



BUNSCOIL FUN!

SIMON CHRISTMAS FOOD APPEAL

Every year at Christmas time we have a food appeal in our school. It is for the Simon Community. Children from each class are asked to bring in food for the homeless people. Everyone usually brings in loads of tinned food, pasta, rice, biscuits and other foods that won't melt or go off.

When they are collected they are given to poor people who will not be as lucky as us at Christmas. It is nice to think that even something small that we might bring in to school will make someone happy on Christmas day.

By Avril Cashman &

Jack Keane (Mr. Hickey's Third Class)



The Simon Community's mission is to work in solidarity with men and women who are homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless. Lots of volunteers work with Simon and in Cork they do lots of different things to help homeless people.

One of the things they do is go out on the streets every night of the year doing 'The Soup Run'. They are doing this with 40 years! The volunteers who go out give food and blankets to homeless people. Sometimes people just want to talk and hear a friendly word. Sometimes they give them shelter or they get them a doctor if they are sick. There are a lot of homeless people in Cork and the food children in Bunscoil give helps feed them.



**DON'T FORGET
SCHOOL CLOSSES
AT 12 NOON ON
FRIDAY!**

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WATCH OUT FOR:

- ☺ CHESS NEWS!
- ☺ POETRY BY CASSIE
- ☺ PANTOMIME NEWS
- ☺ PRICKLY HAY
- ☺ RUGBY WITH SEÁN
- ☺ GREEN SCHOOLS
- ☺ SCHOOL CLOSURES
- ☺ CHOIR NEWS
- ☺ CHRISTMAS JOKES

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CAKE SALE 2012

So far this year the Parents' Association helped out with the witches' walk and would like to thank all the parents who gave their time to help out on the day.

We held our annual coffee morning and cake sale on Fri the 7th December and raised a total of €1,895. These funds will go towards the re-furbishment of

the cookery kitchen. We would like to thank the parents for baking and supporting the school, the teachers for baking the delicious scones and all the staff who helped out. A special thanks to the local businesses in the town for very generously sponsoring the raffle prizes, the Walter Raleigh hotel for the tables and the Youghal

News and East Cork Journal for covering the event. We would also like to thank Rhonda in the office, Mr O'Neill and the caretakers. Finally we would like to wish Mrs O'Doherty well in her retirement and thank her for her contribution.

By Mrs. Breda White (Parents' Association)

A FEW WORDS FROM MR. O'NEILL

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. I sincerely thank all of you for your generosity and support throughout the year. I would ask all the boys and girls to make sure they stay safe over the Christmas holidays and make sure when out and about that they are well seen by wearing bright clothing and also to wrap up well in the cold weather.

The Witches' Walk was another great success this year and one event that the children really enjoy and once again thank you to everyone for your generosity. The money raised will go towards the refurbishment of our cookery kitchen.

I would like to thank the wonderful Parents' Association for all their hard work

and commitment in organising the coffee morning and to all the sponsors who gave so generously. Without them this would not be possible.

Well done to all the boys and girls who took part in the football training, we will be taking a break for Christmas and will resume again in the New Year with hurling and camogie.

Congratulations to our new Deputy Principal Ms. Annette Hegarty. Ms Hegarty has been teaching in the school for a number of years and we wish her every success in her new role.

The new porches in our school are now just about finished and we can feel the benefits as they are keeping out the cold, so we now have a nice warm and cosy school. With Christmas fast ap-

proaching our school is looking very festive. Thank you to everyone who helped decorate the school. We hope to have the school crest put into the playpen floor over the Christmas break.

Sr. Elizabeth was well known in our parish. She was a Presentation Sister and a member of the teaching staff at Bunscoil Mhuire and she spent a long time teaching here. Sr. Elizabeth was a lovely lady and she will be sadly missed by all who were fortunate enough to know her. Please remember her in your thoughts and prayers over the Christmas.

Le gach dea-ghuí í gcomhair na Nollaig is na h-athbhliana.

Eoghan Rua Ó Néill

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD!

