



16<sup>th</sup> December 24



# NUAHT NA CROISE NAOFA

Reminder - the school will close at **12:15pm for ALL CLASSES** this Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December.

The school will re-open on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January at 8:50AM.

As we begin the final week of this very busy term I would like to thank all of our parents and guardians for your support. Our fantastic pupils also deserve a special mention for working so hard and always trying their best. Holy Cross really is a special place! I would like to especially thank our fantastic staff team who work so diligently, often in unseen ways, to ensure the children have every opportunity to grow and learn.

On behalf of us all here in Holy Cross, we wish all of our families a very happy Christmas and a pleasant and peaceful New Year!

Nollaig Shona,  
John McGrath

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK



This week's photo is of our wonderful choir and Senior Infant performers at our Carol Service in the Church last week. A very special night for us all. We could not be prouder of our students for all of their hard work.

## Parents Association Raffle

Many thanks to all of our Holy Cross families for supporting the Parents Association Raffle over the last two weeks. The draw for the amazing prizes gathered below will take place on Thursday of this week in the school and all lucky winners will be contacted to make arrangements to collect their prizes.

Please have all tickets and monies returned to the office by Wednesday of this week. There are still a few extra books of tickets available in the office in required.

Again, we would like to thank all of our families who donated prizes and bought tickets. The incredible array of prizes are pictured below!



Many thanks also to our wonderful PA who have provided brilliant Christmas Annuals for all of the children in the school. They were delivered to the junior classes by a very special guest last Wednesday which caused great excitement!

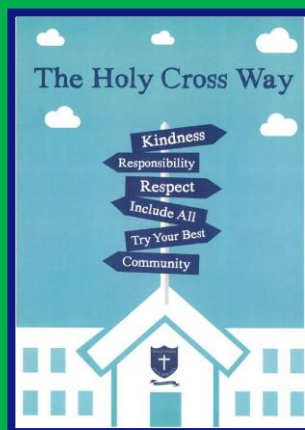




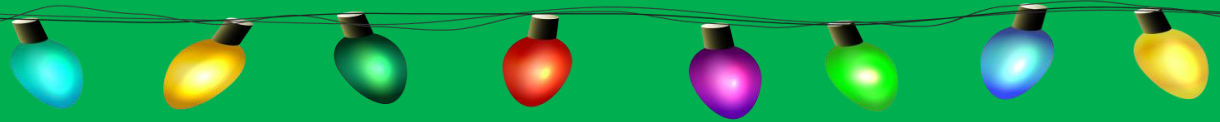
## Holy Cross Way - Community

This month the element of the Holy Cross Way we are focussing on is "Community". Thanks to our fantastic Amber flag Committee there are a few initiatives that everybody is getting involved in. This Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December, we will have a Christmas jumper day for Pieta House. We will all wear something Christmassy and bring in €2 to donate to Pieta House to support the great work that they do. Our Amber Flag committee would like to remind children that parents have been very generous with buying tickets etc. over the last few weeks and so the €2 should come out of pocket money! If that isn't an option we would encourage all of our children to make sure they give some extra help around the house this week to earn the €2 for Friday!

Also in the last week or so the classes have been working hard on Christmas cards for Friends of the Elderly. These cards will be sent to elderly people in our community and in different parts of the country who may be alone this Christmas. It is a great example for our students of how small gestures can have a big impact on others in our communities. I think this is best summed up by Maia, one of our Rang 6 pupils who wrote a little piece for our Nuachtlitir about her experience with Friends of the Elderly. Maia's story is on the next page! We would also like to thank parent Zara Llyod Kelly for helping us each year with this initiative (thanks to Zara also for helping Paul with our wonderful Christmas decorations this year!).







## Friends of the Elderly Christmas Cards

This time last year we were sending our cards to the 'Friends of the Elderly' for Christmas. I was surprised when, three weeks later, I received a card back from a really nice lady called Daphne. She included her home address, so, I took the hint that I should write back to her and find out more about her life! Through our letters back and forth all year I found out so much about her. She lives alone beside the beach in Kerry but her grandchildren visit her often which makes her very happy. Daphne looks forward to hearing from me and it means a lot to me that I can make someone's day just by writing them a letter. I was thrilled when I found a Christmas card in my letterbox this week from Daphne. I'm in the middle of sending one back. So, keep in mind... these cards we write could make a difference to somebody's day!

Happy Christmas! - Maia Whelan, 6th class.

## Holy Cross Handball

Congratulations to the 3rd & 4th Class Boys and Girls Holy Cross Hawks Olympic Handball Teams, who took part in the Irish Primary School competition over the weekend. The children had the opportunity to try a new sport and showcase their skills against local schools. They represented the school with pride and gave it their all. The boys topped their group and will now progress to the Dublin Championship in the National Indoor Arena in February!



## Recycled Christmas Decorations Competition

Congratulations to Matthew and Natalia from Ms. Lane's Rang 5 who were selected as competition winners in the DLR recycled Christmas decoration competition. Both students and their families were invited to the award ceremony last week and represented Holy Cross so well. Maith sibh!

