

## Principal's Message

As the Christmas holidays begin, we come to the end of a very successful and rewarding 2024. Christmas is a magical time to spend with those we love and to share our blessings with each other. We hope that this St Corban's Christmas Newsletter 2024, will add to your Christmas spirit and brighten your day.

It has been another busy term as you will see in our Newsletter and we have much to be grateful for in St Corban's. We have a wonderful school community that has supported one another and shared wonderful experiences throughout the year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your support and cooperation during the year. I want to commend our wonderful staff members for their dedicated work and diligence and the tremendous care they take with the children everyday.

Sincere thanks to our Board of Management and our Parents' Association for their unwavering enthusiasm, commitment and hard work. I would like to thank parents, for your cooperation and support in creating a fun and engaging environment for our children. Thank you for supporting the school events and our fundraising efforts this Christmas too. Most of all, I would like to congratulate the boys for their excellent work ethic, kindness to each other and the joy they bring to the learning.

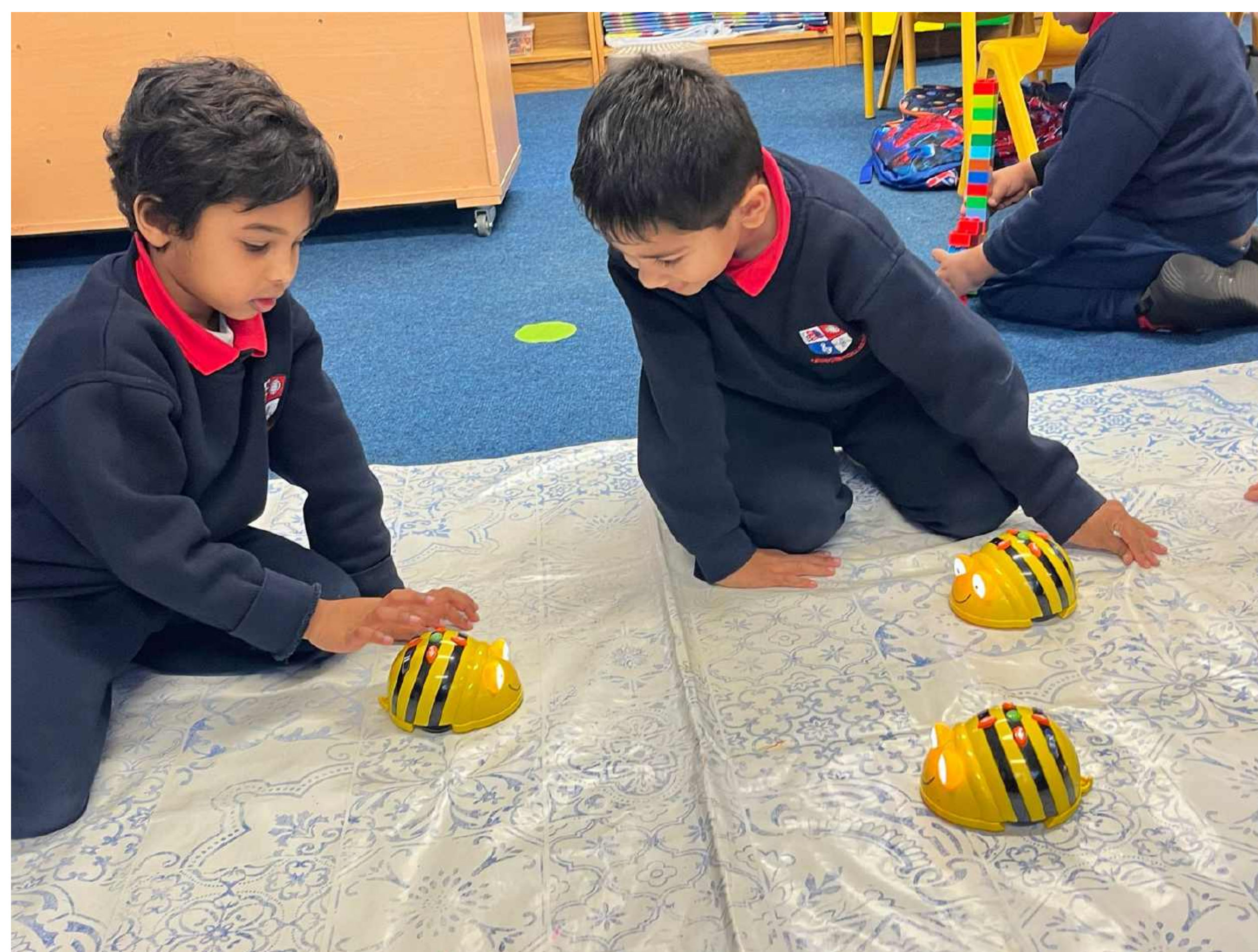
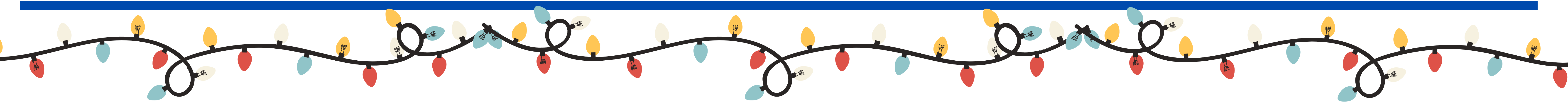
Everyone here in St. Corban's, would like to wish all of our families a wonderful Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year in 2025. We look forward to seeing you all on Jan 6 th 2025.

