

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Music in the School
- Student Council
- Visitors
- New teachers
- Class photographs
- News from each class

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Wishing you all a happy Christmas

On behalf of the Board of Management and all of the staff of our school, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and all your family a happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Firstly, I want to put on record my thanks to all of the staff here in our school for the wonderful work that they do with the children of Bishopstown. We are very proud of our tradition and we strive daily to instil in the boys the sense that their best is the standard that we want to achieve for each of them indi-

vidually. To be fair, the boys live up to our motto.

I continuously claim that I am fortunate to work where I do. It is a rarity to have such wonderful colleagues, a supportive and motivated parent body and above all else, really wonderful pupils. The boys are credit to the homes that they come from and the influences that they encounter daily here in our school.

2017 has been a good year for our school. We have welcomed many new boys (over 70) and had many enjoyable days throughout the year. I'd

like to think that they feel very much part of our school at this stage and are starting to understand what being a Spiorad Naomh boy represents.

Finally, all I can say is thank you for all of your contributions in helping make our school the place it is. Your support is hugely appreciated and valued.

Happy Christmas to you and your family.

Brian Cuthbert

New Technology

When Mr McConnell's fifth class return to school in January, it is hoped that they will have a different vista towards the front of their room. The Board of Management have decided to install a new 75 inch Smartboard as a pilot project within our school.

Over nine years ago, we installed interactive projectors in every room and these have served us well.

However, technology has moved on and we are now beginning to see Smartboards in use in the primary classroom. These boards will allow teachers to access the latest apps and software applicable to particular class levels and through the Smartboard, deliver interactive lessons on a scale not achievable with our current infrastructure.

I am sure that Mr McConnell's class will be the envy of the

school but hopefully in time we will be able to accommodate more classes. The boards cost over €5000 so it is a huge investment.



Junior Infant Class News

Ms. Leonard

Junior Infants love playtime. Our spatial awareness, problem-solving, imagination, communication and social skills are improving every day.

Every afternoon Teddy gets to go on an 'Adventure' with one boy from our class. The next day we can't wait to hear what Teddy got up to! He has been a busy bear. He has tried Taekwondo, swimming, and GAA as well as visiting the library, going to Wilton and even to Costa Coffee. Teddy's favourite hobby seems to be playing Lego and enjoys stories at bedtime.

Junior Infants are growing up fast and can already sound out letters and have started to read. WOW.

Every Thursday we go to the computer room to use the iPads.

We had fun and raised funds on Hero Day for the Mercy Hospital. What a great cause.



Ms. Dodd

We have been so busy in Junior Infants this term. Teddy has also been visiting many homes. We learned all about road safety and the safe cross code. Every boy received a Be Safe Be Seen yellow jacket. Thank you to the Cúl Maroon team from Bishopstown GAA— we learned loads of skills and had great fun.



Senior Infant Class News

Ms O Sullivan & Ms Bogue

September Walkabout

In September both Senior Infant classes went on a nature walk around the local area. We spotted lots of signs of Autumn including lots of golden leaves that had fallen to the ground!



Maths Week

We had great fun Celebrating Maths Week!



Superheroes Day!

In October the school participated in a fundraising day in aid of the Mercy Hospital. Senior Infants really enjoyed dressing up as their favourite Superhero for the day. A fun day for a great cause!



Look at our Art work!

Here's a look at some of our Art work from Term one. We have really enjoyed making arts and crafts inspired by some of the books we read each week



First Class News

Miss Ní Chruaí

In Maths we have been learning about 2D shapes. We created pictures using squares, triangles, rectangles, semicircles and circles.

We listened to the story of the gingerbread man and wrote a summary of the story. We had lots of fun mak-

ing our very own gingerbread men.

In Art we painted winter trees and made cosy woolly jumpers to keep us warm.



Ms Winslow

What a busy term it's been! We have been learning so many new things in rang a haon. We are really enjoying learning the tin whistle and especially enjoy playing it in assembly. We have been working hard on our story writing and reading with impressive results! We have been writing our own versions of Goldilocks, Little Red Riding Hood and the Gingerbread man to name a few! We are enjoying our mental maths challenges

each morning revising our tables and counting on in 2s, 5s, 10s. We have enjoyed learning about transport, our teeth and how to look after them and school long ago. Bring on 2018!