We are all VERY excited! We are going up to Cork on a BIG bus to see "Little Red Riding Hood" in the Everyman Theatre. Its going to be great fun. We don't even have to bring our school bags that day because we'll be doing no work. Teacher said we can bring a

picnic to have in the theatre while we are watching the show, it'll be like going to the cinema. Lisa told us that there is going to be lots of singing and dancing too and we get to join in as well. We LOVE clapping in our class so its going to be FANTASTIC. Our teacher said

we are fabulous singers too so maybe if we sing really loud we might get a part in next years show! WOW, that would be great!

*By Ms. O'Leary's
Junior Infants
Class*



LOOK OUT BEHIND YOU!!!!

Senior Infants had their annual trip to the pantomime on Friday December the 14th. This year we went to the Everyman Palace Theatre and we saw Little Red Riding Hood. We enjoyed waving at the characters on stage and laughed when they tripped over! The wolf was really scary,

especially when he was hiding behind Granny's bed. Granny was a man dressed up as a woman! We liked the part where the woodcutter kissed Red Riding Hood's sister and they got married! The only person we didn't like was Flash Harry. He was very mean and

he told lots of lies! We are glad to say the story had a happy ending and we had a great day out!

*By Ms Kirk's
Senior Infants
Class*



BRIAN TEASERS WITH BRAIN!

There is a man found dead in a circular mansion. The detective interviews the cook, maid, and babysitter. The cook said he couldn't have done it because he was preparing the meal. The maid said she couldn't have done it because she was dusting the corners. The babysitter said she couldn't have done it because she was playing with the children. Who was lying?

I'm easier to see when night has fallen, I light up the night sky, I always do the same thing and colours show I'm not shy. What am I?

A man lives on the 12th floor. He goes to work every day and takes the elevator down for it. When he comes back, he goes up to the 6th floor and takes the stairs to the 12th. Why is this?

A man was found dead in his apartment. When the police looked up his job, they

found out he earns €30 for every month with 30 or less days and €34 for every month with 31 days. Assuming the current date is April 1, how much will he earn in 9 months?

A magician was boasting one day at how long he could hold his breath under water. His record was 6 minutes. A kid that was listening said, "That's nothing, I can stay under water for 10 minutes using no types of equipment or air pockets!" The magician told the kid if he could do that, he'd give him €10,000. The kid did it and won the money. Can you figure out how?

ANSWERS TO HALLOWEEN BRAIN TEASERS:

1. Stop imagining

2. There would be 74 fish because fish can't drown.
3. Throw a ball straight up in the air.
4. The two babies are a set of triplets.
5. Select from: seal, duck, stag, vole, wolf.
6. A single word.
7. Mount Everest....It just wasn't discovered yet!

By Brian Ronayne (Mr. White's 5th Class)

Spot the mistake!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ENROLMENT MASS

Second class is a special year because we get our Holy Communion. I will get it with all my class. The girls are going to wear a dress. The dress will be white. The Communion will take place in the Holy Family Church on the 11th of May. We will have to commit to Father Winkle. Our parents went to a meeting and we got candles and a book. The book was called Thumbs. I'll try my best this year. I'll light up my candle

every day and I'll pray.

By Weronika Buczko (Ms O'Neill's Second Class)

I am in second class. Second class is a very special year because we get our First Penance and our First Holy Communion. I'm going to make a big commitment to praying because it is my Communion year. I'm going to do the best I can to help people. During the month of November our parents had a

meeting with Fr. Winkle. On Sunday the 18th of November we had our Enrolment Ceremony. We light our candles every night and day. It is a busy but exciting year.

By Sarah Scully (Ms. O'Neill's Second Class)



BUNSCOIL CHESS NEWS

Chess Club takes place every day during lunchtime. We are very happy that we can practice even more this year and that we have the use of a room especially for chess. We are also delighted that Mr O'Leary, Ms Á. Hickey and Mrs Coyne are helping us this year.

Ms Á. Hickey and Mrs Coyne are working with 6th class every Monday and Thursday. Mr O'Leary and Ms Conway work with 5th class each Tuesday and Friday. 4th class are practicing with Ms Power every Wednesday. Also we are lucky to have the use of the large chess

pieces out in the schoolyard each day.

