



Your monthly news from Sacred Heart National School Rath

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**ZEKO**

**Parents Internet Safety Seminars**

Zeeko have surveyed over 91,000 young people on their digital habits, to create evidence-based content. The objective of the Parents Internet Safety Seminar is to become aware of online risks and get actionable insights to help your children safely benefit from the Internet and technology. The session is for approx. 1 hour.

**Topics Covered**

- DIGITAL HEALTH
- DIGITAL IDENTITY
- ONLINE DECEPTION
- CYBER BULLYING
- APPROPRIATE

**WHERE AND WHEN**

RATH N.S.  
 JANUARY 29<sup>th</sup>  
 7:30 pm

## **Internet Safety Talk for Parents**

We recently introduced our 'Smartphone Charter' across the school. We are very pleased and encouraged by the uptake and response. If you still wish to sign a copy, they are available from Amanda in the school office or can be downloaded and printed directly from the school website <https://www.rathns.ie/our-school/parents-association-132/>

When we surveyed parents at the time, a number of parents requested more support and information with regard to internet safety and how best you can protect your children and promote a positive online culture. Following on from this, and in an effort to embed our smartphone charter, we have booked internet safety talks for pupils in 3rd-6th Classes and an evening session for parents with Zeeko, a company who specialise in this area. The parents / guardians talk is booked for **Wednesday January 29th at 7:30pm** in the school. We highly recommend and encourage at least one parent from each family to attend.

## **School Self-Evaluation**

We are undertaking a self-evaluation of teaching and learning in Mathematics in our school. The views of parents / guardians are very important and can really help us. By giving us your views and opinions, we can continue to improve the learning of pupils in our school. We are asking parents to complete a short online survey. Links to these surveys will be shared on Aladdin this week. There are two separate surveys - one for pupils in the Junior end of the school (Junior Infants - 2nd Class) and one for pupils in the Senior end of the school (3rd Class - 6th Class). We would greatly appreciate you completing them separately based on what classes your child / children are in.

Please note that you may complete the questionnaire anonymously and that all individual responses will be treated confidentially.



## Santa's Visit

We were very fortunate that Santa took time out of his busy schedule to visit the school on December 20th. 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.



## 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 €250 for SVP Portarlinton. There are more pictures on the school website.



## Grandparents' Day

Grandparents Day is always celebrated in our school and we look forward to continuing the tradition this year. The grandparents of our Junior Infants and 6th Class pupils are invited to the school on Wednesday January 22nd for a short prayer service and opportunity then to visit their grandchildren's classrooms. Those not fortunate enough to have grandparents in their lives are free to invite other family members.

There will be a cup of tea/coffee for our guests afterwards.

Those attending are asked to be in the church at 12pm.





## Sport

Despite the wintery weather conditions, sporting activity has continued in Rath N.S. as follows:

- Pupils in 2nd Class to 6th Class recently completed a block of swimming lessons in Portarlinton Pool.
- Our annual 6th Class table tennis league took place. It's always one of the highlights in the 6th Class calendar and it didn't disappoint this year. Thank you to Ms Phelan, Ms Bergin and Shirley for facilitating. Many thanks also to Courtwood GAA for sponsoring the prizes.
- 14 pupils from 3rd & 14th class took part in a hurling/camogie blitz organised by Laois GAA.

We look forward to more sporting activity in the months ahead.



## Meet our Student Council



**Name:** Camy Iurescu

**Class:** Rang 4

**Favourite Subject:** Maths

**Hobbies:** Soccer and dancing

**What I like about our school:** I like how our school has lots of fun events and we always learn about new things and make friends.

**My priority for the Student Council:** I want to make a cheerleading squad to cheer on our school teams or make a kindness squad to help pupils around the school.



**Name:** Aoibhín Kirwan

**Class:** Rang 6

**Favourite Subject:** Maths & PE

**Hobbies:** Horse riding, football, harp & athletics

**What I like about our school:** I like that my school is inclusive and supportive of all abilities.

**My priority for the Student Council:** My priority is to make sure everyone has a say and is heard. I would also like to see our school community work together to keep our school looking well.



## Gaeilge

### Eanair (January)

**Seachtain 1** – Athbhliain faoi mhaise duit (Happy New Year to you)

**Seachtain 2** – An féidir leat? Is / Ní (can you? I can / I can't)

**Seachtain 3** – Tóg go bog é (take it easy)

**Seachtain 4** – An mbeidh tú? Beidh / ní bheidh (Will you be? I will / I won't)

Ceist coicíse: Cad a itheann tú don Bhricfeasta? (what do you eat for breakfast?)

Cé acu is fearr leat? (which one do you prefer?)



### **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:** Many thanks to all who supported our Christmas Split the Pot draw. Congratulations to all prize winners. A total of €1457.50 was raised from the draws, your support is greatly appreciated.

**Calendar:** We would like to thank everyone who purchased a calendar and extend our appreciation to the local businesses who placed advertisements. We hope you enjoy it; it's a lovely keepsake of the year. Many thanks to the team who pulled it all together.

**Santa Visit:** Santa took time out of his busy schedule to visit Rath School on December 20th. Many thanks to Ciarán for ensuring his safe arrival. There was great excitement when Santa arrived via helicopter! Santa had the chance to meet with all the boys and girls in his grotto. A special míle buíochas to Sinéad Gorman and her family for providing the grotto.

**Smartphone Charter & Internet Safety Seminars:** Many thanks to those who have signed up for the Smartphone Charter. As a follow up an Internet safety seminar is planned for Jan 29th. As technology is constantly evolving, these seminars may be of interest even if you have attended something similar before. We hope to see you there.

