



# ***KNOCKANEAN N.S***

## **Newsletter**

## **December 2021**

### ***Dear Parents/ Guardians,***

As Christmas approaches we are finishing a very different first term of the school year. This newsletter is a lot shorter than usual when pupils would normally write about the various in school and out of school activities that took place since September. Unfortunately due to Covid 19 restrictions a lot of these activities had to be cancelled or curtailed. However below is a brief summary of some of the events that did happen here since September.

#### **Fyffes challenge:**

Fyffes are on the hunt to find Ireland's Fittest School. As part of this challenge, we're trying to keep our school active and healthy by doing "Wake up Shake up" 3 mornings per week before class starts. Shona leads it on the front yard and Anne, Colm, Jamie and Joe lead it on the back yard. Jogging on the spot, stretches, duck walks, jumping jacks, squats, mountain climbs are some of the activities we do on these mornings. Pupils are finding it's a good way to get going in the morning instead of going straight to class. They find that they are more alert and ready to start the day!

George Leahy, Lilith Kearney, Meadhbh Mockler and Fionn Skerritt

#### **Building Update:**

This must seem like an incredibly slow process and unfortunately it is!. We've been working tirelessly behind the scenes to get it moving. The OPW whom the department of education has given the project to from the start had to revise the costings due to the increase in the costs of building material etc. Their report on these revised figures was sent to the Department of Education for final approval in the past few weeks and we are still awaiting the decision of the department on the decant site.





## Indoor Plants and Window Boxes:

We bought 18 window boxes and we filled them with soil. During one of our lunch breaks the Green Schools Committee and individual pods from 2<sup>nd</sup> class worked on them. We layered the boxes with spring bulbs, soil, spring bulbs and on top we planted winter flowers. Members of the green school committee from 6<sup>th</sup> water them three times per week. As a result of a project done by three 5<sup>th</sup> class girls for the Intel Mini Scientist in 2019 on plants that purify the air, we decided to buy some indoor plants for both buildings. The pupils think they are beautiful, it's nice to see greenery inside and it cheers them up!

By Cillian Brennan, Holly Bradley Mc Gorrian, Ailbhe Curran, Ava Hurley and Sophie Talty





## **Lees Road 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> classes.**

On Wed 17<sup>th</sup> of November 1<sup>st</sup> class and both 2<sup>nd</sup> classes went to Lees Road. We got dropped off there by our parents and we got a bus back to school. When we got there we played in the park for a while. Afterwards we went for a walk in the woods. Before we went walking the teachers told us to find something brown, something red, something yellow, something rough and something smooth. We found stuff like moss, leaves, a branch, a hazelnut, ferns, mushrooms and sticks. After the walk in the woods we had lunch and got the bus back to school. We had a really great day.

By Oisín O'Malley and Katelyn Cullinan

## **Knockanean N.S Student Council 2021/2022**



## **Knockanean N.S Green School Committee 2021/2022**





**Knockanean N.S**  
**Active Schools Committee**  
**2021/2022**



Every Friday we set up and teach Juniors, Seniors and 1<sup>st</sup> class, builders and bulldozers, life saver tag, ring toss, relay races and lots more. It's a lot of fun to play with them and to teach them new games. The younger classes are really enjoying this and we can see them getting better from week to week. We hope the weather continues to be good so we can do this every Friday