Second Class News

Mr. Kenny

The boys had some great fun learning about the Maths strand of symmetry through our Art work this term. They had to draw one side of their faces based on a half picture of their face.

We also discussed our journey to and from school. The boys had to draw all the different people and places that they drove past on their way to school. It was very interesting to hear about all the various journeys that the boys have take to school every day.

We have been preparing for the cold weather coming and we painted some lovely winter woolly hats recently. Some of the designs look fantastic.

The boys were very busy during December preparing for their First Penance which was held on the 4th December. Congratulations and well done to all the boys who received their First Penance.



Ms Kavanagh

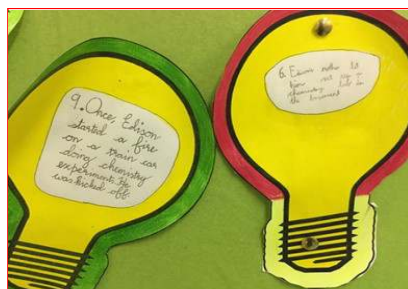
Winding down before a well-earned mid-term with some Halloween festivities and fun!!



Third Class News

Mr. O'Sullivan

We learned all about Thomas Edison. We learned about his early life, his inventions and lots of fun facts about him.



The boys put their Gaeilge to use by making Facebook Profile Pages .



The boys absolutely loved learning about The Stone Age and as a result we decided to create projects based on the subject. The results were fantastic!

Ms. O'Connell

Ms. O'Connell and Mr. O'Sullivan's 3rd classes had a wonderful day solving maths puzzles and problems with the Lifetime Lab in the GAA club.



This term Ms. O'Connell's class learned basketball skills in P.E. Watch out L.A. Lakers!!



A wonderful art display based on the Children of Lir completed by 3rd class.



3rd class Halloween Display –Spooky silhouettes.



Fourth Class News

Ms Crowley & Mr. Carroll

In November we welcomed staff members from Lifetime Lab to the GAA Club. They brought with them many giant puzzles. The boys had a brilliant time trying to work out the puzzles, some of the teachers struggled a bit though!



In September, both 4th classes went on a river walk. We walked downstream along the Twopot River (from Red FM) until it joined the Curraheen River, passing the Pitch & Putt club towards the pitches at the back of the CIT. The boys learned about the source, confluence, meander, water-fall and mouth of a river.

Fifth Class News

Ms. Curzon

Construction work, our future engineers, architects and builders!!!!



Enthusiastically knitting scarves.



Mr. McConnell

During the end of October and start of November, the boys in fifth class carried out a marine project instigated by the Lifetime Lab. The boys in Mr McConnell's class produced one entitled "Caring For Our Oceans". They worked in groups, or on their own, to examine why oceans are so important to the world, the threats to the oceans and what we can do to conserve our oceans. Shazia (a marine scientist working with the Lifetime Lab) visited the school on November 10th and was very impressed by the standard of the posters and the presentations that the boys gave. The boys in turn, learned lots and thoroughly enjoyed the project.

Life Time Lab Visit

On December 4th and 5th, Mrs. Curzon's and Mr. McConnell's 5th classes went on a trip to the Lifetime Lab. The theme for the day was forces. The boys practised lots of science and engineering skills while using levers, pulleys and magnets. Among other challenges, they had great fun building a magnetic car and rescuing a Lego man using a wind powered lifting machine. Many thanks to Una for hosting the workshop and to Norma and Colette for accompanying us on the visit.



Sixth Class News

Mr Murphys' 6th Class

The past 8 years in SSNB have been the best years of my life. I have made so many friends in this school and it has been the best environment a school could ask for. I am so happy that I am going to stick with a lot of my friends when I go to Colaiste an Spioraid Naoimh. I've had loads of great moment in this school such as book fairs, cake sales and my favourite memory was getting to Sciath na Scol final in Pairc Ui Rinn and getting to play in front of the whole school. I love this school so much and its going to be very hard to say goodbye.

