

DATES FOR THE DIARY

21ST DECEMBER
SCHOOL CLOSERS AT 12.00
NOON

6TH JANUARY
SCHOOL REOPENS FOR
PUPILS

10TH JANUARY
WHOLE SCHOOL MASS

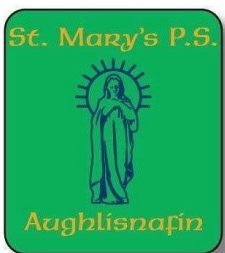
13TH—17TH FEBRUARY
MID TERM BREAK

23RD FEBRUARY
SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER

9TH MARCH
CONFIRMATION

25TH APRIL
FIRST CONFESSION

6TH MAY
FIRST COMMUNION



News at Saint Mary's Primary School

Principal's Message

Hello everyone. As we prepare to enter Christmas I wish to congratulate all the boys and girls in the school for their performance in this year's Christmas Play. Performing in front of an audience is very difficult and I was amazed at the singing, dancing, tin whistles, guitars and various other skills on display. If you want to rewatch our play it can be seen on our school website, www.stmarysauaghlinafin.co.uk

December has been an incredibly busy month and not all of the goings on in the school can fit in this newsletter so please keep a check on the school website and social media accounts for regular updates.

The school has achieved the award Spirit Of Catholic Education—Distinction, which will be presented to the school next January. This was awarded due to the school's commitment to social justice and environmental awareness. I would like to thank the staff, pupils and families at St Mary's for their work as a school community in achieving this accolade.

Have a Merry Christmas and I will see you all in the new Year.

Mr Murphy



St Malachy's Digital Schoolhouse

Our P7's had a fun and interactive day in Saint Malachy's High School with Mr O'Hare, head of ICT, and the Digital Schoolhouse Experience. They investigated computational thinking, algorithms and coding! They also got numerous friendly "hellos" and shout outs from our past pupils!



Christmas Dinner at the Finn



Primary 7 Pupils on C2k Newsdesk

Pupils from Primary 7 had their research on the Victorians published on the C2K website, Newsdesk. Their writing will be seen by thousands of pupils throughout Northern Ireland. We will be working with C2K next term to look at promoting Newsdesk throughout the school. Newsdesk is an excellent tool for promoting reading, writing and researching so we hope to link some of our homeworks with using this site.

Life in Victorian Times by Aoife McKenny

14th March 1884

Dear Diary,

Today in school it was very boring. We started with prayers with Master Grant. After that we did arithmetic to lunch time. I got one of the answers wrong and had to put the dunce's hat on. It was so embarrassing - everyone was staring at me and when I looked up I could see everyone laughing at me.

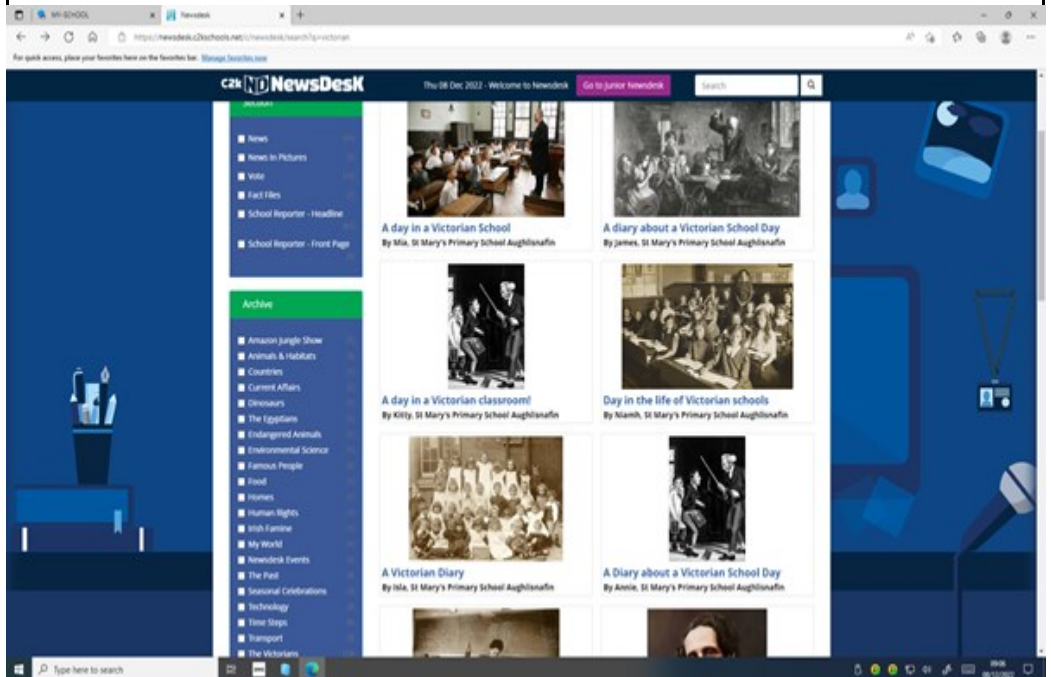
I was so humiliated and when I got home for lunch my mum was making it for me while I rested. My mum asked if I got in any trouble and I said "NO!" Knowing that if I had of said yes she would have got the wooden spoon out and beat me with it!

