

Dear Parents/Guardians and Friends in our Community,

Finally, we have reached the end of what has been another difficult and long year for all of us. The children have been fantastic since their return to school in September and have adapted with resilience to all the changes in our school. Parents and friends too have been very supportive and understanding of all the measures that we have put in place. We have all worked very hard together and there has been huge collective effort to keep our children, staff and community safe and our school open. This is very evident in our low Covid case numbers and the non closure of our classes.

The response to the online parent courses this term has been very successful. Many of you have partaken in the arts and crafts and online workshops. The Christmas cookies made by some children and their parents looked delicious! Our children from 3rd to 6th were very creative designing beautiful Christmas cards for the residents in Dun Dealgan Nursing Home. Last week, a choir from our school sang Christmas carols outdoors for these residents. There was a lovely atmosphere with the beautiful singing and the elderly residents really enjoyed it. We also presented the nursing home with a painting by one of our 6th class pupils which was gratefully accepted. Please look on the school website for some photos of this special morning.

Our virtual Santa made an appearance to all the classes via video link on Friday and the excitement in the classrooms was palpable. We would like to shout out a huge thank you to Santa for doing these videos for us. Each child received a selection box and all classes made it on to Santa’s good list this year which is great!

Our teachers and staff have worked so hard this term with the children. The beautiful art work displayed in the school corridors reflects this. Please look at the school website for some samples of their wonderful work.

Many thanks for the food collected for our food appeal this year in aid if ‘Save Our Homeless’ –we were overwhelmed by your generosity. Please check out their face book site. We collected 116 euro for Saint Vincent de Paul by wearing or Christmas jumpers to school. Well done everyone!

**School will close on Wednesday December 22nd.**

**School will reopen on Thursday 6th Jan.**

Finally and most importantly, we wish you all a very happy, peaceful and safe Christmas and the very best for 2022!

With every best wish,

Róisín Hughes (Principal), Karen (Home School Links) and all staff in Scoil Eoin Baiste.