

## RUGBY COACHING

Leinster Rugby Coach — Patsy Gorman has recommenced rugby coaching sessions on Thursdays with all senior classes on a weekly basis. The class group will alternate from week to week so class teachers will inform parents in advance of their child's Thursday to wear the P.E uniform.

## MIDLANDS RADIO 3

Miss Keane is currently liaising with Midlands Radio 3 to do a live broadcast from our school on Friday 20th December between 7.30 and 9.00am. We hope you can tune in and listen to some of the fun live from our school.

## CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SCHOOLS

Well done to all of the children who designed and created their own Christmas cards as part of the Christmas cards for schools programme. They did a wonderful job creating some very festive, colourful and unique cards. We would like to thank all parents who purchased these cards as the money raised goes towards the Art fund in the school. In the current climate it is exciting to think what destinations in the world these personalised cards may end up and how they might make somebody's Christmas who otherwise can't make it home.

## FIRE SAFETY TALK

A Fire Safety training presentation for children in third and fourth class took place on Tuesday the 15<sup>th</sup> of October. The purpose of this Primary Schools Programme was to enhance the level of awareness of Fire Safety in the home and to raise the level of understanding of Fire Safety in the community. It was delivered by local Fire Safety personnel Gabriel Conlan, Seamus McGuinness and Tommy Phelan. The children really enjoyed the presentation and it was very informative.

## CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

With the festive period hard upon us, the students of Scoil Bhríde and their teachers are busy preparing their classes annual Christmas shows. These shows are always a special time for all involved and gives the children a chance to showcase their talents to their family and friends. Below is a timetable of this year's Christmas performances for each class. We hope that you can come and support us on the day and share in celebrating this very special time of the year.

Christmas Performances			
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>		Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	
9.30	ASD unit	10.00	3 <sup>rd</sup> class – Ms. Keane
10.30	Junior Infants	11.00	3 <sup>rd</sup> class – Mr. McDonnell
11.30	Senior Infants	12.15	4 <sup>th</sup> class
12.30	1 <sup>st</sup> class	1.30	5 <sup>th</sup> class
1.45	2 <sup>nd</sup> class		

## CAROL SINGING IN DUNNE'S STORES

As with other years the students from junior infants up to fifth class will be carol singing in Dunne's Stores in Edenderry during the week before Christmas week. This will be a very enjoyable way for children, parents and teachers to join in the festive spirit and spread some Christmas cheer with the community. Below is a timetable of this year's carol singing performances for each class. We hope that you can come along and join in with us.

Carol singing Dunne's stores				
Time	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>
10.00 – 10.30	Junior Infants	Senior Infants	1 <sup>st</sup> class	3 <sup>rd</sup> class
11.30 – 12.00		4 <sup>th</sup> class	2 <sup>nd</sup> class	5 <sup>th</sup> class

# SCOIL BHRÍDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Carrick Road, Edenderry, Co. Offaly.



Newsletter Issue No. 13  
10th December 2013

Dear Parent(s) / Carer(s),

*It has been a very busy first term at Scoil Bhríde Primary School and I'm sure this newsletter will give you some impression of the broad range of both curricular and extra-curricular activities that we have engaged in.*

*We are delighted to learn that the Department of Education & Skills has issued a letter to the Office of Public Works (OPW) authorising them to issue a 'Letter of Intent' to the 'Apparently Successful Tenderer' for our new school build. We are hopeful that building work will commence on site early in the New Year.*

*As we come to the end of term one of this school year, I welcome the new members of the Parents' Association. I particularly want to wish the new Chairperson, Mrs. Caroline Kerrigan, all the very best as she takes up her new role. I look forward to continued partnership and consultation with the Association to ensure the best possible educational experience for all our pupils.*

*I would like to pay tribute to our excellent and dedicated staff here in the school who are working very hard preparing for our many varied Christmas festivities. My thanks to all the children for their on-going co-operation, respect and enthusiasm for school!*

*On behalf of the school Board of Management, staff and myself, I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a joyous new year.*

*Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain faoi Mhaise Daoibh go léir!*  
**Caoimhín Ó Dúfaigh** (Príomh Oide)

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## **NOTES FOR PARENTS**

### **SCIENCE WEEK ACTIVITIES**

There was great excitement and fun in Scoil Bhríde from the 11th to the 16th November as the whole school celebrated 'Science Week'. The aim of Science Week is to promote the relevance of science, technology, engineering and Maths in our everyday lives and there were a number of activities held throughout the week in the school in order to achieve this.

