



# Maynooth Educate Together



## Newsletter

December 19th 2024

### SCHOOL NEWS/UPCOMING EVENTS

#### January

- **School Enrolment** is now open. Please visit our website [HERE](#) for details.
- **Winter Holidays Dec. 20th (Half Day)** Staggered collection times-11am those that travel by bus, infants and siblings, 11:15-1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> classes (and siblings), 11:30am all other pupils in 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> classes.
- **Return to school:** January 6<sup>th</sup>
- **Wellbeing week:** January 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>
- **Grandparents Day-** 24<sup>th</sup> January
- **Junior Infants Parent/Guardian Teacher Meetings-** Week of January 27<sup>th</sup>
- **School Closure (Primary Maths Curriculum Training)-** January 31<sup>st</sup>

#### February

- **February 3<sup>rd</sup>** - Public Holiday
- **February 11<sup>th</sup>** - Safer Internet Day
- **Staff departure:** We wish 6<sup>th</sup> Hannah Mc Guckin all the best as she takes up a permanent post in St. David's School Naas. Hannah has been with us since August '24. She will be missed by staff and pupil alike.
- **Congratulations** to Siobhán Deegan who has been appointed as an additional secretary in Maynooth ETNS. We are delighted to welcome you Siobhán.

**Le Chéile visit to Maynooth Lodge Nursing Home.** Our senior choir represented Maynooth Educate Together so well last week, when they visited the residents there and treated them to some **festive music and song**. Well done to Ruth and Olivia who prepared the children so well. Our senior infants also wrote some lovely messages and created some fabulous Christmas cards for the residents.



**Active Citizens:** Thank you to all our parents/guardians and pupils who supported the **peaceful protest** on December 6<sup>th</sup>. There was a fantastic turnout. This was a great opportunity for our pupils to learn that their voice matters and community spirit was well and truly alive. The protest gained plenty of traction via social media and news outlets. Let's hope that our actions will bring about some positive change for road safety on the Celbridge Road.



**Tree planting:** Big thanks to Conor Dempsey who guided and educated our pupils while planting our new trees. **Cherry Blossoms, Apple Trees and Mountain Ash** were planted on the school grounds. The children are looking forward to watching 'their' trees grow big and tall into the future.



**Podcast:** An mí seo, chruthaigh na páistí i rang a cúig podchraoladh! D'oibrigh siad go dian le Jen agus Olivia chun é seo a dhéanamh. Ba chóir go mbeadh siad an-bhród as an obair a rinne siad. Más maith leat éisteacht leis an podchraoladh, seo daoibh an nasc! Comhghairdeas ó chroí do Eli, Amelie, Eloise, Daniel, Mia agus Leo! Maith sibh 😊. This month the children from 5<sup>th</sup> class created a podcast. They worked really hard with Olivia and Jen. They should be very proud of the work they have done! If you would like to listen to the podcast the link below. Big congratulations to Eli, Amelie, Eloise, Daniel, Mia and Leo! Well done! [Listen Here!](#)



Class	Student Award	Gaeilgeoir na Míosa	Co-operation Award
Junior Infants Noreen & Sinéad G.	Frankie	Dragos	Erin
Junior Infants Aoibhín	Ian	Alex	Emma
Senior Infants Carolina	Cathy	Cole	Triumph
Senior Infants Sinéad Staunton	Paola	Keegan	Charley
1 <sup>st</sup> Class Annie	Lucy	Carter	David
1 <sup>st</sup> Class Clare & Stephanie	Aine	Matthew	Leo
2 <sup>nd</sup> Class Anna	Anya	Oskar	Patrick K.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Class Tom	Jude	Ruairí	Logan
3 <sup>rd</sup> Class Rob Leonard	Viktor	Cara	John
3 <sup>rd</sup> Class Jen	Klementyna	Danny F.	Leon
4 <sup>th</sup> Class Triona	Yesha	Felix	Maci
4 <sup>th</sup> Class Rob Potter	Lara	Lydia	David
5 <sup>th</sup> Class Olivia	Leo	Cillian	Amelie
5 <sup>th</sup> Class Sinéad Sullivan	Amy	Bendi	Fabio
6 <sup>th</sup> Class Hannah	Jacob	Emi	Noa
6 <sup>th</sup> Class Dave	Smyan	Mariia	Elena



