



# **Holy Family** **Senior National School** **NEWSLETTER**



December 2019

Happy Christmas to you all and I hope you have a very special Christmas.

We had a busy first term and we are delighted with all our sporting achievements and all the great work that our pupils have done on behalf of the community.

From the 6<sup>th</sup> class Localise volunteers who organised the massive hamper collection for the St. Vincent de Paul and the Carol Singing in Anovocare; to the Carol Singers who performed at the Christmas Dinner in SK in Swords and raised €1000 for Barretstown and the Christmas Band who entertained the elderly in Tara Winthrop nursing home.

The Student Council also organised for the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Classes to make Christmas Cards for sick children in Temple Street Hospital.

This year, we have one hundred and thirty 6<sup>th</sup> class children involved in PlayWorks. The news of our PlayWorks success has spread. We recently had a visit from a school in Ashbourne who came to see how to set it up in their own school. They were mightily impressed with our PlayWorks volunteers.

As you saw over the last few days, a lot of preparation went into the Carol Services which were held on Tuesday and Wednesday. It was lovely to get such positive feedback from parents and grandparents.

I wish to thank all the children for all their efforts in school since September and a huge thank you to all the dedicated teachers and S.N.A. team behind everything. A big thank you to Anne and Kate in the office for their cheerfulness and kindness in dealing with people young and old. Thank you to our caretaker Paddy who stops the place from falling apart! Thanks to the cleaning staff who look after the place so well. Thank you to our Board of Management for their dedication and wisdom and a special thank you to the members of the Parents' Association and all the parents and families for your ongoing support and commitment to the school.

Enjoy the holidays and see you in January.

Geraldine Gowen, Principal

Fionnuala Shelly, Deputy Principal

(Newsletter coordinated by Ms. Siobhan Leonard)

## **Christmas Holidays**

School closes on Friday December 20th at 12pm

And reopens on Monday January 6th at 8:50am



## Localise

### Localise visit Dublin City University

On Friday 6th December Holly Mc Carthy, Annie Darcy, Neil Gorman and Josh Mc Glynn travelled to St. Patricks/DCU and talked about their Localise journey. They were joined by Ms Walsh from Holy Family and Emily and Karl from DCU RAG who volunteer every Tuesday with the Rivervalley Localise group. They met the vice president of DCU, Daire Keogh, and talked to him about their partnership with the St Vincent De Paul Society and their upcoming event with Anovacare. They spoke to the group and told everyone all about their annual food collection for SVP and how they will travel to Anovacare to sing Christmas carols for the residents and staff. There were two other schools there and it was really interesting to hear what the other schools were doing. Daire Keogh told them how proud he was of all their hard work.



We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support this year with the food collection for SVP.

As usual you have been so generous with your donations. Thank you



## FAI Futsal



A big well done to the group of 4th class boys who took part in the FAI Futsal tournament in the National Sports Campus, Abbotstown, on Monday 25th November. The boys put in a great performances, winning almost all their matches and representing the school so well. Mr. Byrne was really proud of them. Well done to those boys who took part:

Roland Johnson, Evan Meagher, Padraig Cavanagh, Evan O' Leary, Ryan Reynolds, Jamie Ward, Dean Barbour, Alex Davis and Alan Zakonnik.

On Monday 1st December five 4th class girls also took part in the FAI Futsal tournament in the National Sports Campus. We had a great day competing against 8 other schools. The girls displayed great teamwork, cooperation and determination. They were rewarded for their efforts by winning the overall shield for "Sportmanship".

The coaches and referees commented on their lovely manners and kindness. Huge congratulations to the girls Ellie-Mae Mc Govern , Emma Faughnan, Ellie Clifford , Lauren Hudson and Rebecca Bayley.

Thanks to Mr Byrne and Ms K O' Connor who coached the teams for the tournament.





# Basketball



Congratulations to the Senior Girls' and Boys' Basketball Teams on such a successful start to their sporting year. The teams played cluster matches against St. Helen's National School Portmarnock, Swords Educate Together and Rush National School. The teams represented our school in the finals of the Primary Mini Basketball League on the 26<sup>th</sup> of November in the National Basketball Arena.

The Girls' team had a really competitive game against Gaelscoil Uí Earcáin Finglas and won by two points with a final score line of 14-12. The senior boys' had a very successful game against Gaelscoil Uí Earcáin also. They won on a score line of 44 – 11. Huge congratulations to both teams on such brilliant achievements for our school.



We are hoping to buy two team basketball kits for the school and would love to have them for our tournaments in 2020 and for many years ahead. If any business would like to sponsor one or both kits we would really appreciate it. The company logo and name would be included. Please contact Ms. Parker or the office if you would be interested in sponsoring our teams or if you have any queries,



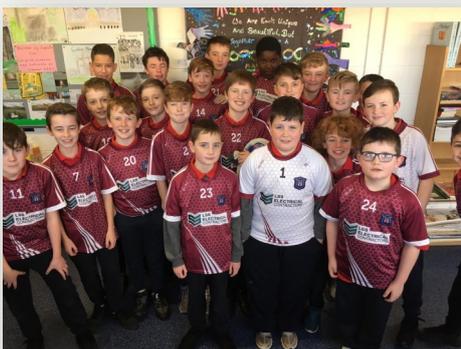
The Holy Family GAA, LGFA and Camogie teams are delighted with their new set of Jerseys. Both the players and management are extremely grateful to our new sponsors Lorraine and Stephen O Driscoll. This very generous sponsorship will supply the teams with much needed jerseys and equipment for their upcoming campaigns.



Pictured here are some of the members of the teams and include

Lorraine and Stephen's sons Jamie, Sean and Ross.

Thank you



## Asthma Friendly School

Holy Family Senior National School is working with the Asthma Society of Ireland to become one of a few Asthma Friendly Schools in Ireland. Last Wednesday, an Asthma Nurse Specialist came to visit our school. She talked to all the boys and girls with asthma, providing information about triggers, symptoms, management and correct inhaler technique. Look out for some of our asthma information posters the next time you're visiting the school!