Beannachtaí na Nollag agus Athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh go léir. Nollaig Shona daoibh uilig.

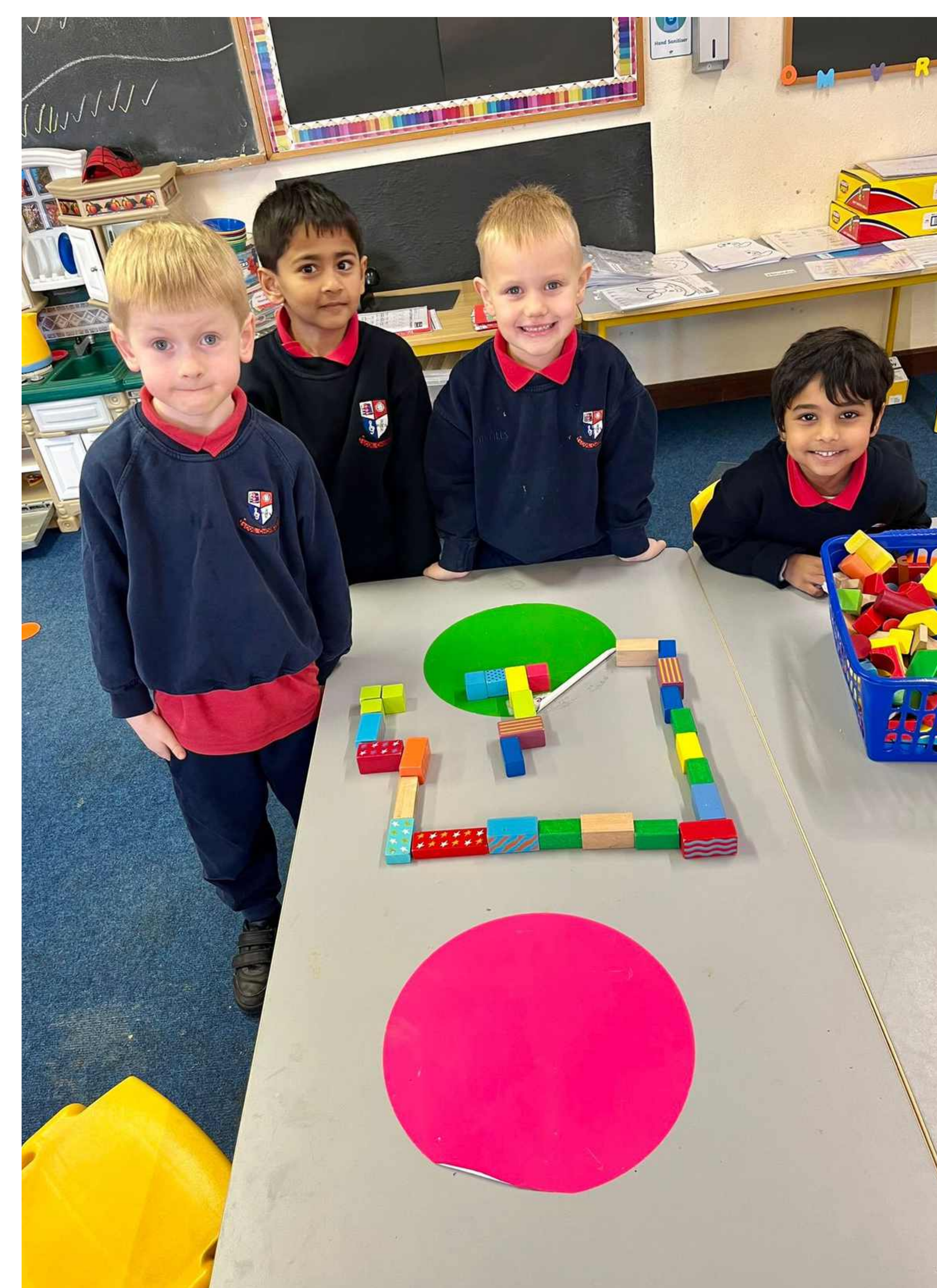
John Drewett



# JUNIOR INFANTS NEWS



This half-term we have been very busy creating lots of wonderful winter art, learning about data and patterns in Maths and starting our reading program. We had great fun working with the Bee-Bots too! We were very excited when their elves arrived, getting up to lots of mischief in the run up to Christmas. We have worked very hard practising for our Christmas Concert. We are looking forward to going to the Moat to see the Christmas Panto. Happy Christmas from all in Junior Infants!





# SENIOR INFANTS NEWS



We had a hoot this term learning all about owls. We took a winter walk to see the signs of nature. We have learned all our songs and dances for our Christmas concert and got to perform them for Santa. We learned about animals of the Arctic and polar bears and did lots of winter and Christmas art. Our elves Buddy and Rosie have kept us all on our toes with their mischief every day. We learned about counting to 8 and 3D shapes in maths. We hope this will help us to guess what our presents are under the tree!