We hope to be well prepared to represent Bunscoil Mhuire in chess competitions in 2013.

By Bunscoil Chess Club



PRICKLY HAY By Senior Infants!

Prickly Hay is the name of our Christmas play and we're having great fun learning all our lines, songs and dances for it. We started practising our songs when we came back to school after Halloween. There are lots of different songs but our favourite is "Three Wise Men". Teacher asked us what parts we would like in the play and some people wanted to be dancers, other people wanted to have speaking parts and some people get to play instruments to "Mary's Lullaby" and "Clip-Clop Little Donkey".

The story is about Sam the stable boy and his friend Shrew. Poor Sam

thinks nobody takes any notice of all his hard work cleaning the stable and making sure all the animals have enough hay. Mary and Joseph arrive in Bethlehem and there is no room in any of the inns so Jesus is born in the stable. He needs some nice soft hay for the manger and Sam and Shrew organise this but Mary and Joseph don't know. The Innkeeper is cross when he finds Sam and the Shrew in the stable with all the important people-the Three Wise men are there, the Shepherds are there and then the Angels come to visit and Angel Gabriel asks Sam if he's the one who helped make the manger so comfortable for Baby Jesus. Eve-

ryone gives Sam a big cheer for all his hard work.

We practise in the halla with Ms. Kirk's class and Ms. Conway's class. It's been great fun practising and we can't wait to perform it in front of all our parents and for the rest of the school. We hope everyone enjoys it!

By Ms. Flanagan's Senior Infants

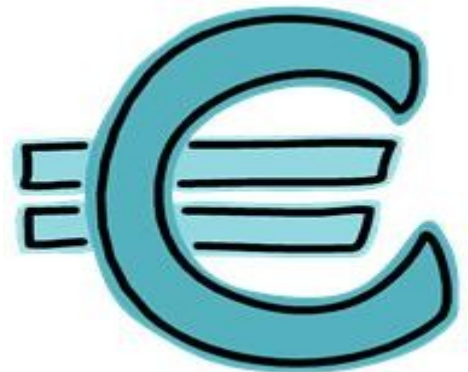


START SAVING WITH SAMMY STAMPS

We have Sammy Stamps in our school every Friday. This year our sixth class have the important job of selling the Sammy Stamps to pupils and teachers of our school. Each Stamp costs 1 euro and there is place for 20 stamps

in a Sammy Stamp book. Children in our school save for bicycles, phones or holidays. You can get Sammy Stamps in our local Credit Union as well as in our school.

By: Patrycja Buczko (Ms. Smith's Sixth Class)



EDUCATE AND PREVENT DIABETES!

Hi, my name is Tomasz Mrowca and I have Type 1 Diabetes. I want to tell you a few things about diabetes. We have two types. Type 1 is for the rest of your life and you have to take injections every day. Some people take injections at every meal and some take them every morning and evening. It depends on the type of insulin. Type 2 is diabetes that you don't have to take injections for but you might need tablets. Sometimes people don't have to

take the tablets but they have to check their sugar level and they have to keep to a diet. I am going to tell you about insulin. We have to take insulin so our sugar levels don't go too high. If we take too much insulin then the sugar level will go down and we can shake, feel dizzy and sometimes even pass out. We have to take care of our arms, legs and weight. Sometimes I like to have low sugar because I can have a sweet! But not always! We can't

eat very many sweets because our sugar level will be too high. Every meal we have to count our carbohydrate so we know how much insulin we have to get. Hope you understand me now and learned something about diabetes!

By Tomasz Mrowca (Ms. Ryan's 4th Class)



HAPPY DAYS.....CHRISTMAS IS COMING!!!

Everyone in the playschool are all excited about Christmas. All the little boys and girls love their new school. Eabha and Kayla love painting and colouring. Finn, Charlie,



Rory and Conor love playing. Jega, Hugh, Alex and Jamie love cooking in the kitchen. Grace and Luke love being the leaders when going to the halla. Everyone loves meeting the big boys and girls who are so kind to the little ones. Everyone was very concerned yesterday as Alex told us he had seen Baby Jesus was robbed down town, but Hugh saved the day when he told us Jesus

isn't born until Christmas day! We all can't wait until Christmas Day!

