



**St. Andrew's N.S.**  
**Curragha, Ashbourne,**  
**Co. Meath**

**Tel No: 01-8351528** Email: [office@standrewscurragha.com](mailto:office@standrewscurragha.com)  
**Web: [www.standrewscurragha.com](http://www.standrewscurragha.com)**

21<sup>st</sup> of December 2023

Dear Parents,

As we come to the end of our first school term, I'm delighted to share with you our December news and some exciting new activities that are coming up.

### December

#### **Board of Management**

Our new school Board of Management has been elected and is in place since 1<sup>st</sup> of December 2023.

Chairperson: Fr. Kevin Heery  
Secretary: Catherine O'Connor  
Teacher's Representative: Shauna Kinsella  
Parent's Representative: Sara Shanahan  
Parents' Representative: Colin McElduff  
Patron's Nominee: Siobhan Gaffney  
Community Representative: Mary Fay  
Community Representative: Daniel Keohane

#### **Christmas Fair**

Our annual Christmas Fair took place on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> of December in St. Andrew's School Hall. Thank you to our Parents' Association for all their hard work which made it a huge success. We have raised over €6000.00 to date. We really appreciate all the generous local sponsorship that was received this year.

#### **Christmas Performances**

Congratulations to all our pupils and teachers on their Christmas performances. Our corridors have been full of song and Christmas cheer for the month of December! Thank you to everyone who came to see the children in the church and at school.

- ❖ Classes 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> presented the Christmas Liturgy to a full church on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> of December. Thank you to Ms. Horgan and Ms. Ronan for helping the children to prepare scripture, songs and dance for this special performance
- ❖ Junior & Senior Infants performed the Nativity for their parents in the school on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> of December. Thank you to Ms. Kinsella, Ms. McLarnon, EAL teacher Helen and SNA Karen for their hard work in preparing the Infant classes.
- ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class performed '*It's a Party*' for their parents in the school on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> of December. Thank you to Ms. Gilligan, SNAs Mary and Aoife for all their hard work in preparing the first and second class children.

#### **Christmas Pantomimes**

- ❖ 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> class attended '*Sleeping Beauty*' in the Mill Theatre, Dundrum on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> of December.

- ❖ Junior Infants to 2<sup>nd</sup> class went to see 'Elfie Saves Christmas' in the Venue Theatre, Ratoath on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> of December.
- ❖ Thank you to our Parents' Association who contributed to the cost of the pantomime and bus for all our pupils.

### **Religious Education Inspection**

Our school had a successful Religious Education Inspection by our Diocesan Advisor on 12<sup>th</sup> of December

### **Christmas Carols at Kilbrew**

Ms. Horgan took a choral group to Kilbrew Nursing Home to sing Christmas songs for the residents on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> of December. Senior School children sent individual Christmas letters to the residents too. This is a lovely intergenerational experience for our children in the local community.

### **Christmas Jumper Day**

We held our Christmas Jumper Day in aid of St. Vincent de Paul Society on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> of December. All pupils wore Christmas jumpers and we raised an impressive €565. Emily & Niall from 6<sup>th</sup> class presented a cheque to SVP Ashbourne this morning. Thank you to all who donated to this worthy cause.

### **Coming up.....**

### **Christmas Holidays**

School will close for Christmas holidays at 12 noon on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> of December and will reopen on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> of January 2024.

### **Gymnastics**

Gymnastic classes with Coolmine Gymnastics Club will run for 5 weeks starting on 11<sup>th</sup> of January. The cost of these lessons is €8 per child. An Aladdin payment link has been emailed to you.

### **GAA Coaching**

Our new Participation Officer (PO) Caroline Butler, will provide coaching sessions in school for all classes starting on 16<sup>th</sup> of January. Thank you to Curraha GAA who is funding the employment of the PO for our school. We look forward to working with Caroline in the New Year.

### **Tracksuit Days**

After Christmas children will wear their school tracksuits on Tuesdays and Thursdays only.

### **Science Dome**

The Science Dome will visit our school on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> of January. This activity was scheduled for Science Week in November but due to a technical problem on the day, it couldn't go ahead. The cost of €5 has already been paid. We look forward to a fun and exciting day of astronomy.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you the parents for your continued support this year. Thank you to our Parents' Association for their successful fundraising which enhances all aspects of school life for our pupils.

Thank you to our dedicated staff for all their hard work with their classes throughout a very busy first term.

I would like to wish all of you a very happy and healthy Christmas with your families. I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Le gach dea guí,

---

Catherine O'Connor

Principal