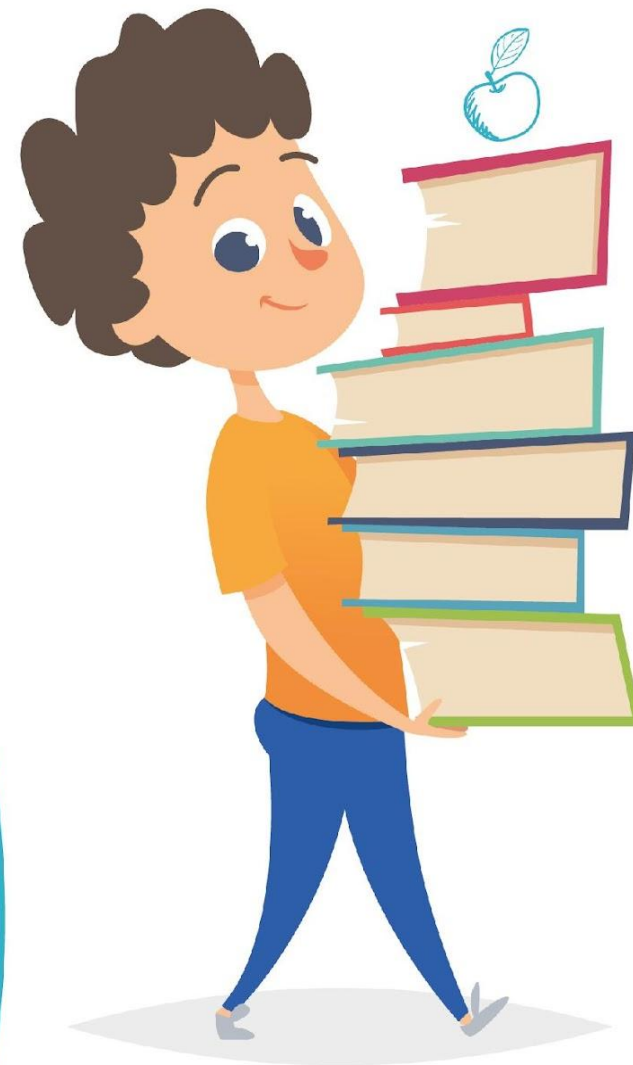


CHRIST THE KING BNS NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 2023



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.

On Wednesday Dec 20th December, our whole school went to see a Christmas movie in the Lighthouse Cinema. Our Junior Classes saw 'Arthur Christmas' and our Senior classes watched 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas'. Some classes walked and some classes got the bus to Smithfield to the cinema. I would like to congratulate all of our students who represented the school so well on this school trip.

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 8th 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 **€715**, which will go towards school resources.



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'

SUSTAINABLE VILLAGE PROJECT

Our CTK BNS Eco team were invited to Dalymount stadium on Tuesday December 19th as part of the next stage of 'The Sustainable Village' project.

The team have been tasked with organising a low carbon event for all schools involved in this project. We had a great discussion with Shauneen and Katie on the theme of Bohemian's 'Zero Waste' plan and our students came up with some fantastic creative and practical ideas to plan for this event due to take place in April 2024. Michelle Connolly from RTE Junior was on hand to record the students for the documentary.

A big thanks to Ms McWeeney and Mr Moore for their help, support and guidance in managing the school Eco team and driving the project forward.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS:

School closes: Friday
21st at 12 noon

School reopens:
Monday 8th January
at 9am



CLASS REVIEWS

LE CHÉILE 1

Ms McGennis

It's been a very busy and exciting term for Le Cheile 1 and the boys have all been working so hard on their goals. We have had loads of fun too- the highlight of the term was preparing for our Christmas play. All of the boys showed amazing teamwork, especially when making our props- we made a life-size fireplace out of cardboard! We also practiced our songs and lines for the play every single day and on the day of the performance, the boys showed off their amazing singing and acting skills.

We also did lots of crafty Christmas activities- making lovely art for our displays and Christmas treats like cookies and gingerbread men. The boys in Le Cheile 1 have all been brilliant and definitely deserve to be on Santa's nice list!

JUNIOR INFANTS

Ms Bacon

Junior Infants have successfully completed their first term ever in Big School! The time has flown by because we have been having so much fun!

Recently we performed Frosty the Snowman in front of our parents and also the Senior Infants parents too! We learnt new songs and had so much fun. We went on some trips this term: to the Lighthouse Cinema to watch Arthur Christmas and to the Library for an Architectural workshop. Our art has been brightening up our corridors and a cheeky little elf from the North Pole put up some twinkling lights in our classroom.

We have been learning our sounds and most recently putting our sounds together to make words- we are learning to read and having so much fun at the same time!