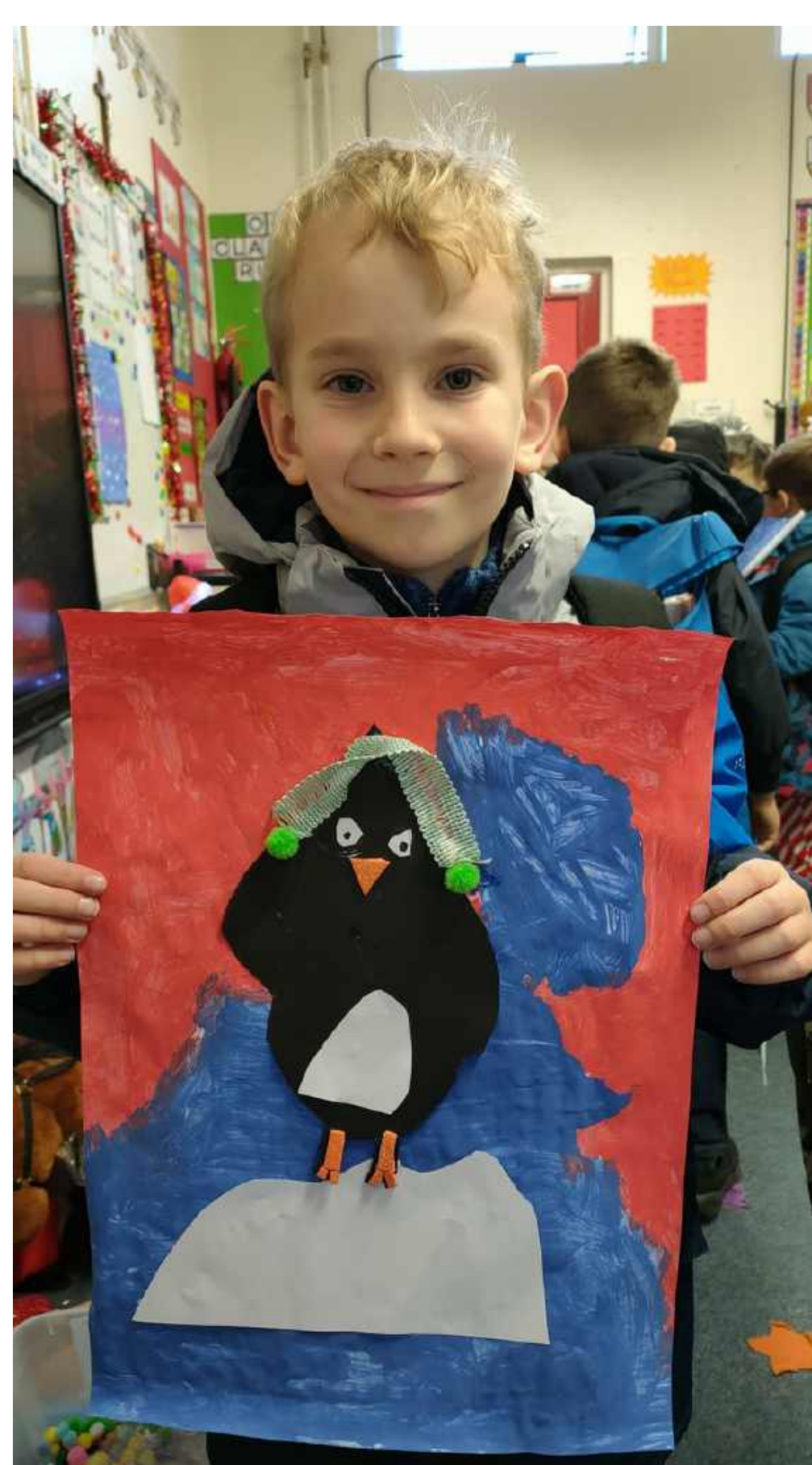




# FIRST CLASS NEWS



First Classes have been very busy for the last few weeks. We have been learning about lots of new things from topics such as Winter and the types of houses in Geography, hobbies in Irish, all about the artist Vincent Van Gogh, doing Christmas Art to learning Athletics and Gymnastics in PE. They also have finished learning all of their Addition tables. The boys are extremely excited and are really looking forward to performing their Christmas class plays for their parents and families this week.





# SECOND CLASS NEWS



This half-term has been packed with fun and learning for our 2nd class boys! In preparation for their Communion, we've had visits from Father Robert, who has been helping the boys to get ready to receive this special Sacrament. In class, they've been working hard on their cursive handwriting, and it's great to see everyone continuously improving. With Christmas around the corner, the boys have been getting creative, making beautiful Christmas art, including clay ornaments and printed cards. Over the past week the boys performed their Christmas plays for other classes as well as for their families. A huge effort was put into preparing for this for this and the boys did themselves proud. A great term was had by all, full of hard work, creativity, and Christmas spirit!





# THIRD CLASS NEWS



We have had a very busy term over the last few months. The highlights including learning how to use google apps in the computer room, taking a trip to the Failte Forest, swimming in K Leisure and our Christmas show. We've all been working hard and trying our best to behave well, as we all know who's watching us carefully at the moment. We began learning about division and data and we've been practising different notes on our tin whistle. We all showed great kindness by bringing in shoeboxes for Team Hope. We created some Christmas baubles and stuck them together in the shape of a Christmas tree for our classroom door. We're also making a compliment wreath and are saying some lovely things about each other. Our Christmas Show is next Wednesday and we are really looking forward to it. Wishing all our families and friends a very Merry Christmas.





# FOURTH CLASS NEWS



We have been working hard in class. In Science we have learnt about electricity and its dangers. In History we have explored the History of the Christian Brothers and Lá an Dreoilín. In Geography we have learnt about the Weather and the Counties of Ireland. In art we learnt about Jack B Yeats and produced some lovely art on the Liffey Swim. In music we studied the composer Richard Rogers. We produced some wonderful narrative stories about the Haunted Island.

