

SCOIL NAOMH BARRA'S CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

20TH DECEMBER 2018 JAMES MINNOCK (PRINCIPAL) JACQUELINE MCCARTHY (DEPUTY PRINCIPAL)



Dates to Remember

School will finish up for our Christmas break at 12pm on **Friday 21st December** and will re-open on **Monday 7th January 2019**.

Swimming lessons will commence on Thursday 10th January.

Grandparents' Day will take place in our school hall on Wednesday 30th January.

Thank You

- Thank you to the **Parents' Association** and our hardworking staff who worked tirelessly over the past few months to ensure our Variety Show was a big success. A hugely enjoyable evening was had by all and this is a testament to their commitment to our school community.
- Many thanks to Gordon Leonard and to Michael McGarry for giving so generously of their time to ensure that we had perfect lighting, amplification and sound for the production.
- Thank you to Ronan O'Reilly (Ornan Kitchens) for gifting the school with shelves to store our new *Building Bridges of Understanding* picture books and other resources.
- Thank you also to Barry Cronin, Ollie McKeown and Renata Dapsyte for the wonderful photographs of the Witches Walk, sporting events and the Variety Show. We are indebted to your combined contributions.
- Many thanks to our Cumann na mBunscol sponsors: Jenny & Alan Oakes, Margaret & Derek McKeever, Scoil Naomh Barra Parents' Association, Emma & Alan Fox, Marcella & Fintan Wogan, Fiona & Chris Curtis, Siobhán & Darren Rennie, Lisa & Justin Kenny.

Sport

Cumann na mBunscol: Congratulations to Scoil Naomh Barra's boys' team on winning the Division 2 Cumann na mBunscol title by two points against Kildalkey on Saturday 24th November. This is an outstanding achievement as Scoil Naomh Barra has made history by becoming the first team ever to win two titles in one calendar year having won the Division 3 title in May. All involved should take a bow!! Well done also to our girls' team who reached the quarter finals.



The team captains- Aidan Rennie & Shane Mc Keever (centre); Adam Wogan (right)

Cross Country: Bellewstown Cross Country event took place on November 14th.

Olympic Handball – Pupils from 4th, 5th & 6th class attended an Olympic handball event in Gormanston College on November 5th. The next qualifying day will take place on January 21st.

Special Events

Our **Variety Show** took place on Thursday 13th of December and was a resounding success and a wonderful experience for all involved. We are delighted with the wonderful feedback we received from many who attended on the night. Congratulations to the stars of the show, the children themselves. You should all be very proud!



The whole school singing Christmas songs to close the show.



Junior Infants performing 'It's a Baby'.

Advent Prayer Service: 3rd class organised an Advent Prayer Service which was held in the school hall on Friday 7th December for children from all classes.

Carol Singing: Our school choir, under the capable direction of Mrs McCarthy, entertained the Active Retirement Group at its annual Christmas celebration in the Community Centre on 12th December. We would like to thank the members most sincerely for their generous contribution to our school and for their continued support. On Sunday 16th December the school choir participated in a carol singing fundraiser for the school in Navan Shopping Centre. Thanks to all who helped with and supported this event, which was once again a great success. A special thank you to the children "who sang their hearts out" and their parents who took precious time out of their busy schedules to ensure that the children were available for the occasion.

Eucharistic Adoration: The children in 2nd class engaged in the Eucharistic Adoration each month as part of their First Communion preparation, guided by Catherine Carroll and Nicky Halleran.

Witches Walk : Our annual Witches Walk took place on October 24th. Thank you to Nives Cooney from the Garda Mounted Support Unit for ensuring the children's safety on the day and to all the family members that accompanied the children.



Nives Cooney & children from 1st class



Leah Power, 3rd class

Curriculum Links

Fís Film-making Project: Well done to the class of 2018 (including JP Owens, present 6th Class) and Ms Daly for their film production 'The Goal'. They won 'Highly Commended' and a new iPad for the school. This is a great achievement as it is the first year we have entered the competition.

Science Week: Skyview Mobile Planetarium came to the school on Friday 23rd November. Pupils from Junior Infants to 6th Class experienced an exciting space film in the dome. 2nd class visited the library in Navan where there was a showcase about different experiments.

Credit Union Quiz- Pupils from 5th and 6th class represented our school in the Credit Union Quiz on 13th November. They performed very well.

Buddy Reading: 3rd class published their own Mr. Men books, creating their own Mr. Men characters and read their books to Junior and Senior Infants. This was a fabulous achievement and will help to instil a love of reading and writing in all of our pupils.

New School Developments

Building Project: The extension for our new classroom and special education room will be ready in February, all going well. Phase 2 of this building project will commence mid-2019. This will include the development of an additional mainstream classroom, an ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder) classroom and multi-sensory room.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy, safe and enjoyable Christmas with your families.

"Nollaig shona daoibh go léir agus saol agus sláinte daoibh don athbhliain 2019."