## November Student Awards

**Principal's Awards:** December Principal's Award go to three pupils. **Oscar Mooney** (3<sup>rd</sup> class) due to his remarkable determination and dedication to hard work. He has shown remarkable perseverance and commitment to his learning. He has been working diligently in class and we are so proud of his progress and efforts. Oscar consistently demonstrates kindness and a friendly nature, embodying what it means to be a good friend to his peers. His personality exudes empathy and compassion, and he brings a sense of kindness to his classroom community. Oscar is a fantastic role model for all pupils in our school. Well done Oscar!

Another **Principal's Award** goes to Keegan Kennedy from Senior infants, who has made incredible progress this year. He is becoming extremely independent, participates very well in all lessons, and he is excelling in reading and writing. Well done Keegan! Super job!

The **final principal's award** goes to **Eli Coogan** (5<sup>th</sup> class) who has made amazing strides with the school blog and with the podcast Gaeilge for Maynooth ETNS. Her enthusiasm and hard work are remarkable. Eli is an amazing writer and we are sure to see her work in some of the National Newspapers in years to come. Well done Eli! Maith thú!

**Bebras Challenge.** Congratulations to the following pupils who are advancing to the final round of the Bebras Maths challenge. Fantastic achievement children! **Well done!**

- \*Viktor Culjat
- \*Oscar Fox
- \*Chloe Sheehan
- \*Elena Naughton  
Lehtimaki
- \*Anthea McLoone
- \*Pranav Arun
- \*Leonard Banasik
- \*Daniel Duwai



**Student Council Winter Jumper Sale** made €500 for our School Garden. Thank you for your support.





# Class News

In the Caterpillars class we enjoyed making gingerbread cookies and decorating them. They tasted delicious.

Christmas Activities in Butterflies Class: Festive decoration making,



**Junior Infants Noreen and Sinéad Garry's Class (Juniper):** This month we worked on our 'Maths Eyes' with our buddies in 3<sup>rd</sup> class. We used iPads to take photos indoors and outdoors and create a maths question for each one based on colour, shape or number. The children had great fun working on this. Junior Infants have also been busy learning about the Toy Shop. We have some creative builders in our class and we're even learning how to wrap presents and we are going head over heels in gymnastics 😊





This month's **theme in Tríona's 4<sup>th</sup> Class** has been "Winter and Winter Celebrations and Traditions Around the World." The children have been exploring the theme across the curriculum with both curiosity and creativity.

In history and geography, they have been learning all about Christmas traditions and celebrations in the past and around the world. In SPHE & our Learn Together program, they have been focusing on spreading kindness and joy this festive season and showing respect and acceptance for all around the world, while sharing wishes of peace and happiness. In English the children have been reading winter themed stories and poetry and enjoying report writing about winter animals and traditions. The children have also made **beautiful Christmas art...** clay tealight holders, reindeer decorations and gorgeous winter paintings. They have been learning to sew too and have really enjoyed this new skill, creating **fabulous fabric decorations and wallets**, which they are very proud of.



#### **First Class (Clare & Stephanie) – Cherry Class**

We have had a very festive Month in 1<sup>st</sup> class. We created beautiful winter snow globes and sparkly Christmas decorations. We learned about Hanukkah and decorated Menorah. We enjoyed story time in the grotto and had a surprise visit from Santa Claus himself! Our Winter show was so much fun and we really enjoyed performing for all our families.





We've had such a busy and exciting month of learning in **Chestnut (Aoibhín's Junior Infants)**. Our class has really been practicing using our Maths eyes to figure out all the new numbers we've been working on. We were also learning all about length. Our visit to Santa's grotto was one of the highlights of the month and everybody was so excited.



**3rd Class Hazel-Robert Leonard's Class.** There has been a lot happening around the school this month. We have been putting a huge amount of work into the Winter Show. The children have shown such enthusiasm in the rehearsals and have enjoyed adding in their own personal contributions to the show.



