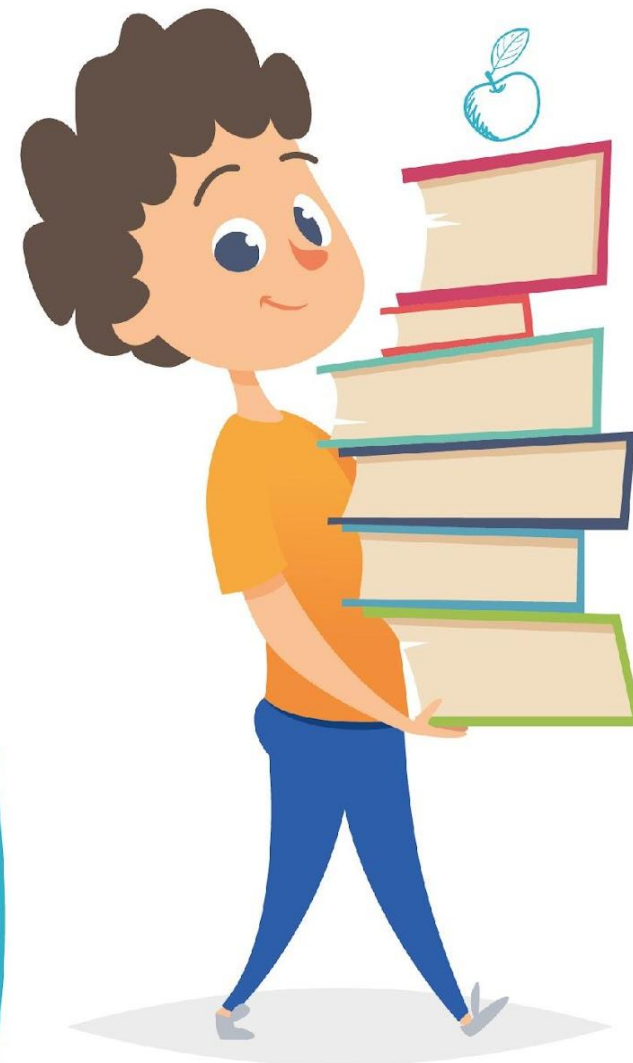


# CHRIST THE KING BNS NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 2022



# PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

## A message from Ms Vahey

Dear Parents,

I would like to congratulate all of our students on their amazing performances throughout last week.

All of the effort, hard work and lots of practice paid off on the day. It was a pleasure to have the opportunity of our parental community visit last week and to enjoy their son's performance.

It was amazing to have our classes and corridors brimming with parents, siblings and grandparents again. We value, as always your continued support and co-operation and continuing to strengthen relationships between school and home.

It has been a very busy term and our students have worked really hard throughout and are very deserving of the Christmas break.

The Board of Management, myself and the staff of CTK BNS wish you and all those dear to you a joyful and relaxing Christmas. I hope you enjoy the newsletter and we look forward to returning to CTK BNS on Jan 5<sup>th</sup> refreshed and renewed with energy ready to commence term 2.

Nollaig Shona Daoibh Go Léir.

Clodagh Vahey

Principal

### CHRISTMAS RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

Thank you very much to everyone who generously supported our Christmas raffle again this year. We raised **€645** which will go towards school sports equipment and STEM resources.

### ILLNESSES

We appreciate the communication to school by parents when your child is not feeling well. Please follow public health advice in relation to Covid-19 and other viral infection symptoms and keep your child at home if he is unwell.

### ABSENCES

If your child is absent, please ensure you send a note to the class teacher when your child returns to school. If no explanation is provided to the teacher the absence will be noted as 'unexplained'

### SCHOOL HOLIDAYS:

**School closes:** Wed  
21st at 12 noon

**School reopens:**  
Thursday 5th  
January at 9am





## CLASS REVIEWS

### LE CHÉILE 1

**Mr Quinn**

The boys in Le Cheile 1 have really got into the festive spirit. We decorated our classroom with Christmas lights and made lovely Christmas wreaths. We have been doing Christmas puzzles and games on the whiteboard, reading Christmas stories and doing Christmas counting in Maths. We learned lots of Christmas songs and we had a great time singing them for our families during our Christmas show. We really enjoyed our call from Santa Claus yesterday too! We were learning all about polar bears and penguins and made some handprint polar bears and penguin art to match.

All the staff here in Le Cheile 1 wish the boys and their families, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### JUNIOR INFANTS

**Ms Bacon**

It is hard to believe that the Junior Infants have completed their first term here in Christ the King! This term we have been learning our sounds and have been working super hard at blending our sounds together to make words!