We cannot wait to see what adventures we will have in Term 2 in the New Year.

Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year from all the boys in Junior Infants!

LE CHEILE 2

Mr O'Rourke

Our first term in Le Chéile 2 has gone very well indeed. The boys have had plenty to keep them busy, both in and out of the classroom. Since the mid-term break, we finished our series of felting workshops in Cabra Library and produced some fantastic pieces. We've been enjoying our trips to Finbarr's for Gaelic football training with Thomas and look forward to keeping it up until June!

All the boys have made progress in their reading. We've been busy with group work, social skills games, revision, assessments and lots more besides. We're making good use of the activity room for sensory circuits, with a new punchbag as well as balance board, scooterboards, Jump and Play Island and mini basketball first thing in the mornings. We've updated everyone's targets for the New Year and look forward to getting off to a flying start in January.

There's been much excitement around the class in the runup to Christmas, with a wealth of decorations around LC2, many fun seasonal activities and preparations for the holidays. Our Christmas concert was a big success and we had a great turnout; all agreed that the boys did a wonderful job and everyone enjoyed themselves. And now everyone is ready for their holidays!

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

SENIOR INFANTS

Ms. Kelly

Senior Infants have done lots of great work finishing this term - learning all about 2D shapes, our school and more! We celebrated Science Week and World Kindness Day and had lots of amazing fun.

We went on a trip to Cabra Library and the All-Ireland Ladies and Mens' cups won by Dublin GAA and LGFA teams visited too. The children created beautiful Winter art and did a fantastic Christmas performance of Frosty the Snowman. We went to see Arthur Christmas and the Garda Band visited us too!

We wish all our families a very Happy Christmas and New Year!

1ST & 2ND CLASS**Ms Carolan**

The past few months have been super busy in 1st /2nd class. In November we explored the topic of 'food' and had lots of fun making healthy smoothies, studying the food pyramid, doing fun experiments, learning poems and reading Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. In the last week of November, we were invited to participate in a GAA blitz against local schools. The boys represented the school with great pride, and we all had a great day out.

December was soon upon us and needless to say, the lead up to Christmas has been very exciting. The boys put lots of time and effort into learning lines, songs and actions for our Christmas play 'Ralph the Reindeer' and their efforts really paid off. The play was a great success, and the boys did themselves proud. We've been really getting into the festive spirit doing lots of Christmas art, learning about robins, making Irish Christmas cards and we even got to make our very own gingerbread house. Our trip to the cinema to see 'Arthur Christmas' was an exciting end to a wonderful term in 1st/2nd class.

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

3RD & 4TH CLASS**Mr Coleman**

We've had a busy & active 2nd half of the term in 3rd & 4th. Six of our boys are involved in the Sustainable Village project in conjunction with Bohemians FC and RTE radio. We look forward to feedback from these fellows.

We've also been doing our GAA coaching sessions with GPO Thomas up at Naomh Fionnbarra. Lots of our fellows have shown good execution of the skills they've learned. We also had a visit from the Brendan Martin Cup and the Sam Maguire trophy in the hall after a three year hiatus. We all thoroughly enjoyed the recent concert performed by the Garda Band who got us all up singing and dancing.

We've been doing a life skills workshop with Hannah from SCP which has been good for the lads.

Our Christmas play was well received by our audience which we're very pleased with, as we put lots of work in.

Merry Christmas to all!

5TH CLASS**Mr Moore**

The last few weeks of term have been very busy for the pupils in 5th Class. As well as our usual activities in class, we have been preparing for Christmas in earnest.

The pupils concluded their lessons at the Awesome Walls climbing experience at the start of December. The climbing sessions were greatly enjoyed by all involved and we are very grateful to the instructors for their advice and help throughout the duration of the course.

Our bi-weekly GAA coaching sessions have been taking place over the months of November and December and thanks to Thomas our coach, for all his help developing the boys' skills.

Recently the class attended the Fighting Words literacy workshop in Russell Street near Croke Park.

At the workshop the boys improved their creative writing skills, and also learned an abundance of new vocabulary.

In preparation for Christmas, we completed lots of Christmas art. This included painting a beautiful landscape with Christmas trees on a hillside, blanketed with winter snow. We also decorated our classroom door with a large Christmas tree made from hand cut-outs and decorated it with lights and colourful bobbins.

Finally, the boys in Fifth Class performed their Christmas show on Thursday last. We sang a selection of Christmas songs including Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer and Frosty the Snowman. The songs really helped us get into the festive spirit. While singing, the boys wore Christmas jumpers and Santa hats. It was lovely to see so many parents and relations in attendance at the show.

