



# Scoil Iognáid de Rís

## Christmas 2013

CBS Primary School, Kilkenny

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## Fáilte

With the arrival of our Christmas holidays we can all look forward to a well earned rest after a busy term. Apart from all the academic work done inside the classrooms, our teachers and pupils have been very busy with a broad range of extra-curricular activities like Art, French for Fun, Guitar, Homework Club, Drama, Piano and Chess. Not forgetting the co-curricular activities like Football, Basketball, Indoor Hurling, Senior Winter Hurling League, Class Outings and Class Visits to the garda station. It is also worth mentioning all the wonderful projects, science experiments and art & craft on display in the school.

We are delighted to welcome Ms. Catríona Condon on to our staff and we thank our temporary teachers, Ms. Emma Healy and Ms. Aisling Butler for all the exceptionally good work that they did with their pupils. We wish them all the best as they leave us to work elsewhere. We also thank Ms. Rachael White who has also been a great addition to the school.

We take another opportunity to wish Mr. Denis O'Reilly all the very best in his retirement and to welcome our new principal Mr. Dónal McCarthy. We wish Dónal many successful years in his new post.

We are blessed with an exceptionally good staff, but we would also like to thank our pupils, parents, Parents' Council and Board of Management who have helped us to make this term so successful.

Nollaig Shona Daoibh go léir.

## Football 2013



*County Semi-Finalists, CBS Primary Gaelic Football Team 2013 with their coaches Mr. Bergin, Mr. Cuniffe and Mr. O'Gorman.*

This year we did really well in gaelic football. We won all six of our league games so we were very confident going in to the semi-final against St. Mary's, from Thomastown. It was played in Danesfort in very wet conditions. We are a very skillful team and we played very good football but we just couldn't get the ball into the net on the day. We were one point ahead at half time but on account of many missed opportunities we should have been a lot more ahead.

We were certainly the better team in the first half. The second half was nip and tuck for a long time until Thomastown scored two goals which killed us. We couldn't bridge the gap that those two goals put between us and we were still four points behind when the final whistle blew.

My favourite match of the league was against Danesfort because we really needed to win and it was a tight battle. We had a great time playing gaelic football this year. On behalf of all the team I'd like to thank our trainers Mr. Bergin, Mr. Cuniffe and Mr. O'Gorman.

*By Jack Walsh*



### *CBS Gaelic Football Panel 2013*

Michael O'Brien (absent from photo), Mateusz Zych, Cillian Lawrence, Ben O'Shaughnessy, Shane Purcell, Darragh Quinlan, Mateusz Karasinski, Michael Dudek, Nazar Biletskyy, Kieran O'Reilly, Brandon Walsh, Maciej Dudek, Harry Bland, Charlie Maher, Nathan Fitzpatrick, Paul Kiely, Declan Murphy, Dylan Champion, Niall McEvoy, David Delaney, Jamie Phelan, Colm O'Hara, Jack Walsh and Cormac Kennedy.

## Crannóg Competition in Room 6



Mr. Cunniffe was very surprised at the very high standard of entries in the Room 6 'Make a Crannóg Competition' which he organised as part of their class history programme. All pupils in the school got an opportunity to vote for their favourite entry.

The boys themselves were also amazed at how brilliant all the entries were but in the

end Seán Docherty's crannóg won the competition.

There were twelve crannógs in all which were built Tadhg Harrison, Cúan Dignan, Vinny Roberts, Cian Ryan, Jake Nolan, Declan Murphy, Chase Leefarr, Harry Bland, Michael Kennedy, Daniel Oglesby, Jack Wise, Tommy Docherty, Cian Richardson, James Byrne and John Comerford.

Seán says he was delighted to have won and he enjoyed every minute of making it. He received a €10 voucher for Easons.

## CBS Boys Choir

Our choir boys have been very busy this Christmas, being involved in three public concerts. Their first was their annual Lion's Club Concert in St. Canice's Cathedral on Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> December. Their second was in St. John's Church on Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> December when they supported the CBS Secondary School for their concert for Zambia. Finally the choir sang in the Black Abbey Carol Service on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> December.

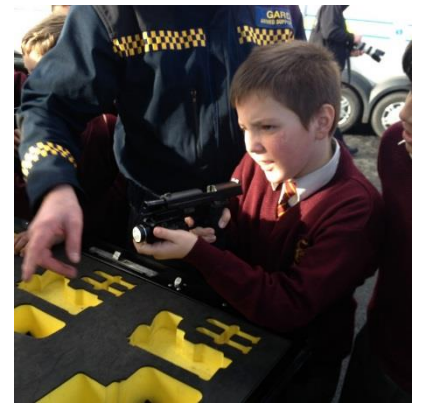
Their fourth appearance in one week, at the CBS Christmas Concert on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December made their Christmas schedule very busy indeed. The choir boys practise before school and during school time. Their Choirmaster Mr. Seamus Brennan, who started the choir over thirty years ago has committed endless hours of his own time to the choir and has brought the boys on many trips abroad over the years. We are very grateful to him for his dedication to the boys and to the CBS school.