For lunch I had a slice of bread and milk. After my lunch I walked back to school with my friend Abbigail. When I got back to school we did drills and it was good. We marched up and down, we also did star jumps and push ups.

Next was writing, I'm pretty good at writing but my friend not so much. She got her punctuation wrong so Master Grant got out the ruler that he called 'lightening flash' and smacked her across the knuckles. It looked so painful and I felt so bad for her.

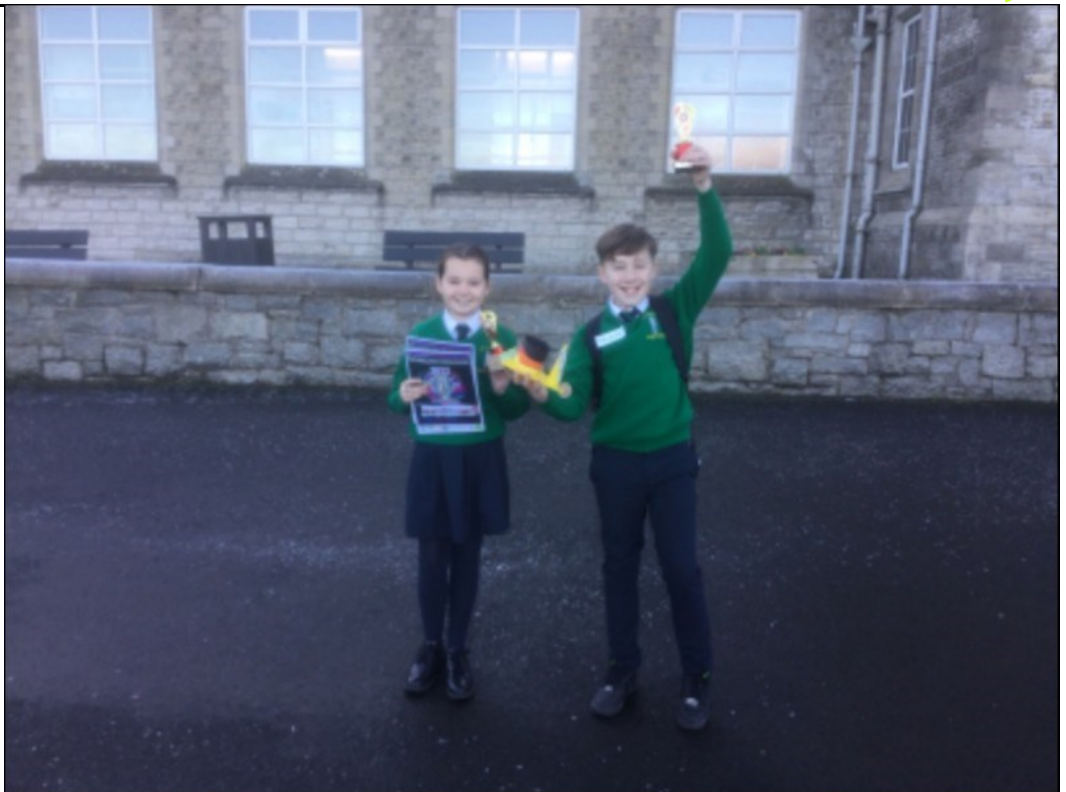
Finally it was home time! After school I went and played with all my friends!

By Aoife



St Louis' Technology Challenge

Well done to Mia Steele and Thomas Lavery who came 2nd in last week's technology challenge in St Louis's Grammar School. Thomas and Mia designed a vehicle which could transport an egg downhill safely. Congratulations!



Christmas Bake Off

Pupils from St Mary's held a Christmas Bake Off, organised by The Friends Of The Fin. Student council and Eco council members from Primary 7 judged the bakes, and the class was responsible for selling the cakes and buns. Well done to everyone who got involved today. The pupils raised £81.00.

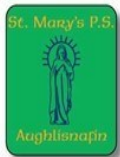


Violet the dancer

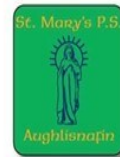
Well done to Violet McCann from Reception, who picked up a medal at Irish dancing last week-end. Great work Violet!

Mia Murphy from Primary 5 had a very successful month. She was able to achieve 4 second place medals and 1 first place in the dancing feis. Congratulations Mia!





Saint Mary's Primary School, Aughlisnafin



"Engaging Hearts, Inspiring Minds, Serving Our Community"

Here at Saint Mary's, we are committed to our local families and provide high quality learning, superb pastoral care and a staff that are willing to go that extra mile for your child. A caring environment with

- High expectations and standards of academic achievement
- A warm, enriching environment where your child is safe, secure and stimulated
- Commitment to ICT, technology and creating pupils ready to achieve in life
- Expert use of academic data to provide our pupils with personalised learning
- Sensory garden and outdoor classroom
- A fine tradition of sporting achievement
- Extended school opportunities



Email the principal at cmurphy699@c2ken.net

Visit us online at www.stmarysaughlisnafin.co.uk or phone 02843778460

Sam's Christmas Ornaments

Sam Rice from Primary 7 has created his own Christmas ornaments to help raise money to support children with disabilities. Sam (with his Christmas helper, Tiernan) has been selling these decorations to his classmates. A lovely idea Sam, and for a great cause.