We performed our first ever Nativity play in front of our parents and the Senior Infant parents! We are superstars in the making!

Coming up to Christmas, a little elf called Snowflake was sent by Santa Claus himself in the North Pole to keep a close eye on us as we approach Christmas Eve. We have been doing lots of Christmas art and activities such as making Christmas cards and making Reindeer food for Christmas Eve.

We have had an amazing few months and cannot wait to see what more is yet to come!

### LE CHEILE 2

**Mr O'Rourke**

The boys in Le Chéile 2 have had a very busy term. We have looked back at some of the topics covered during the term, such as Operations and Pattern in Maths and Rhyme and Sentence Structure in English.

We have scheduled Table Tasks each day (including e.g. fine motor work, sorting and ordering activities), which give the pupils an opportunity to develop their organisational skills (such as task completion, sequencing, checking schedules and tidying). We now have an Independent Work System incorporating these tasks and this will develop our skills further throughout the year.

Everybody has been excited about the Christmas holidays and we all helped out to decorate the classroom and our desks. We practised long and hard this month for our Christmas show, and the boys sang five lovely Christmas songs for our enthusiastic audience, who enjoyed treats beforehand and looked at our festive art display in the corridor afterwards.

All the staff in Le Chéile wish the boys a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### SENIOR INFANTS

**Ms. Hickey**

We have been having so much fun in Senior Infants. We have been super busy practising for our Christmas show, learning songs and even going on school trips.

We headed off to the library for a drama workshop. It was super fun! We got to create sounds using different materials. We had a cheeky trip to McDonalds after for McFlurrys.

We also performed 'The Nativity' for all the parents and it went amazingly. Everyone knew their lines and were using their best singing voices. It was so much fun.

We are really in the festive spirit down in Senior Infants. Our Elf is up to all sorts. We all are so excited for Santa to come.

I hope everyone has a lovely Christmas and looking forward to meeting everyone again in the New Year!

**1ST 2ND CLASS****Mr O'Keeffe**

The boys have done excellent work this term and have been very busy. We learned a lot about the World cup, it's history, and the teams that were taking part. The boys really tried their best to put together a wonderful Christmas show and it was a great success. We did a lot of music work this term, playing our new Difference Day drums, singing songs, and even writing our own song! We've done a lot of work preparing 2nd class for their Communion with trips to the church and visits from Fr. Joe. We've also had visits from Graham our school gardener. We grew peas, trees and strawberries with him. The boys really enjoyed PE this term with a combination of GAA with Johnny in Finbarrs and hockey in the hall. I'm so proud of what each of the boys have achieved this term, they worked very hard, did great listening and have gotten so much smarter! Well done boys and Happy Christmas!

**3RD CLASS****Ms O'Brien**

Third class have been working very hard this half term. Last week all of our preparation for the Christmas play paid off. The boys did themselves very proud by putting on a great performance. The class had great fun completing the marshmallow challenge during science week, there will be plenty of future engineers from this third class. This term the boys had rugby, cricket and GAA, they were great sports and really got involved in the three sports.

From all of us in Third class we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**4TH CLASS****Mr Coleman**

What a busy term we've had! Since the mid-term break, we've continued doing our GAA in Naomh Fionbarra. We also had rugby and cricket coaches coming into school. In addition, we had a 'CTK World Cup' football blitz between 3rd 4th, 5th and 6th classes. We went up to Inspire for this and a good time was had by all. We planted some pea pot plants with Graham our school gardener and we're starting to see some green shoots. We've enjoyed some World Cup based learning and we're all looking forward to our trip to the pictures at the lighthouse cinema in Smithfield to see Home Alone.

**5TH & 6TH CLASS****Mr Bodkin**

The run up to Christmas has been very busy in the senior end of the school. Between World Cup tournaments in Inspire, archery lessons, visits from Fr. Joe, Reading Buddies with the infant classes, yoga and gardening, 5th and 6th class have been hard at work.

On top of this, the boys have been busy practicing daily, for our Christmas concert. Our harmonies and theatrical performance have really come together and the boys have done themselves so proud.

In other lessons, the boys have been studying persuasive language and writing in English and have written wonderful persuasive letters to Mayan kings linked to our study of the Maya in History. The boys have been engaging with a fantastic programme for well-being in SPHE as well as Christmas mindfulness in the mornings. The boys have really appreciated these activities. In art, the boys made striking nativity scenes out of card, depicting the birth of Jesus as well as Christmas cards for all of their loved ones.

