**

Last month the committee did a clean up in the School Garden. There was great excitement when we discovered two frogs hiding out in the tunnel! We are looking forward to getting back out for some spring planting.

Our focus at the moment is on **recycling**:

- **Recycle** as much cardboard, paper and plastic as possible in the classrooms
- Make sure it is clean and dry
- As it is not practical to wash out yogurt cartons etc. in the classroom, children are bringing these home to recycle
- **Compost** pencil toppings and fruit and vegetable skins/cores in the compost bin (not bread)
- To cut down on the amount of rubbish generated in school, we ask the children to bring their own lunch packaging home (After Christmas we will try to reduce the amount of packaging in lunchboxes.)
- All families should have received a small battery box to collect **used batteries** at home. Please continue to bring these into school and empty them into the classroom battery box
- Every time we have 10 full 5kg boxes we are entered into The WEEE Ireland Schools Battery Recycling Competition and are in with a chance to win one of six **€2,000 sports equipment vouchers** as well as raising funds for the children's hospice **Laura Lynn**.

There is a **Suggestion Box** outside Ms. Kehoe's room if anyone has ideas for future projects. Continue to **Múch na soilse** as you are leaving the room!

### **Literacy Week**

The children enjoyed a full week of activities from the 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> November for Literacy Week. It was all about encouraging the children to read more and spark their creativity. Every class had a drama workshop with Lisa Gould from Shine Bright Drama. Joe Brennan, a well-known storyteller, worked with the senior classes. Huge thanks to Thomas Maher from Wexford Library for his captivating storytelling in the junior classes. The Bookfair was a great success, earning almost €2000 in rewards for new literacy resources for the school. Mr. Codd's 5<sup>th</sup> class won the Best Decorated Door competition and we had 2 winners from every class for reading awards. Huge well done and thank you to Ms. Cunningham for organising all the activities for Literacy Week.

### Active News

Well done to all classes for participating in and completing the Active Breaks during November. The committee has many activities planned for the New Year to help shed those extra pounds gained over Christmas!

### Shoebox Appeal/Boo for Barretstown

Well done to all who supported the annual Shoebox Appeal. Over **150 boxes** were collected from Rathangan School. Also our Boo for Barretstown Appeal, where pupils dressed up for Hallowe'en, raised €276 for this worthy cause.

### Teacher In-service

School will close at **12.30 on Friday 27<sup>th</sup>** of January to enable teachers to engage with training in the New Primary Language Curriculum. There are two further afternoons of In-service training due to be completed before the end of this school year, which will also require half-day closures. Dates to be confirmed in the New Year.

### Christmas Party

The Parents' Association distributed Christmas Party Donation envelopes last week. Many thanks for the great response. Huge thanks to the Parents' Association for all their hard work. On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> of December, **Santa Claus** himself will visit the pupils.

### Christmas Wishes

On behalf of the whole staff of Rathangan NS, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy, safe and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous New Year. *Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain faoi Mhaise daoibh go léir.*

### Dates for your diary

- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> of December- Christmas Carol Service
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> of December- School closes for Christmas Holidays @ **12:00pm**
- Thursday January 5<sup>th</sup>- School re-opens for Term 2
- Friday January 27<sup>th</sup>- half day closure for teacher In-service.
- February 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> - school closed for mid-term