Jennifer Luke visited the class and showed the kids how to make their very own snowmen using socks and rice. The children were very proud of their end product. Thank you Jennifer! We also took part in a Christmas themed online maths quiz with other schools across the country. There were lots of open-ended investigations which took a lot of co-operation and hard work to solve.

**Jen's third class (Hazel)** has had an exciting couple of weeks leading up to the festive season! The students had the fantastic opportunity to try their hand at hurling for the first time in school. They thoroughly enjoyed learning new skills under Declan's guidance and were thrilled to show off their progress! The children had a great time crafting adorable snowmen using rice and socks! A big thank you to Jennifer Luke for coming in and creating these wonderful festive decorations. Here is a photo of Sam, Luka, Aoife and Beth with their creations!

The children also had the exciting opportunity to plant their very own apple tree this winter! Despite the wet and windy weather, they enjoyed the experience. Be sure to keep an eye on the front of the school in the coming months to watch their tree grow and flourish!

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Class Willow News (Robert Potter's Class)**

December has been another busy month for 4<sup>th</sup> class Willow. Well done to all the children for their fantastic performance in the Winter Show. All their hard work and dedication certainly paid off. In English we have been learning about report writing and we wrote a report about Neil Armstrong. We made our own Christmas decorations and decorated the classroom with them. We made coil pots and other ornaments using clay which will be painted and brought home this week.



"**Dave's 6<sup>th</sup> class (Birch)** are using the Mathletics learning platform to revise and reinforce numeracy topics that have been covered throughout the year so far. The class are using quizzes, challenges and games to reinforce numeracy topics such as decimals, fractions and 2D shapes.

Along with Google GSuite for Education, Reading Eggs, Touch Typing etc, digital technology is being integrated across the curriculum to give pupils digital competency and digital literacy skills that will prepare them for the modern world by enhancing their ability to research, create, collaborate, and communicate effectively using technology.

The school recently used its ICT grant to purchase a further 25 Chromebooks which means that digital learning will be further integrated across the curriculum in the New Year!"





# Parent Teacher Association NEWS

- Thank you to all parents/guardians who completed the **Healthy Eating Questionnaire**. Please see attached document to this email for survey results.
- **Lotto Winners: Elaine Smith (€20) 6/12/2024 Kym Morris (€20) 12/12/2024.** You can sign up for the Big Christmas Giveaway Competition and our regular weekly lotto [Here](#)
- **Father's Nominee to the Board of Management:** Any fathers interested in this role should contact the PTA via [maynootheducatetogetherpa@gmail.com](mailto:maynootheducatetogetherpa@gmail.com). Please see email sent on 13<sup>th</sup> December for more details.

## Community News

**Board Game Club:** Do you have any board games (that are intact with all pieces) that you no longer need or use? Tracey and Jacinta from Board Games Club would be very grateful of your donations. Please leave at reception with Hilary.

**Mindfulness Club** has a few remaining places for the New Year. We start back on Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup> of January, 2:10-3:10 😊 Please contact [mindfulnessa.h@outlook.com](mailto:mindfulnessa.h@outlook.com) if you are interested in booking your child in.

## STEAM ACADEMY



*STEAM Academy is on a mission to deliver a Playfully Brilliant hands-on learning experience! Your child will build unique robots using the latest technology, learn about safe internet usage, and tackle fun challenges—all under the guidance of a fully trained and vetted STEAM Mentor. Don't miss the chance to change your child's future for the better! We're really looking forward to seeing even more enthusiastic young learners in our next term. Thanks again for all your support—it makes a huge difference!"*

We'd like to maintain the same class schedule as this term:

**Wednesday** | Class 1, 2, 3 | 02:10 - 03:40 | 90

**Wednesday** | Class 4, 5, 6 | 02:10 - 03:40 | 90

*Wishing all who celebrate Christmas- a very **Happy Christmas** and Best wishes to the whole school community for the **New Year**.*

Lorraine Murray

Principal