## Garda Station Open Day

On Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> November the boys from 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes went to the Kilkenny Garda Station for their open day. The following account was written by the boys from Room 9.

'There were lots of people there that day, children from different schools and members of the public. We saw a Garda boat and also two horses called Kian and Dudley.

We saw a pistol, a machine gun, a shotgun, pepper spray and a taser. After that we got to see the police dogs called Indie and Bruno. One of the dogs is a search dog and the other chases suspects! They do very important work searching for drugs, bombs, murder weapons or for missing people.



We learned how to identify finger prints and how all our finger prints look different. We saw the riot police wearing their special protective uniforms and they had indestructible shields.



We got to go inside the cells where people are kept if they are in trouble. We even had a chance to sit on the Garda motorbike and to get inside the secret police van which had a cage at the back for prisoners. A policeman opened the boot of the Garda car and Michael Ibrahim got inside. While we were



looking at the different areas of the station, the Garda helicopter was circling in the sky over-head.

We went inside to see the street cameras and the Garda zoomed in on someone on the street to show us how it works. There was a baby in the communications room too when the Garda was answering phone calls. Then we saw the interview room where the Gardaí speak to people. Jamie Brennan, Patrickas Jakunas, Darragh McMorro and Louis Walsh were handcuffed and got to go inside the cell.

We learned lots about the work the Gardaí do. We also met lots of different Gardaí like Aodhán who is a detective.

## Greetings from Room 8

I hope this Newsletter finds you all well. This term in the CBS Primary has been extremely busy and fulfilling and has left me with nothing but excitement for the future. The boys have worked so hard between entering story writing competitions to drawing competitions not to mention class excursions to the Castle Park to celebrate National Tree Day and a very interesting tour of St. Canice's Cathedral.



We celebrated Science Week by creating our own wormery, looking at optical illusions, making a tornado in a jar and much more.

We have been very busy reading our class novel 'Holes', learning long division, lines and angles and discovering

about inspiring people such as Malala Yousafzai, Nelson Mandela and Ghandi. The boys are injecting a lot of enthusiasm into our Christmas play which is being highly anticipated by all of the boys.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas. I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Mise le Meas,

Catriona Condon.

## Irish Dancing Stars 2013

Well done to Ben Malone, Dylan Deegan and Jack Morrissey who all danced in the Leinster Pre-Open Championships in City West I Dublin on 29<sup>th</sup> November.

Ben came second in the Under 11 Invention and Jack Morrissey came first in the Under 10 Three Hand Reel. Well done to all three boys. A huge amount of hard work went into preparing for the Leinster Finals.



## Halloween Facemask Competition



*The boys from Room 7 with Mr. Brown, displaying their winners plaque and their Elverys Sports vouchers.*

We congratulate the 6<sup>th</sup> Class boys from Room 7 and their teacher Mr. Brown on winning first prize in the Market Cross Shopping Centre Kilkenny, Hallowe'en Facemask Competition.

With vibrant colours, creativity and exceptional art work the masks caught the eyes of the judges. For first prize the class won a €500 voucher for Elverys Sports plus a trip on Kilkenny's Ghost Train. The masks were later displayed in the school corridors for all to view.



## Cross-Country Challenge



The Annual Primary School's Cross Country Challenge took place in the Castle Park on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> October. The following boys represented the school.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Class 800 metres

Kian Dunne, Qayum Ramoni, Stephen Butler, Mateusz Balcer, Josh Leahy,

Dawid Popiolek and Luke Power.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Class 1000 metres

Cillian Laurence, Declan Murphy, Michael Kennedy, Mateusz Zych, Jake Nolan and William Carthy.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Class 1,200 metres

Dylan Campion, Padraig Hally, Mateusz Karasinski, Colm O'Hara, Kieran O'Reilly, David Delaney, Ben O'Shaughnessy, Niall McEvoy and Maciej Dudek.

Our 6<sup>th</sup> class boys won silver medals in the team event. The first four boys over the line were Dylan Campion, Colm O'Hara, Padraig Hally and Kieran O'Reilly, all from Room 10. Well done boys on being the second best team in the city.

## Poet from Room 7

### *Sum Fun for Christmas*

Maths is so hard and I don't know why.  
I just can't seem to multiply.  
I swear division affects my vision.  
I'm always wishing we can do addition.

I absolutely hate subtraction and fractions.  
With decimals and stuff  
I just have enough.  
I just can't stand Maths.

It's not like in years to come,  
That someone will ask me,  
'Can I have one-eighth of a euro, son'.

With maths, with maths I can't wait to be done.  
I'm tired of kilogrammes litres and tonnes.  
This is no way to have some fun.

I wrote a letter to Santa last night.  
And I told him I couldn't get all my sums right.

On Christmas morning I ran downstairs,  
And Santa was just standing there.  
He threw my maths book into the fire.

