



# **The Grapevine December 2023**





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## Punctuality Week

Punctuality Week took place in early October. Well done to all of the boys and girls who came to school on time at ten to nine!!



## Choir

The children in the choir sang for the school on Friday December 15th. They had great fun rehearsing and performing for the rest of the school. They did a very good job. Well done! Thanks to Ms Gaskin and Ms Hanafin for organising everything.

## Christmas Performances

The Junior and Senior Infants children took part in their Christmas performances. Junior Infants sang songs and rhymes and Senior Infants performed a nativity play. Parents came in to watch the shows. Everybody really enjoyed it. Well done boys and girls!



## Santa Visit

Santa came to visit the children on Wednesday December 20th. The Garda Band came in to play some Christmas tunes and the children all had great fun singing along. It was fantastic to see Santa in the hall. He gave each child a treat and they all got to shake his hand! Photos are on St. Brigid's JNS Facebook Page.

## Christmas Card Competition

All of the children in our school entered our school Christmas Card Competition. They all worked so hard and created amazing pictures and designs for the school Christmas Cards. It was very difficult to choose 4 winners as the standard of drawing and creativity was so high this year. The winning entries this year are:  
**Junior Infants:** Jake Dalton Rm 3  
**Senior Infants:** Matthieu Abrenica Rm 7  
**First Class:** Kataleena Mongan Rm 20  
**Second Class:** Favour Okpara Rm 27



## Science Week and Tree Week

In November, our pupils were very busy during Science Week participating in experiments and activities with their class teacher. Children are developing a keen interest for Science through fun activities. The children really enjoyed the science show in the hall with The Mad Scientist. It was great fun!

For Tree Week, all classes have been learning about the different trees in their locality. We learned how to identify trees from their leaves and their seeds, we went on a tree walk, we collected leaves and created some amazing art work using leaf and bark rubbings. We learned about how to look after our trees and to appreciate their beauty as they change through the seasons.

## Dance with Shauna

Our wonderful dance teacher, Shauna, is with us again this year. Everyone is having great fun learning new dance routines and moving to music.



## Brookfield Buddies Week

In November we had Brookfield Buddies week. The emphasis of this week is on friendship, anti bullying and what it means to be a friend. The children participated in a variety of activities during the week and they learned and performed a 'Brookfield Buddies' rap. The rap was performed by all the children in the hall at assembly. There was a 'Buddy Charter' in each classroom. The intention was to focus on a point from the Buddy Charter each day. Teachers discussed each point and what it means with the children.

## Staff News

We wish our Deputy Principal, Geraldine Nolan all the very best as she retires from teaching in St. Brigid's JNS. She will be missed by staff, students and parents alike. We also bid farewell to our former Chairperson, Sr. Edel Murphy and welcome our new Board of Management Chairperson, Patricia Darling.



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## School Garden

We participated in the *'bulbs, not bonfires'* initiative with S.D.C.C. We planted 3 kg of spring bulbs in the school garden and grounds. Our composters have been filled with fallen leaves. This should break down into a nice mulch for the plants in a couple of years time. We started filling the bird feeders in November so that the birds have another food source in the coldest months. The school garden is a lovely space to visit and the children always enjoy spending time there!



## Parents' Association

A big thank you to all the parents who organised Halloween and Christmas activities for the children. We are always looking for parents/guardians to get involved in St Brigid's JNS Parents' Association. Contact Allison on 0876032333 if you would be interested in helping out.



## Brookfield's Got Talent

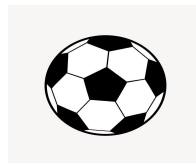
All the children in second class auditioned to be in Brookfield's Got Talent 2023. And what an amazing bunch of boys and girls we have in our school. The semi-final and final were a huge success and showcased the many talents the children have. Congratulations to all who participated this year. A huge congratulations to Kelsey Cummins and Jacob Cullen for winning BGT 2023 for their performance of gymnastics and baton twirling.

## Doodle Den

Fifteen children from Senior Infants have been taking part in Doodle Den since September. They have been playing lots of games and reading stories. The parents also came into our school library for a visit, and are helping out with Art on Wednesday afternoons. Thank you to everyone for getting involved!

## St. Mark's GAA Coaching

Ken King from St. Mark's GAA Club in Springfield has been coming into our school to teach the children some GAA skills. Senior Infants and First classes have really enjoyed the coaching sessions and their skills have improved greatly. Junior Infants and Second Classes will have their turn at GAA training in the new year. If you wish your child to join St. Mark's Gaelic Football and Hurling Academy, bring them along on Saturday mornings to McGee Park 10am-12am. This is open to boys and girls aged 4-7 years.



## Swimming

The children in Ms. Phillips' and Ms. Dowd's classes have completed 6 weeks of swimming lessons in Tallaght Leisure Centre. Ms. Gaskin's class will start their lessons in January. The children have really enjoyed the swimming lessons and their swimming skills have improved too.

## Holidays

School closes on Friday 22nd of December at 12.00 for the Christmas holidays and opens again on Monday 8th January at 8.50am. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable Christmas break.

*On behalf of the Board of Management, staff and pupils, we wish you and your families a peaceful and Happy Christmas.*





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