



December 2016

St. Comgall's N.S.

Connors, Clones, Co. Monaghan

A happy and peaceful festive season to all our families and every good wish for the New

Weekly awards celebrate creditable effort in school work or behaviour, effort and perseverance. Congratulations to those pupils who impressed teachers and received the 'Star of the Week' awards during the last term. We will encourage children to continue to do their best in 2017.

A culture of regular school attendance continues to be highly regarded in our school. Well done and congratulations to Lilly, Nathan, Seán, Luke, Matthew, Tara, Dean and Katie Marron in the senior classroom for full attendance. Well done to Jack, Eoghan, Liam, Saoirse, Noah, Caoimhe McPhillips, Robyn and Caoimhe McCaffrey in the junior classroom for their excellent attendance this term. Thank you to parents who make regular school attendance a priority for your child/children.



Recycling and our last collection for this term will take place **tomorrow, Thursday, 22nd December**. A reminder that items for recycling may include clothes, sheets, fabrics and shoes. This initiative continues to be a tremendous success. Sincere thanks to parents for generating much needed school funds through this initiative.



Christmas Shoebox Appeal: Thank you to all our families for making the 'Team Hope Shoebox Appeal' so successful. The real meaning of Christmas was experienced through your participation in the giving of shoeboxes, filled with lovely gifts, for those poor, less fortunate children in Eastern Europe and Africa. We hope that the contents will bring those children hope and happiness for the Christmas season. What a wonderful preparation for Christmas – well done children! Thanks to Nuala McBride of Gortnacarrow Tyre Service for co-ordinating this effort.

Let Christmas begin... *****

Saoirse places star on tree...



Eoghan switches on lights...



Ryan places star on tree...



Seán switches on lights...



For funds raised through our annual Christmas raffle and cake sale, I extend my heartfelt thanks. We are extremely grateful to all the hard-working parents in our Parent Association who donated prizes and who sold

Our Christmas play, 'Straw & Order' was a wonderful success. Our pupils' terrific performances and the singing of festive songs delighted a packed house in our local Connons Community Hall on Tuesday 13th December. Our gratitude to Phyllis Somerville and her make-up team for enhancing the overall costume design on the night. And thanks to the P.A. for the interval refreshments. A huge amount of work was demanded of this production, so my thanks to Mrs. Pennell for her wholehearted commitment! Thanks also to Ms. Tynan and Mary for their support with props and costume concerns. When the performance, which was captured on DVD by Sean Connolly is ready, it will be available through the office at €5 per disc. Finally, my sincere thanks to our parents' generosity in donating so many prizes towards the raffle – it was a huge success and realised a very impressive €740 on the night.



The Christmas pantomime trip took place on Thursday, 15th December. The junior pupils travelled to the Garage Theatre, Monaghan for the annual production which, this year, was 'Santa & the Present Pirates'. It was a real Christmas treat and the pupils thoroughly enjoyed the audience interaction.

Show Time/Santa Time: An enjoyable morning was spent in Largy College on Tuesday, 20th December as our pupils enjoyed a selection of entertaining songs, dances and sketches performed by the secondary students. It was with great pride that Dean in 3rd class watched his brothers, while Alesha and Leyla watched their cousin perform at this most enjoyable event.

There was no shortage of the Christmas spirit as the day culminated in a surprise visit from an extremely important visitor – Santa Claus!! As always, Santa proved to be a fantastic singer, he gave a gift to each child and happily headed off to prepare for his busy workload on Christmas Eve.



Christmas Break ~ To facilitate bus collection times, St. Comgall's N.S. will close at 12pm on Thursday 22nd December, 2016 and will



Catriona Donnelly (Principal)

