

*Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Sois*  
*Sacred Heart Junior National School*  
*Newsletter—January / February 2024*

*Dear Parents/Guardians,*  
*On behalf of the staff I wish you all a happy, healthy and peaceful new year. We look forward to seeing your child in school every day between now and the February Midterm as we have a few busy weeks ahead .*

*Orla McLoughlin - Principal*

**SCHOOL CLOSURES**

**Monday 5th February Bank Holiday**  
**Thursday 15th/ Friday 16th February - Mid-Term Break**

Parent Teacher Meetings For Junior Infants

**Ms. Duff , Ms. Troy and Ms. Heavey will have Parent / Teacher meetings with parents / guardians of their children during the week of January 29th.**

**These are individual meetings and will take place after school with a slot for each child's parent /guardian. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend a few quiet minutes sharing information, which can have great benefits for your child.**

**Attendance**

Improving attendance continues to be our number one priority in our school. Being in school is important to your child's educational achievement, emotional and social well-being, and overall personal development.

In December 2023 we had an overall attendance of 81.9% for the month.

In January so far we have an overall attendance rate of 83.7%.

It is great to see the figure for attendance improving and would be great to see that figure increase again in February!

Our current best attending group are our Second Classes—so let's see who can catch them in February!!

### Green School:

This term the children on the Green School Committee are working very hard reminding everyone to try and reduce the amount of energy used in the school.

The children are reminding us all of the importance of turning off the lights, the projectors and technology in the class room when not in use. Also, we are focusing on reducing heat loss within the school by closing the doors and windows when leaving the classroom or hall.

### First Confession

The children in 2nd class will celebrate their First Confession on Friday 15th March 2024 at 11.00am in the Church

### Stay Safe Programme

As usual, the Stay Safe Programme will be taught during the month of February to all classes in our school.

The Stay Safe programme is a personal safety skills programme for primary schools. The aim of the programme is to reduce a child's vulnerability to child abuse and bullying through the provision of personal safety education for children.

### Registration of new Junior Infants for September 2024/2025

Registration is ongoing, please drop into the office to Sharon to collect a registration form

Children must be 4 years old on the 1st of September 2024

### Early Start Registration for 2024/25

Registration for new Early Start children for 2024/2025 is ongoing. You can collect application forms from Sharon in the Office. Your child must be 3 years on or before 1<sup>st</sup> Sept '24

All applications must be accompanied by:

\* A birth certificate \*PPSN No.

\* Proof of address (current utility bill or letter of tenancy)

### Home / School / Community

Welcome back and a Happy New Year to everyone.

- A huge thank you to all those who helped with the Book Fair. It was great success and the money made for the school will be put to good use. Thanks to everyone who supported us in buying books.
- Huge thanks to all the Parents who helped with the Christmas Raffle and coffee morning—this was a great success!
- Maths for Fun is starting in Junior Infants and First class in February and will follow in the other classes later this term.
- Gardening and Crafts for Parents starts Wednesday 24th January—places still available.
- First Aid courses are running on Friday February 2nd and Tuesday February 6th—places are still available for either day.
- Please keep an eye out our Instagram page for our Stay and Play mornings coming up in the next few months.
- I'll be out and about visiting all the Junior Infants parents this term, I look forward to seeing you all.

Marina Boland HSCL

### Santa visit

We had plenty of fun and songs in the hall with the help of the Garda Band and Santa in December. Many thanks to Tallaght & Rathfarnham Gardaí for their continued support.

### Panto Visit

The children in First and Second Class had fantastic fun at the Panto in the Civic Theatre in December. Thanks to Ms Hudson for organising!

### Early Start Open Day

The Early Start are hosting an Open Day on **Wednesday 28th February**. All new Early Start Children are welcome to come and visit us in the Early Start and see what wonderful activities and resources we have to offer!

The Early Start Team