By All of the children in Happy Days Montessori School



A FIRST CLASS CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME!

On Tuesday December the 18th all of first class travelled to Cork city to see the Christmas Pantomime called 'Alice in Wonderland'. It was our first time ever going to the Opera House and we were all very excited. We

went on a big bus. We saw all the lovely Christmas lights in the city and on all the houses on the way up there. The pantomime was really good and all the actors in it were really brilliant! We had a great day out and we really

hope we can go and see another pantomime next year!

By Mrs. Hegarty's First Class



RUGBY WITH THE 'COOL' SEÁN O'NEILL

Hi, we are Seán and Declan. We go to rugby training every Sunday at 11a.m. to 12.30p.m. We had a rugby match on Saturday. We played against Carrigaline. We won 7-4. Seán got three tries. We also play rugby in school with Seán O'Neill every Wednesday. We play netball. We also do passing and we go into a line and run up and down passing the ball to the person in front of us.

By Seán O'Riordan & Declan Daly (Mr. Hickey's 3rd Class)

Rugby with Seán O'Neill is fun! We play on Mondays in school. We play hoop. Seán puts all the balls in the middle and we have to run into the middle and take one ball at a time. The first person to get three balls wins! We throw the ball to each other and if you don't catch it you are out. We try to eliminate the other team! Seán is

always on the girls team so the girls win most of the time but we won the other day. We think Seán is cool!

By Brandon Gardiner & Erin Ahern (Mrs. Leamy's Third Class)



CHRISTMAS IN ITALY AND POLAND

In Italy Babbo Natale (Father Christmas) and giving presents is becoming more common. The main day for giving gifts is Epiphany, the 12th day of Christmas when the Three Wise Men gave Baby Jesus their gifts. In Italy, presents are brought by La Befana, who arrives in the night to fill Christmas stockings. La Befana is Babbo Natale's wife! She can give gifts but usually she gives sweets. On the 25th of December there is a big feast to celebrate because the new year is coming. We eat whatever we like! *By Margherita Barillá (Mrs. Shelly's Fifth Class)*



In Poland we eat fish for Christmas dinner! We eat Carp. We eat salads, we eat many things but I cannot remember all of them. We don't really have dessert. If we get chocolate or sweets in our presents we have them instead. We have Christmas on the 24th of December, not on the 25th. We get presents on the 24th too. Mikolaj comes on the 6th of December. The 6th of December is St. Nicholas Day. He is Santa's helper and he brings small presents. Santa himself comes on the 24th with bigger presents! We dress up our Christmas tree and our houses with decorations. We put up lights like in Ireland. When Mikolaj comes we wash our shoes and

put them in a place and when he comes he puts presents that we wanted into them, small presents though, not big ones!

By Filip Jozefowski (Mr. White's Fifth Class)



CHRISTMAS WITH SHAUNA, COREY & ROAN

"I stay at home for Christmas and my Nan and my Grandad come. My Nan has to go to loads of houses at Christmas!" said Shauna. "On Christmas day I like opening my presents and that evening we have our dinner. Then we go out to my Aunt Sharon's," said Corey. "We all go to my Aunt Sharon's because she spoils us and gives us loads of sweets!" said Shauna. "When I wake

wake up I go downstairs and I see my Mam and Dad and presents under the tree. My Nan and aunty always come with pavlova! Most of my relatives give me presents. Then we play Monopoly. I open presents after dinner," said Roan. "I hope Santa brings me One Direction Dolls," said Shauna. "I hope I get a pool table," said Corey. "I hope Santa brings me a Nerf Gun," said Roan. "My Dad got my dog a stocking with loads of toys

in it and she chewed one already," said Shauna. "Usually when I wake my dog comes up to get me, she gets excited too," said Roan. "The most important part of Christmas is actually Jesus even though I used to think it was presents but my Mam told me it's Jesus," said Shauna.