Happy Christmas to everyone from all the boys in 5th Class.

6TH CLASS**Ms Monaghan**

It has been a super busy lead up to Christmas for the 6th Class boys. The boys have spent lots of time preparing for their Christmas performance, which was a great success and one that the boys really enjoyed. The boys in 6th Class have been learning all about Narrative writing and have written some fantastic stories. The boys were lucky enough to attend a Creative Writing workshop also. We have been busy creating some lovely Christmas art and decorating our classroom for the festive season. The school football team had a very successful challenge match, and the boys are looking forward to kicking off the school football season in the new year. The boys in 5th and 6th class were very fortunate to have attended a 6-week course at Awesome Walls which they thoroughly enjoyed and learned a new skill. From all of us in 6th Class, we wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.



SCIENCE WEEK 2023

Our classes took part in Science Week again this year. Here are some of the experiments that were taking place around the school. The theme this year was "My Body". Some classes watched a webinar and followed along with an online experiment too! It was a great success all around!





ALL IRELAND WINNING CUPS VISIT CHRIST THE KING

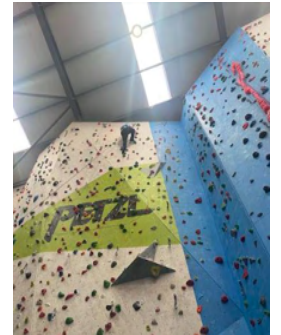
There was great excitement in school on Tuesday 5th December when the Sam Maguire and Brendan Martin cups arrived to our school. The boys got the chance to see the cups that were won by the Dublin Senior Mens and Ladies teams in 2023





AWESOME WALLS

Our 5th and 6th classes had a wonderful opportunity to develop climbing skills during a 6 week programme in Awesome Walls.



We attended Rock Climbing at Awesome Walls for six weeks. It started at 11am and finished at 12pm. We got the bus from the school at 10:30am. We had no experience of rock climbing beforehand so we learned a new skill.

We began the course with a smaller and straight wall and as the weeks went on, we learned to climb taller and more difficult walls. Some walls were slanted which made it more challenging to climb. As the weeks went on, it got easier and we got braver. It was so fun, we even learned how to belay. We got to meet some new people and we had lots of fun with the instructors. At times, it was hard but it was a challenge that we all enjoyed and learned from.

We are very grateful for this opportunity and hopefully we can go to Awesome Walls again.

Christopher 6th Class





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! Our student council choose the winners!



JOINT WINNERS



CHRISTMAS IN CHRIST THE KING BNS

Here is a snapshot of some of the festive activities over the past month!



Garda Band visited



Christmas Performances



Christmas art, crafts & cooking





OUT AND ABOUT WITH CHRIST THE KING BNS

The boys have been very busy this term with some very exciting trips to the library, a GAA blitz , the boys who attended the Sustainable Village project visited Dalymount to do a recce and the whole school finished up with a trip to The Lighthouse Cinema to see some Christmas movies!



Sustainable Village Project



Lighthouse Cinema Trip



1st & 2nd GAA Blitz

On the 29th November, my class were invited to play a GAA blitz. There were lots of other schools there like Finbarrs and Gaelscoil Bharra. We played 5 or 6 matches and we had a lot of fun. There were nice shots on goal and good blocks. Our class were split equally into 2 teams. One would play while the other team waited, watched and cheered us on. It was so much fun!

Zane 2nd Class



Library Trip





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.

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

On Friday 22nd December, we celebrated Christmas Jumper Day where we donated to Christmas FM's charity fund. The student council added a competitive element, just for fun where the children chose the teacher who was wearing the best Christmas jumper. The winner was chosen with the loudest cheer in assembly!



STUDENT COUNCIL

Congratulations to our student council who have successfully completed their term in council, finishing up with a Christmas door competition and the "Best Teacher's Christmas Jumper" competition. Next term a new group of students will represent their class and the opportunity to express their views on maintaining and improving our school.

SEASONS GREETINGS

Wishing all of our school community a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year. We look forward to seeing everyone on January 8th.



HSCL NEWS

Hi everyone – can you believe that it is Christmas already?!

We have had a brilliant, busy and bustling start to the school year. I've been lucky enough to host a couple of Triple P workshops for parents and hope to host another one in the Spring. We learned tips around bedtime routines and hassle-free shopping trips – I've had some requests to host a workshop around managing behaviour. I'll keep you posted!

The big news is that we have a Parent and Toddler Group back at Christ the King! This group is currently exclusively for family members of current Christ the King pupils. We meet every Thursday and it is great for the toddlers – and the parents! Contact me if you'd like more information on it.

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 2024!

Natalie, Home School Community Liaison Teacher

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