It had a horrible smell, like a burning tyre.  
Santa invited me to the North Pole.  
He said you will never get a lump of coal.  
Now I'm an elf,  
I'm happy with myself.

I don't need maths.  
I mind Santa's cats who chase Santa's rats,  
And I'll never have to do another graph.

*By Michael Power, Room 7*

## I Have a Dream Room 6

Following a History lesson on Martin Luther King and Barack Obama, the boys in Room 6 wrote their own 'I have a dream' speech. Everyone agreed that the winning speech was written by James McKinley.



### *I Have a Dream.*

I have a dream that from the top of the Eiffel Tower in Paris to the top of the Pyramids in Egypt one thing can change.

I have a dream that all children whether they are black or white could have the same rights as each other.

I have a dream about a beautiful world where every type of child could sit at one table, holding hands and getting along.

I have a dream where a land called Earth has this change from North, South, East and West. This change won't come tomorrow. Not in a week, not in a year but now.

We all have this dream and the last thing is dreams do come true.

*By James McKinley, Room 6*

## Bench-Ball Tournament

Mr. Leahy's 2<sup>nd</sup> class had a very successful and fun Bench-Ball Tournament where the boys got to show off their basketball skills. The final was a very hard-fought affair with the Ghostbusters defeating the Scorpions by the narrowest margin, one point.



The principal, Mr. McCarthy presented them with their medals at assembly.



### Room 8 trip to St. Canice's Cathedral

On Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> October we walked to St. Canice's Cathedral. We saw the tall round tower outside. Ms. Condon said it was the oldest building in Kilkenny. Then we went inside. There was a lady there who took us on a tour. We saw the baptismal font, tombs and other things. The lady told us that Oliver Cromwell broke some of the tombs and stain glass windows. We also saw St. Kieran's chair. It's where bishops sit to become Bishop of Ossory. We got to see the huge pipe organ and East Windows. We had a lovely day.



*By Jaolo Marolit, Room 8*

### National Tree Day

On Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> October 2013 my class, Room 8, went to the Castle Park as part of National Tree Day. When we arrived it was raining a little bit. We gathered a few bits of information from the trees and then it started raining heavily.

There were lots of leaves, conkers, acorns and people in the park. Joseph was my partner on the walk. When we were taking shelter under the trees, I got hit with something twice and Joseph said he got

hit seven times. It may have been a squirrel dropping an acorn. Who knows.

When it finally stopped raining, we continued on our walk. We saw many trees such as the oak, birch and beech. We walked around the park one full time. We are now planting some acorns back in our classroom in hope that an oak tree might sprout in the Spring.

We managed to see a few squirrels high up in the trees and we went to the duck pond where we saw a good few ducks. I really enjoyed the day.

### Red Cross Philippines Appeal



*Shane Purcell, Jaolo Marolit, Michael Purcell, John Mark Patricio, John Carlo Gadin, Jethro Lascota and Jack Purcell photographed with Ann Kelly and Angela Parker from the local Red Cross.*

We would like to thank all parents and pupils of CBS Primary for supporting our 'No Uniform Day' by giving €2 each towards our Philippines relief fund. We collected just under €500.

On behalf of the pupils of the school, Shane Purcell from 6<sup>th</sup> Class presented the cheque to Ann Kelly and Angela Parker from the local Red Cross, during our monthly assembly on Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> December. The Red Cross representatives spoke to the boys about the Red Cross and the work that they do. They also explained how the money that the boys raised could be spent in order to help some of the ten million people affected by Typhoon Haiyan.

### Parents' Council News

We wish to thank the Parents' Council in their recent involvement in fundraising activities. These include the Bag Pack, Snack & Browse and Christmas Concert & Raffle. The events were a tremendous success and a total of €3,700 was raised.



## Visit to Dunmore Caves



On Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October the two 6<sup>th</sup> Classes went to see the Dunmore caves. When we arrived our guide Emma showed us a short introduction video. I found it very interesting. It was all about how the cave was formed.

Then we went down some steps, I mean a lot of steps, into the cave. We went into all the different chambers and learned a lot of facts. The cave is a quarter of a mile long and it's deepest point is 150 feet deep. It is a limestone cave and is only 11 kilometres from Kilkenny City. Sadly the cave was the site of a viking massacre in 928 A.D.

It has some spectacular features for example a distinctly cross-shaped 9 feet high column, made from calcite. In 1999 a hoard of bronze and silver items were found in the cave. The hoard is dated 970 A.D. It was a really enjoyable trip.

*By Liam Kirwan, Room 7*

## Christmas Concert 2013

This year's Christmas Concert was held over two nights, on the 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> December. Both concerts were sold out and were thoroughly enjoyed by the pupils, their families and friends. The standard of performance was extremely high. We are very grateful to the teachers for all their hard work over the last few weeks in preparation for these special nights. They will enjoy their well deserved rest over the Christmas break.

We thank all our sponsors for their generosity in supporting the raffle which was held after the concert. The prizes were of very high quality. All funds raised from the raffle and the concert will be used to buy much needed resources for the school.