By Sean Kirby



It was the first of September 2010 when I became a student in SSNB. I remember the day vaguely but I do recall making lots of friends. My first memory of Junior Infants was when we would watch Jolly Phonics and sing along to all the songs. One of my favourite memories was when we reached the final of the Sciath na Scoil in 2016. I remember the great feeling of running onto the grass of Pairc Ui Rinn. Unfortunately we lost but I will never forget that great day. This amazing school has given me lots of great memories and lots of very nice and funny friends. Without those great friends my time in the school would not have been the same. It has been a privilege to attend this wonderful school.

By Mark Scally



Mr O Hanlon

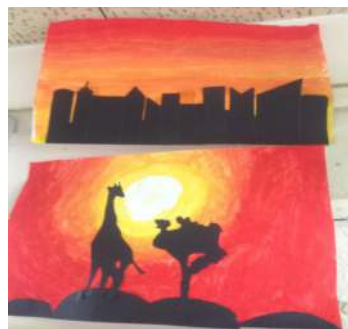
I can remember the first day of school. I met a boy called Patrick Casey. The year went on and I started to make new friends and we have all been great friends since. I was in this school until 4th class and then we moved to a foreign country Qatar for a year. When we came back all my friends treated me as if I had never left. I love this school so much. It is friendly and everyone knows one another and we have so many students of different nationalities.

By Tomás O Keefe

This term we had PE students from UCC teaching the lads gymnastics.



Some of Mr O Hanlon's art



The Student Council

The Student Council are here to represent all the boys here in SSNB. This year ten students have been democratically elected by his classmates. There are four boys from fifth class, two from each class (Robert O Leary, Cathal Murphy, Robert Mackey and Hassan Khan) .Also six boys from sixth class (Mark Scally the chairman, Odhran Foley the secretary, Christopher Furlong, Martin Crowley, Ruairi White and Edward O Meara) We listen to ideas and views from the pupils and bring them to Mr Cuthbert and together we work towards making our school the best it can be.

Each member of the Student Council attended this years open night and two of the boys made speeches.

We have also recently started a new school project where we bring 10 first class to play a game of soccer during yard time so they can have more room to play.



New Students in Fifth class

My New School by Lincoln Smemoe(5th class Mr McConnell) 21/11/17

Merry Christmas, my name is Lincoln and I moved from Texas roughly 2 months ago. There are 7 in my family.

Bishopstown Boy's school is a grand place. I think it is grand because the teachers are kind as long as you are kind back. The teachers teach with different personalities and the curriculum is well taught. Friendships are very easily made and kept. I hope you like it too!

My New School by Ben Milner (5th class Mrs Curzon) 21/11/17

My name is Ben Milner and I started in my new school, Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh last September. Being the new boy, I was a little bit worried the first morning, but Mr Cuthbert the principal gave all of the other new boys and I a big warm welcome when we arrived. While it did seem scary at first, making friends was an easy task for me as everyone in my class was so kind that soon I was feeling right at home.

My New School by Donncha Doyle(5th class Mrs Curzon) 21/11/17

Almost three months ago I joined Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh. On the first day I was quite nervous but since then I have been welcomed into the school by students and teachers alike. What is really impressive about the school is the computer room, fully equipped with enough iPads and laptops for every student . I was also amazed by the library which has a large variety of books especially for the older classes. Every Thursday we go down to the hall for PE which is probably my favourite subject. Overall I am happy to have moved to Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh.

Open Night at SSNB

A very successful open night was held in November for the parents of next year's Junior Infant classes. .

Mr Cuthbert addressed the parents, outlining to them the facilities of the school, the after school activities, and the general ethos of the school.

Members of staff were present to greet the parents and answer any questions .

The members of the student council were also on hand, guiding parents to

seats, answering questions about the lives of the students, and giving guided tours of the school.

The boys looked very well in their school blazers and all parents complemented them on their maturity and composure. Mark Scally (Chairman) and Odhran Foley (Secretary) made excellent speeches to the parents about their experiences in Scoil an Spioriad Naoimh.

