

Scéalta 15

News & Information for
St. Mochta's National School Community
11th December 2019

Message from our Eco Warriors!

St. Mochta's National School is very proud of its Green School status. We make every effort to **REDUCE, REUSE** and **RECYCLE** as much as possible. This Christmas, we are appealing to you as parents to support us in our cause by asking your child to *refrain from sending cards to their classmates*. By reducing our paper waste, we in St. Mochta's can play our part in taking care of our planet.

Our Intel Scientists

Last Friday, our Intel Scientists - Lily Murphy, Christopher Reilly, Alisha Kearns and Bobby Donovan – represented St. Mochta's National School at the Regional Finals in TUD, Blancharstown. Their Intel project entitled "**Powering St. Mochta's N.S. Using Wind Energy**" was on display throughout the day. Congratulations to the group and we hope you enjoyed your experience. Thanks to Ms. Kennedy and Mr. Brown for their work with this group.

Our School Choir visits St. Francis Hospice

Some members of our school choir sang Christmas Carols and hymns at St. Francis Hospice in Blanchardstown last Friday. Thanks to Mr. Cryan, Ms. Stewart and Mr. McAdam for their work preparing the children for this visit.

Special Assembly for Tony Rock

As you are most likely aware, after 14 years of service to St. Mochta's National School, our Chairman Tony Rock has finally finished his term. We were delighted to host a visit from Tony last Thursday when he got the opportunity to say farewell to all our boys and girls. A special assembly was held in the hall for classes from 3rd to 6th classes. We enjoyed some speeches, singing by our choir and presentations. On behalf of our school community, we would like to say a big THANK YOU to Tony for his dedication and work at St. Mochta's National School. We wish him the very best.

1st Class Plays

We look forward to welcoming parents and guardians of the boys and girls from 1st Class to enjoy their Christmas Plays at 11.30am as follows:-

Classes of Ms. Fitzgerald and Ms. Schmidt will be on Tuesday 17th December
Classes of Ms. Walsh/Ms. Carroll and Ms. Buckley will be on Wednesday 18th December

- We kindly ask all parents to refrain from taking photos and/or videos of the children performing.
- Also, please note that we cannot accommodate siblings who are already attending the school. Many thanks.

Rod Smith is Back Again

We are delighted to welcome back Rod Smith (author) this Friday to visit our 5th and 6th classes. Rod visited us during Book Week in March and is returning to share with us his latest book, 'World War 1 When the Lights Went Out in Europe.' He has included St Mochta's NS in latest book as promised! Rod is a prolific Irish author, who has written a wide range of novels and has covered many themes including; Once Upon a Bedtime, Getting out to play GAA, Football, Rugby, Eamon de Valera, Cromwell, Michael Collins and Pearse. His books are for sale

on Poolbeg Books website and on Amazon. A great Christmas gift idea, remember to give the gift of reading this Christmas!

Attendance Statistics

Following Túsla's 'Every Day Counts Campaign', outlined below are the attendance statistics for the month of November for our school:

Total	Girls	Boys
96.6%	96.3%	96.9%

Afterschool Activities

- Chess Club – tomorrow, Thursday, will be the last day for the Chess Club.
- Homework Club – Monday 16th is the last day for the Homework Club.

Dates for your Diary

16 th December 2019	Confirmation Retreat – Mr. Brown's and Ms. Kennedy's Classes
17 th December 2019	1 st Class Plays - Ms. Fitzgerald and Ms. Schmidt
18 th December 2019	1 st Class Plays - Ms. Walsh/Ms. Carroll and Ms. Buckley
20 th December 2019	School finishes as follows on the last day of school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11.40 am - Junior Infants to 2nd Classes • 12.00 noon – 3rd to 6th Classes
6 th January 2020	School reopens at 8.50am
13 th January 2020	Confirmation Candidates - - 2 nd Parent Meeting at St. Mochta's Church at 7.30pm
15 th and 16 th January 2020	The school photographer will be coming to visit the school on these days.. Children should wear their full school uniform on these days. Further information will follow in the New Year.
20 th January 2020	First Holy Communion Candidates – 2 nd Parent Meeting at St. Mochta's Church at 7.30pm

Community News

- OH YES WE ARE!!!!: Our Parish Panto ALI BABA AND THE 40 THIEVES will take place in the Parish Centre on Thurs. 23rd Jan, Friday 24th Jan, and Sat. 25th Jan. at 7.30pm. We will have two matinees, Sat. 25th Jan and Sunday, 26th at 2.30pm. Tickets are available from the Sacristy after any mass or from the Parish Office.