



EANAIR 2023

# NUACHTLITIR



Your monthly news from Sacred Heart National School Rath

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## ***Enrolment 2023/2024***

Enrolment for the 2023/2024 school year opened on January 5th and will remain open until January 27th. Please inform any family members or neighbours if they've children ready to start school in September.

Enrolment forms are available from the school office or can be downloaded from the school website [www.rathns.ie](http://www.rathns.ie).

Our Admissions Policy is also online. It is important that all prospective parents read the policy carefully beforehand.

## ***Wellbeing***

In recent years, we introduced the whole school wellbeing programme, 'Weaving Wellbeing'. The feedback has been positive and the programme is now embedded across the school. Each class will commence their block of lessons this month. The programme in Junior Infants to 1st Class is called 'Welcome to Wellbeing'. More information can be found on the website; <https://weavingwellbeing.com/>

## ***Christmas Carols***

On December 20th, we gathered in the hall to tell the Christmas Nativity story through song. Each class performed a traditional Christmas Carol to help tell the story of the birth of Jesus. Well done to all the pupils and thank you to Ms McCormack for doing such a good job coordinating the event.



## Talent Show

One of the initiatives our Student Council have introduced in recent years is our annual student Talent Show. Pupils from Rang 1 - Rang 6 had the opportunity to sing, dance or perform in their own classrooms and then two acts were chosen from each class to perform in front of the whole school. It was wonderful to see such talent on display. Well done to all the boys and girls who entered. There are more photos available on the website.



## Santa Dash

Well done once again to our Student Council for organising our annual Santa Dash last month. It was really well supported and they raised over €500 for SVP Portarlinton. Pictured below are members of our Student Council presenting Ms Behan, representing SVP Portarlinton, with the proceeds.



## Gaeilge

### Eanair (January)

Seachtain 1 - '*Gabh mo leithscéal*' (excuse me)

Seachtain 2 - '*An bhfuil cead agam...?..*' (Can I / Have I permission to..)

Seachtain 3 - '*Go raibh maith agat...ná habair é!*' (thank you...don't mention it!)



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## School Closure

To facilitate ongoing staff in-service on the new Primary Language Curriculum, the school will close for the day on **Friday February 3rd**. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

## Santa's Visit

We were very fortunate that Santa took time out of his busy schedule to visit the school on December 21st. Once again, we were grateful to Ciarán Reilly for providing the transport for Santa and there was great excitement to see Santa arrive by helicopter. Santa then greeted the children in his own grotto that had been brilliantly decorated by members of the Parents' Association. It was a wonderful day and thank you to everyone who helped facilitate it. There are more pictures on the school website.



## Couch to 2k

Each class in the school is taking part in Laois Sport Partnership's 'Couch to 2k' initiative this January and February. It's a 6-week programme developed especially for primary schools. We hope to organise an event at the end of the programme and each child will hopefully be able to complete the full 2km.

We recently purchased and installed a solar panel outdoor stopwatch (pictured below). This was funded entirely by our Parents' Association. The stopwatch is a wonderful addition to our school and it's a brilliant resource that the children are already availing of. It will get plenty of use over the next 6 weeks as we continue to train for the 'Couch to 2k'. You might like to help your child's training by going for a walk or run in the evening or at the weekend.



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## Table Tennis Finals

Our annual 6th Class Table Tennis Finals took place last month. It was the culmination of weeks of practice and competition in the class. Míle buíochas to Ms Phelan and Ms Bergin for being so generous with their lunch breaks helping to coach and facilitate the leagues. Well done to our four finalists and everyone who took part. Many thanks once again also to Courtwood GAA for their generous sponsorship. In fact, two former winners, Aoibhe and Ríoch, were on hand to present the prizes on behalf of Courtwood to this year's winners, Caoimhe and Seán.



## **Parents' Association**

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and healthy New Year. Athbhliain faoi shéan is faoi mhaise daoibh go léir.

**Split the Pot:** We would like to thank each of you for supporting the Christmas Split the Pot. We are very grateful to you all and to have raised €1,305 from the draws. A big congratulations to all the winners!

**Panto:** The children got the opportunity to watch the panto online on the 20th. We were once again delighted to sponsor the Panto and that we that could provide refreshments for the occasion. They all had a super time and enjoyed the panto.

**Calendar:** Once again, we were delighted with the success of the calendar. We would like to thank everyone who purchased one and to all the local businesses who placed an advertisement. A special word of thanks to Manguard Plus, our main sponsor. The calendar is not only a lovely record of the school year, it is also a major fundraiser for the school and we are extremely grateful to everyone for supporting it.

**Santa Visit:** The excitement reached fever pitch on the 21st when Santa took time out of busy schedule to visit the cailíní and buachaillí in Rath. He arrived in style again this year, a very big thank you to Ciarán for flying Santa to the school. There were great cheers of delighted when Santa emerged from the helicopter. This year Santa had a beautiful grotto in the library, we would like to say míle buíochas to Sinéad Gorman and her family for providing it and adding to the magic of the visit. It was wonderful to be back inside the school which really added to the festive atmosphere. We would also like to thank Santa for calling to Rath and for taking the time to talk to all the children. It was a fantastic occasion.

**Next meeting:** The next meeting will take place on Monday 16th January in the school at 8:30p.m. We would really love to see you there. Fáilte roimh gach duine.