Refreshments were provided by the Par-

ents Association.

We hope to have a full intake of Junior Infants next September, proof positive of the continuing popularity and excellence of Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh.

School Sports

Soccer

This year was our second time entering the FAI 4th class Soccer tournament. It was held once again in Midleton, at Midleton A.F.C.'s ground. We kicked off with a 0-0 draw with St. Patrick's BNS. We had comfortable wins against Walterstown NS (Cobh) and Aghada NS, winning 3-1 and 5-2 respectively. Our final game was another tough one, this time against Christians. We drew 1-1. We finished the tournament unbeaten, with two wins and two draws. The boys had a great day out and sang the whole way home on the bus!

GAA

Sciath na Scol Football

Over 50 boys turned up for trials for the Sciath na Scol football team in September. After a few weeks a panel of 25 players was chosen. Mr Kenny, Mr Murphy and Mr O Sullivan coached the team.

After losing narrowly to Criost Roí and Gaelscoil Carrigaline, victories over Youghal

and Rushbrooke saw us qualifying for a semi final against Rochestown. This exciting game resulted in us losing out in injury time by a point.

The hurling competition will take place in the Spring.

(Missing from photos is Daniel Griffin)



Extra Curricular Activities

After School Art Club

The after school art club resumed again this year and Mr O Sullivan is delighted with the work so far. The art club ran for six weeks in September and October, and another six weeks in November and December. In these classes, the boys learn to develop their artistic techniques, working in a variety of different mediums – oil pastels, watercolours, pencil, clay, paint etc. Work produced by the after school art club will be showcased on the windows in the main hallway throughout the year. The classes will resume on Tuesday January 23rd (for 8 weeks) and places will be filled on a first come first served basis after the Christmas holidays.

Soccer

Every Friday after school Mr. Carroll runs a soccer club in the school hall. These classes have proved very popular and the boy's soccer skills are improving weekly. Soccer classes will

run for 6th, 5th, 4th, 2nd and 1st class at various stages between January and June.

French

After school French classes take place every Wednesday afternoon and are run by Miss Ní Chruaí. Classes are based around learning useful French phrases and building up vocabulary. Fun games and songs are a big part of these lessons. Classes will resume after Christmas.

Lego

The After School Lego Club is a very popular club in the school run by Mr O Sullivan. It ran for six weeks in September and October, and another six weeks in November and December. The classes are designed to teach the principles of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). The club provides the boys with a

unique opportunity to learn, build and play with LEGO® bricks. While they are having fun, they are also developing important life skills such as problem solving, communications and spatial intelligence, whilst also enhancing their self-confidence and self-esteem. Each week there is a new theme in Lego Club and some of the themes explored so far are: Lego City, Lego Big Builds, Lego Star Wars, Lego sports. The club will resume on Thursday 25th January and places will be filled on a first come first served basis after the Christmas holidays



The Green School

The Green School Committee are:

Sean Mulcahy

Darragh Twomey

Tom McKeown

Joshua Barry

James Dooley

Kelvin Power

Cale McElligot

Cian Connery

Our main target during this term to encourage students to WALK on WEDNESDAYS... or any other green method such as bus, car-pool or scooter. Park&Stride is the most popular way to travel on Wednesday but

remember Juniors to 2nd should walk the distance of the church to the school. 3rd to 6th should walk from Dino's to school (or equivalent). Parents must sign the diary for 1st to 6th to confirm if their child completed the challenge weekly.

The top 3 classes this term for winning the Golden Boot are:

1. Mr. Murphy 6th

2. Ms. Curzon 5th

3. Ms. O Connell 3rd

Let's all try be GREENER for 2018... a good New Years Resolution

Remember: all waste from our lunchboxes must be brought home.



Guitar and Accordion Classes



Piano Accordion

Colette Morley teaches piano accordion on Wednesday. Since September the boys have mastered "Shepherd Song," "Fis Waltz," "Twinkle Twinkle," "Edelweiss," "Silent Night" and many more. They performed exceptionally well at the Christmas Concert as part of the school band.

