



Christmas Newsletter 2023

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

May I take this opportunity to wish all in our School community a very Happy Christmas and every good wish for the New Year. What an incredibly busy first term it has been as you will read from this newsletter!

It has been wonderful to see the children wearing their Christmas jumpers, making wonderful Christmas Art and enjoying the fun activities that have been ongoing during the month of December. It was very special to see our First classes have their Carol Service in the Church this year for the first time since 2019! What fun we had at the Jingle with Junior Infants and the Senior Infant Sing Along for parents and family members singing their Christmas rhymes and songs also! Once again we are reminded how lucky we are to work with children of this age especially at this time of year.

I would like to thank our pupils for their hard work over the past term, our parents for your continuing support in all that we do, our Parents Association, members of our Board of Management, the staff, teachers, SNAs, bus escorts, Bernard and Gerry our caretakers, Mary & Maria our secretary's, our cleaning staff and all who contribute to the successful running of our school every day!

Special thanks to the outgoing Board of Management for all their work and support for the school over the past 4 years and best wishes to the new Board that has now been appointed. Congratulations to Ms Deasy on her recent wedding and to Ms Sargent on her engagement too! Wishing you both every good wish.

The next phase of the new build will be handed over to us early in the new year! This will be an exciting time for our Junior Infants to move to their new classrooms! We will keep you all posted closer to the time.

The countdown to Christmas has truly begun and perhaps Santa may bring the children some puzzles, books and hands on toys when he is packing his bag!
Wishing you all a Wonderful Christmas,

Nollaig Shona Daoibh go leir,

Anne-Marie O'Connor



Parent /Teacher Meetings

Our parent teacher meetings were held on Thursday 30th of November. Many thanks to all the parents who visited our school and met with our teachers. It was great to meet with so many parents and welcome you all to the school.



Christmas Cheer

The month of December spread lots of Christmas cheer about the school. Lots of different Christmas activities were organised which both children and staff enjoyed immensely. Every classroom looked wonderful with a great selection of art activities.

Many thanks to the children from First Class for performing a gorgeous prayer service to celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on Friday the 8th of December. Huge thanks Ms O'Connell for organising the prayer service and the school choir for providing some gorgeous carols on the day.

Our school choir had a very busy month of December. On Tuesday 12th of December they performed in the convent. This was a very special occasion. On Monday the 18th of December they performed in the Whitewater shopping centre and raised funds for the local share food charity. Huge thanks to all involved in the school choir for their expertise and dedication.

On Tuesday 19th of December our First Classes performed lots of beautiful Christmas Carols and songs for their families in the church. What a special occasion for us all to enjoy.

On Wednesday 20th of December we had a Christmas Jumper Day where we also raised funds for the Newbridge Share food charity. Our Junior Infant and Senior Infant classes took part in Jingle with the Junior infants and Sing Along with the Senior Infants for their families. The children wore their Christmas jumpers and looked so festive as everyone sang a number of Christmas songs. Well done to everyone for making it a special time for us all.



Science Week

The children embraced Science Week 2023 with enthusiasm and energy. The school was buzzing with science experiments underway in every nook and cranny. Junior Infants investigated dancing raisins, senior infants explored what materials are waterproof and first class undertook the "Awe and Wonder" experiment with paper towel colour mixing.

Other activities included making butter, a marshmallow building challenge, STEM challenges, dissolving gummy bears, a skittles rainbow experiment and a static electricity experiment to mention a few. Science week was enjoyed by all and the future looks bright in the hands of our budding scientists. Huge thanks to Ms Mc Paul for organising a fabulous week.



Parents Associaton

Many thanks to our PA for organising the Christmas card Initiative and the Clothing collection. Both were a great success. It was lovely to see the children bring home their own designs and cards for their families. Our next PA meeting will take place on Tuesday the 16th of January at 8pm in the school. All are welcome to attend.



Riverbank Trips

We are fortunate to have the Riverbank so closely situated to us. In December, Our First classes and Senior Infants had a fabulous time at 'The Polar Bears and Penguins' and 'A 100 little Hills'. The children thoroughly enjoyed these shows with lots of wonderful story and music for the children to enjoy. Many thanks to the Riverbank Arts Centre for having us.



Junior Infants

As we approach the end of the first term, we are thrilled to share the journey our Junior Infants have had during these past few months.

Back in November, we had Science Week where our Junior Infants dived into a world of discovery and science. They conducted experiments, and learned lots of new science facts. We also planted spring bulbs and are excited to see them begin to grow soon.

The Junior Infants have been working hard in their classes, learning all about the number 1, An Nollaig, and now have 20 sounds!

In other big news, we are delighted to have the Ionad Spraoi reopened! The children always look forward to having fun playing with their pals in the playground.

As it is festive season, our Junior Infants were busy preparing for 'Jingle with the Junior Infants.' From rehearsing Christmas songs, to learning new dances and poems, they were eager to showcase their creativity and spread joy and Christmas cheer to all who attended. They did such a great job!



Wishing you and your families a very merry Christmas and happy new year!



Senior Infants

Senior Infants have had a very busy term. The new playground opened for the children, and they have been having great fun playing in it. We had science week this term and the children did different exciting experiments. The children have also been busy doing lots of winter and Christmas art. We went to wonderful Christmas shows in the Riverbank. Room 20 and 22 went to see *penguin and the polar bear* and Room 12, 17 and 19 went to see *100 Little hills*.

We learned all about the post office this term too and we walked to the post office to post our own letters. To finish up for the Christmas holidays senior infants will perform their Christmas songs they have been learning in front of their families, while looking very festive in their Christmas jumpers.



We wish all the boys and girls in senior infants and their families a very Merry Christmas! 😊



First Class

First Class have been very busy this term. We enjoyed a lovely trip to the Riverbank to see “ A 100 little hills “. We were mesmerised by the beautiful music and the enchanting story-telling. This story was a great reminder to us all about the importance of play for both young and old in our daily lives.

We have been very busy preparing for our Carol Service in the church. We have enjoyed our visits to the church particularly our performance for the whole school. Some of our favourite songs are “This Little Light of Mine” and “Somewhere only we know”. We have been learning about Advent and sharing our preparations for Christmas. We hope Santa is on his way to Newbridge. Nollaig Shona dhaoibh go léir!!



Enrolments for September 2024

Our school enrolment for Junior Infants 2024 will begin from **Monday 8th January** and close on January 29th. Application forms will be available from the Parish Office from that date.

Social Media

As many of you are aware our Instagram account is : social@stconlethinfantschool.ie If you wish to follow us. You can also follow us on our school website : www.stconlethinfantschool.ie and twitter page :St.Conleth’sInfants@SCIInfantSchool

School closes on Friday 22nd December @ 11.45 for Junior Infants, @ 11.50pm for Senior Infants and 1st Classes. School re-opens on Monday 8th January 2024

Wishing you a happy and safe Christmas and every good wish for 2024