On Tuesday 12th the children attended a presentation by Declan Manley on Swallow and Sand Martin studies. All were interested to find out about the process of bird ringing and also the migratory patterns of the Swallow.

On Wednesday 13th students from Oaklands Community College came to the school to show the pupils a whole host of wacky and interesting science experiments using a range of materials. First year students Tiffany O'Reilly, Rachel Cummins, Jessica Keyes, Angel Lynch, Megan Winter and Michelle Duffy, third year student Shauna Bannon Ward and teachers Ms. Claire Mahon and Ms. Deirdre Roddy really captured the pupils imaginations with their eye catching experiments.

Also on Wednesday 13th Tom Egan from Edenderry Power came into the school to talk to the children about Bord Na Móna's energy producing processes in our local area. The pupils enjoyed learning about some of the scientific processes that are going on in our local environment.

Finally, on Friday 15th all class levels came together to put on a science exhibition for parents. It was clear that a lot of preparation went into this and well done to all of the children for choosing, making and presenting some very interesting science experiments.

The staff, Board of Management and students would like to thank Declan Manley, Tom Egan and the Oaklands Community College students and teachers for coming to the school and sharing their knowledge with us. We would also like to thank all of the parents for coming to the Science Exhibition and sharing in the learning with the pupils. Finally, well done to all the students of Scoil Bhríde for all of their efforts in creating what was a very memorable week in the school.

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## **CHRISTMAS PANTO**

It's that time of year again!!! This year, all classes have been lucky enough to be offered the opportunity to attend a Christmas panto called "The Sleeping Beauty" in The Helix in DCU, Dublin. These are always very enjoyable shows for all age levels. A huge thank-you must go to the Parents' Association, who managed to secure a fantastic deal for the school, as we know that many people are under particular financial strain at this time of year.

- ◆ Junior infants, first class and third class went to the panto on Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>
- ◆ Senior infants, second class, fourth class and fifth class went to the panto on Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>.
- ◆ ASD classes will be going to a specially adapted "sensory" version of the panto on January 16th

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### **FIFTH CLASS VISIT SKY DOME**

Mr. Desmond's and Ms. Byrne's 5th class visited a Sky Dome in Oaklands Community College, as part of Science Week. They thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Earth and Space in this impressive mobile planetarium. Scoil Bhríde would like to thank Oaklands Community College for the invitation to share in this learning experience as we continue to forge strong links with the second level schools in our area.

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### **CHILDRENS MEDICAL AND RESEARCH FOUNDATION**

Matt Leavy and friends have a new cd for sale featuring two Scoil Bhríde students Phelim and Enda O'Donoghue. This is available for €5 at reception and all proceeds go to St. John's Ward Crumlin.

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### **OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS**

Well Done to Emily Ginty from Senior infants who took part in the 'Braille Reading Fun Day' at Childvision in Drumcondra. Her family and the staff from Scoil Bhríde who accompanied her were delighted and impressed with her excellent participation and performance. Also Congratulations to Holly Meehan from 3rd class who got a commendation in the regional section of the Credit

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## **SCHOOL CHOIR TO SING AT PARISH CAROL SERVICE**

The choir from Scoil Bhríde under the guidance of Miss Fitzgerald and Miss Coleman will be performing a song at the Parish Carol Service at 7pm on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December at St. Mary's Church, Edenderry. Please come along on the night to support our choir in what should be a memorable and fun night for all.

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### **CAROL SINGING AT OFALIA HOUSE**

The senior classes of Scoil Bhríde are looking forward to spreading the Christmas cheer with the residents of Ofalia House by visiting them on Wednesday 19th December for a carol service. This annual visit is always an enjoyable experience for all involved and gives the children a chance to engage with the elder members of our community and learn about Christmas experiences in the past.

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### **TEAM HOPE CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL**

The *Team Hope Christmas Shoebox appeal* was a huge success in Scoil Bhríde with over 300 presents being donated by families for children who have very little this Christmas. A huge ceremony involving all of the children in the school forming an assembly line to load up all of the presents took place on the school yard on Thursday the 7<sup>th</sup> November. Well done to all the families who donated to this very worthy cause.

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### **SANTA VISIT**

Santa will be taking a little break in what is a very busy time for him, to wish the boys and girls of Scoil Bhríde a Merry Christmas and to check that they are all being good on Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> December. We hope that all the pupils are being well behaved in advance of his arrival!

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