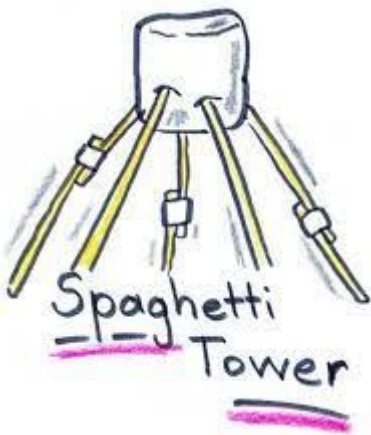
From myself and all the boys, we wish you all a very happy Christmas break.





# SCIENCE WEEK 2022

For science week this year, every class took part in the Marshmallow challenge!





# RTE

## RTE NEWS2DAY VISIT

There was great excitement in school on Thursday 17th November when RTE News2day visited our school to see the wonderful new activities and resources we got from Difference Days.







# WORLD CUP COMPETITION

Our senior corridor had their very own World Cup competition. Here are some photos of the boys in action!







## CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Here are some of the wonderful Christmas outfits we wore for Christmas Jumper day on Monday 19th December!







## CHRISTMAS DOOR COMPETITION

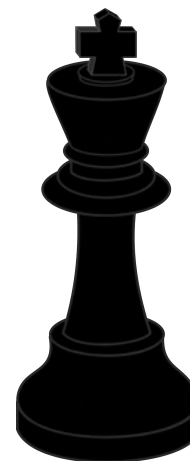
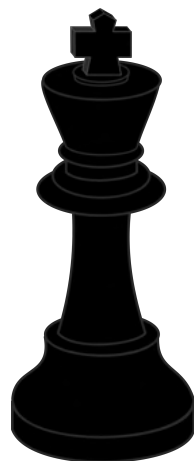
Christmas excitement has been building on our corridors with each class designing their very own Christmas doors for our Christmas door competition! Here are all of the entries!





## CHESS CLUB

The chess club has been a great success this term. Mr O'Keeffe and Mr Bodkin have been blown away by the focus and dedication of all the boys that have attended. We have representatives from each senior class in the club and a great mix of abilities. We look forward to finishing off the programme in the new year with a big Chess tournament!







# 5th & 6th CLASSES SPORTS for LIFE

5th & 6th classes had a wonderful opportunity to participate in this programme run by Dublin City Council where they got to try out a variety of sports such as yoga, archery, soccer, basketball and frisbee throwing! Here are some photos of these wonderful experiences:







# SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

The boys have been very busy this term with some very exciting trips to the library and the church as well as gardening, STEM activities and enjoying our new equipment from Difference Days!







## SCHOOL NEWS

### CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

Well done to all classes for putting on wonderful shows. They did themselves very proud and it was wonderful to be able to invite parents, guardians and grandparents in to school to see the performances live after a two year absence due to Covid-19 restrictions.

### MERIT AWARDS

Over the past few months we have focused on promoting qualities that we feel are important for the children to develop and demonstrate. The winners of November's Merit Awards were awarded for showing resilience and not giving up when tasks get trickier. The winners for December's Merit Awards were awarded for caring and sharing.

### DATE FOR THE DIARY

#### Communion

First Holy Communion has been set for 22nd May for the boys in 2nd class and Le Cheile 2.

### SEASONS GREETINGS

Wishing all of our students, staff and parents a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year. We look forward to seeing everyone on January 5th.



## HSCL NEWS

What a busy Autumn term it has been!

It has been so lovely to chat to parents about the positivity that is around this year - between the amazing changes we have watched take place on the school grounds and a real sense of "returning to normal" after the pandemic. It's all we could have wished for!

I will be launching a couple of new initiatives for school parents in the New Year. Firstly, I am looking forward to welcoming all **Le Chéile 1 & 2** parents in for the first of their monthly coffee mornings early next month.

Secondly, after I did a parent survey it became clear that a lot of parents would really like me to set up a regular weekly **walking group** for them. So I am!

We will be starting in mid-January - ideally we will meet in the yard on a Wednesday morning after the children have gone inside; we will go for a walk and ideally visit a café for a hot cuppa and a chat! Look out for signs around the school with more details in the new year.

If you haven't already, please consider following the HSCL Instagram account at @christthekinghscl - I try to update regularly with news and information for parents about school events and items of local interest.

In any event, I hope you all enjoy a Merry Christmas and I look forward to seeing what is ahead for us all in 2023!

Natalie, Home School Community Liaison Teacher

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