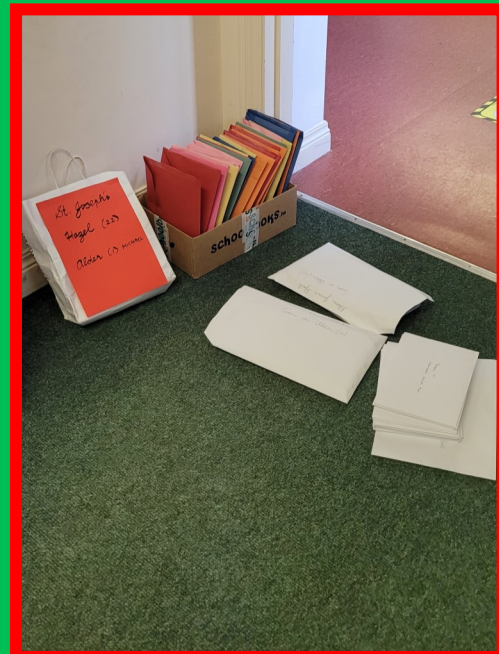




## Christmas Cards:

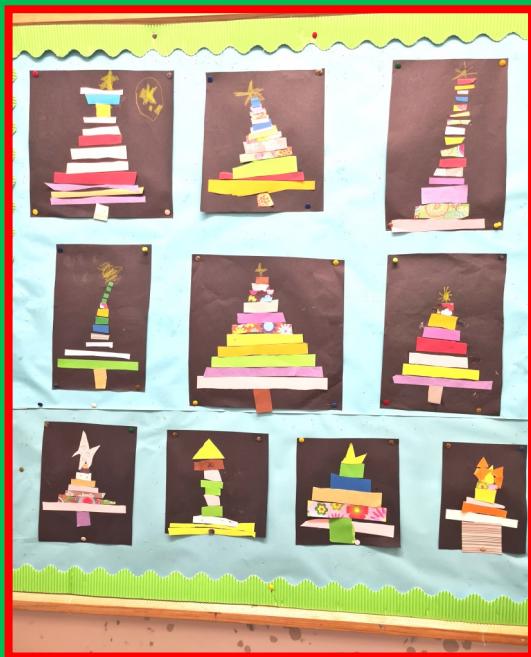
Because we can't visit nursing homes and day care centres this Christmas we decided to write to the people who attend and live there. Each class from infants to 6<sup>th</sup> wrote to an elderly person. We each were given a name by our teacher. Some people enclosed crosswords, pictures, artwork; some drew hands as if they were reaching out. In their letters we told them about ourselves, our family, what we like to do and we asked them about themselves. We hope these cards make them happy and they won't feel as lonely at Christmas. We really hope they write back to us.

By Oscar Deegan and Caoimhe Mockler





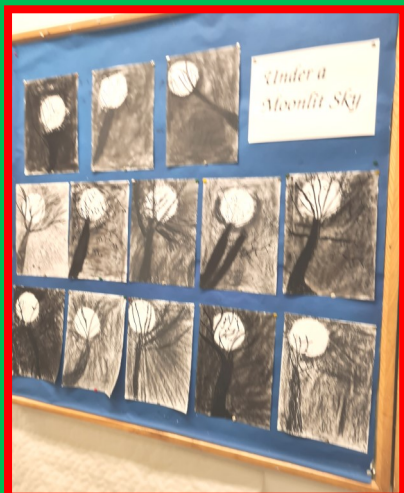
# Christmas Art Around the School.







# Christmas Art Around the School.






# Yule Logs







**BOM:** Due to the retirement of John Corbett, Joyce Purcell will now be the teacher's nominee on the Board of Management. The BOM and school community wish to sympathise with the family of Canon Caimin O' Carroll who served as Chairperson on the BOM for many years. Rest in Peace Canon. Solas na bhflaitheas dó

**Schools Coach:**

Damien Browne continues to come in every Tuesday where he takes classes from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> for both football and hurling. After Christmas we hope to give the infant classes and 1<sup>st</sup> class access to the coach.

**Appointment:**

We welcome Souhila Hogan onto the staff as a part time SNA and wish her all the best

**Policies ratified/reviewed this term:**

- Response Plan for reopening 2021
- Covid 19 Risk Assessment
- Code of Behaviour
- Health and Safety
- Leave of Absence
- Admissions Policy
- Admissions Notice

Finally, I just want to thank you most sincerely for your cooperation, support and patience since we opened on Aug 26<sup>th</sup>. I want to thank you in particular, for the responsible manner in which you adhered to the new protocols and guidelines issued for reopening and the various guidelines issued since then. Trust me, this support is noticed and it means so much to all here.

As I've said before and as we have told them, your kids have been amazing since we returned. This isn't easy for any of them as they have to continue to adhere to restrictions on a lot of the activities that they really enjoy.

Thanks to our Board of Management and Parents Association who as always continue to work tirelessly for the school.

On behalf of all here, we hope you and your family can make the most of this Christmas and we look forward to seeing you all safe and well in the New Year.

Stay safe and take care.

Jim





**Knockanean N.S**  
**Wishes you**



**A Happy and Peaceful**  
**Christmas**