By Shauna Whelan, Corey Lewis & Roan Hurley (Ms. Ryan's Fourth Class)

CHRISTMAS JOKES!

Q: What never eats at Christmas time?

A: A turkey! It's usually stuffed!

Q: What's brown and sneaks around the kitchen?

A: Mince Spies!

Q: What kind of candle burns longer?

A: No candle! A candle always burns shorter!

Q: What do you get if you eat Christmas decorations?

A: Tinsilitis!

Q: Why does Santa Claus always come down the chimney?

A: Because it soots him!

Q: Who is Santa's most famous elf?

A: Elfis!(O'Riordan!)

Q: What do you call Santa when he

doesn't move?

A: Santa Pause

Q: Why are turkeys wiser than chickens?

A: Ever heard of Kentucky Fried Turkey?!



THE SCHOOL CHOIR GETS BIGGER AND BIGGER!

The school choir has been extremely busy this term with lots of preparation to be done for various events but it is worth all the effort and hard work when we perform in front of an audience. The choir is very big this year with



over 70 members but everybody works really hard so it is enjoyable for all. We performed at the turning on of the Christmas lights in Youghal at the end of November and ended up on YouTube which was a great surprise! We got lots of sweets from the local traders as a thank you. We will perform on the Main Street again as part of the entertainment for the Dickens Themed Christmas and we are kept busy with carol services and concerts in school. We are so busy we had to refuse some invitations! If

we continue to work really hard Ms Mulcahy and Mr O'Leary will bring us to a concert in the City Hall in Cork in the New Year. Happy Christmas from everybody in the Bunscoil Mhuire Choir.

By Saffron Gilbert (Mrs. Fitzgerald's Sixth Class)



GREEN SCHOOLS NEWS FROM TOMMY

When we decided to go for our first green flag, we all met with Ms O'Neill and she told us to fill out membership profiles. We wrote out some things we like, our reasons for joining the committee and energy saving ideas. My name is Tommy Farrell and I am in Sixth class. I joined the Green Schools Committee because I wanted to make sure that the school doesn't waste money on electricity and to protect the environment. My ideas were to make sure every socket is plugged out and all electricity switches are switched off. I think we have to use a lot of electricity for

learning - it is important to have lots of light and the computers are always on. Interactive whiteboards are great but they use up a lot of electricity.

We are now going for a second green flag and we must reduce the amount of electricity we use. My new job along with other sixth class members is to check the electricity metre at the end of school each day and record the numbers. We want to figure out which days we use the most electricity and why. We need to figure what activities are happening on these days and why we use so much elec-

tricity.

I think that during the Winter especially at Christmas time, we use the most electricity because we need more to light and heat the school. Also, the Christmas lights and school plays use a lot of electricity. As a committee we need to think of ways to reduce this. Wish us luck!

By Tommy Farrell (Mrs. Fitzgerald's Sixth Class)



WINTER BY MISS CASSIE IRWIN

It is the best time of year
Everyone is full of cheer,
Children saying HO HO HO!
Thinking only a few days more to go.

If you see a flashing light,
You better go to bed and say good-night

Everyone is excited
Don't get up, stay and fight it.

When I woke up I ran inside
I saw a man, he said "Hi",
I was shocked and I was scared
It was Santa standing there!!!!

By Cassie Irwin (Mr. Hickey's Third Class)



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Merry Christmas to everyone from the staff and children in Bunscoil Mhuire! Have a great Christmas and we will see you all in the New Year



SCHOOL CLOSURES 2012-2013

Christmas Holidays:

School will close on Friday 21st December at 12.00 noon and will re-open on Monday 7th of January 2013.



Spring Mid-Term:

School will be closed on Thursday 14th and Friday 15th February.

St. Patrick's Weekend:

School will be closed on Monday 18th March.



Easter Holidays:

School will close on Friday 22nd March at 12.00 noon and will re-open on Monday 8th of April.

Public Holiday:

School will be closed on Friday 3rd May and Monday 6th May.

Public Holiday:

School will be closed on Friday 31st May and Monday 3rd June.

Summer Holidays:

School will close on Wednesday 26th June at 12.00 noon.