Guitar

Colette Morley teach guitar on Thursdays to both beginners and improvers. The focus of these classes is to learn chords and play tunes mainly from the "Whistle Along" book. Intermediate players deviate a little from this, learning tunes such as "Fields of Athenry," "Cockles and Muscels," and "All of Me".

All the boys have worked very hard so far this year.

Ukulele will be taught after Easter for a six week block.





The Christmas Concert



At the end of this term, we will all gather with great excitement in Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh's halla for the wonderful annual Christmas concert.

The school band will open the show with some well-known Christmas carols, followed by each class from Junior Infants to Sixth class displaying their own individual Christmas dramas.

At the time of writing this article, all classes are busy with their preparations.

Songs are being rehearsed, lines are being recited, costumes are being gathered. All systems go for the big day!

The concert will run for three consecutive days. It is planned that the children's first performance will be on Tuesday, 19th of December. This will be a dress rehearsal and also an opportunity for the whole school to enjoy watching as spectators.

Wednesday 20th & Thursday 21st performances are set aside for parents

and families. Tickets are made available at reception and at the halla entrance.

By the time you read this we hope that everyone will have enjoyed the festive fun!



New Teachers



Aoife Ahern



Miriam Bogue



Dearbhla Crowley

New Special Needs Assistants



Emer Mulcahy



Bernie Murphy



Geraldine O'Connor



Valerie Honohan

Visitors to the school

Camogie

The school was fortunate to receive a visit from members of the Senior Cork Camogie Team. Gemma O'Connor and Maedbh Cahalane proudly presented the O'Duffy cup which they had received in their victory over Kilkenny in the All Ireland Senior Camogie championship this September. This is Cork's 27th title and the school was delighted to congratulate the team on the day of midterm.



Golf

On Tuesday October 24th the boys from 4th class to 6th class were treated to a golf lesson which included lots of fun and games. Jennifer Hickey from the Confederation of Golfers in Ireland (who work with the GUI) was in the halla for four hours coaching the boys and showing them the basic skills. They got to hit long shots, as well as some chipping and putting. You never know, we might have the next Rory McIlroy or Padraig Harrington on our doorstep!

Lord Mayor's Visit

One of the great traditions unique to Cork City is the annual visit of the Lord Mayor to the city's primary schools. Generations of children have enjoyed these visits, and the opportunity to leave the classroom for a short while.

This year's Lord Mayor, Councillor Tony Fitzgerald visited the school in early October and was given a suitably enthusiastic wel-

come. The Lord Mayor spoke about the importance of health and fitness, and the age of his Lord Mayor's chain. He also discussed the importance of national pride and singing our National Anthem

Of course the fact that the Lord Mayor requested that the children receive no homework that night was especially welcome and the Lord Mayor left the school with cheers ringing behind him.

It is of great benefit to the children that Cork's first citizen visit them in this way. Long may this tradition continue.



St. Vincent De Paul Food Appeal

We all look forward to Christmas each year, but there are many in our society who are less fortunate than we are. The Society of St. Vincent DePaul has run Christmas food appeals for many years.

Each year, we make an appeal to the parents of SSNB to bring in non-perishable food items in early December. The members of the student council organize the collection.



Our Classes 2017-2018



Mrs. Leonard's Junior Infants



Ms. Dodd's Junior Infants

Our Classes 2017-2018



Ms. Bogues' Senior Infants



Ms O' Sullivan's Senior Infants

Our Classes 2017-2018



Ms Winslow's First Class



Ms Ní Chrualaoi's First Class

Our Classes 2017-2018



Ms Kavanagh's Second Class



Mr Kenny's Second Class

Our Classes 2017-2018



Mr O Sullivan's Third Class



Ms O'Connell's Third Class

Our Classes 2017-2018



Ms Crowley's Fourth Class



Mr Carroll's Fourth Class

Our Classes 2017-2018



Ms. Curzon's Fifth Class



Mr McConnell's Fifth Class

Our Classes 2017-2018



Mr Murphy's Sixth Class



Mr O'Hanlon's Sixth Class