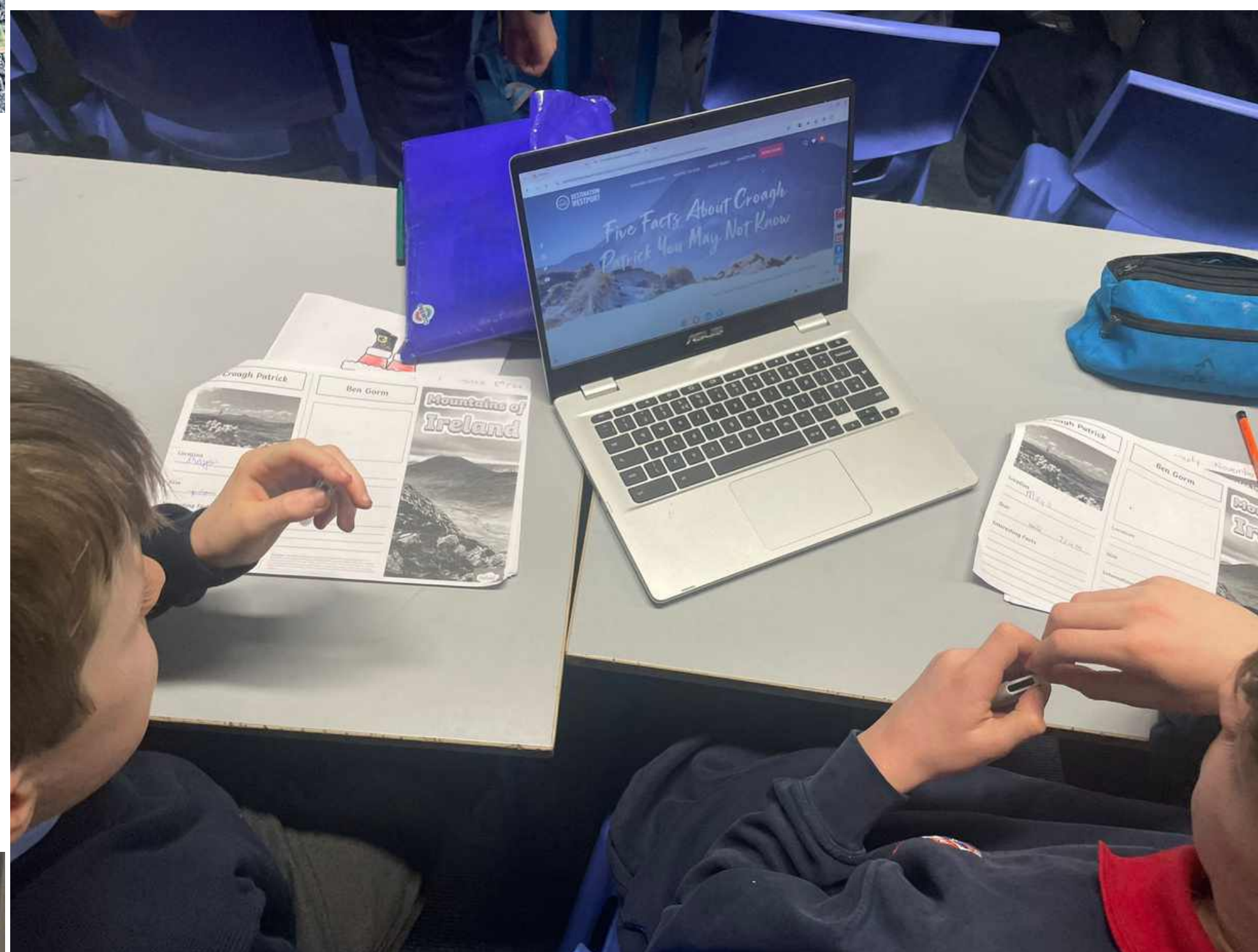




# FIFTH CLASS NEWS



This term has been wonderfully busy and exciting for our fifth-class students! In History, we explored World War I and the French Revolution, sparking creativity with trench art and lively discussions. Geography focused on Ireland's rivers, while Maths saw students master fractions with confidence. Music classes filled the halls with the melodic sounds of the tin whistle, and Art had a festive flair with beautiful Christmas creations. Technology featured in an interactive quiz on iPads, adding fun to learning. We also got great use out of the older Chromebooks which were distributed by the Pupils' Digital Learning Team. We loved the STEM activity of constructing the Eiffel Tower with marshmallows and cocktail sticks. A highlight was the thrilling chess tournament between Mr. Smyth's and Mr. Dineen's classes, showcasing strategy and teamwork. It's been a term filled with learning, creativity, and fun.





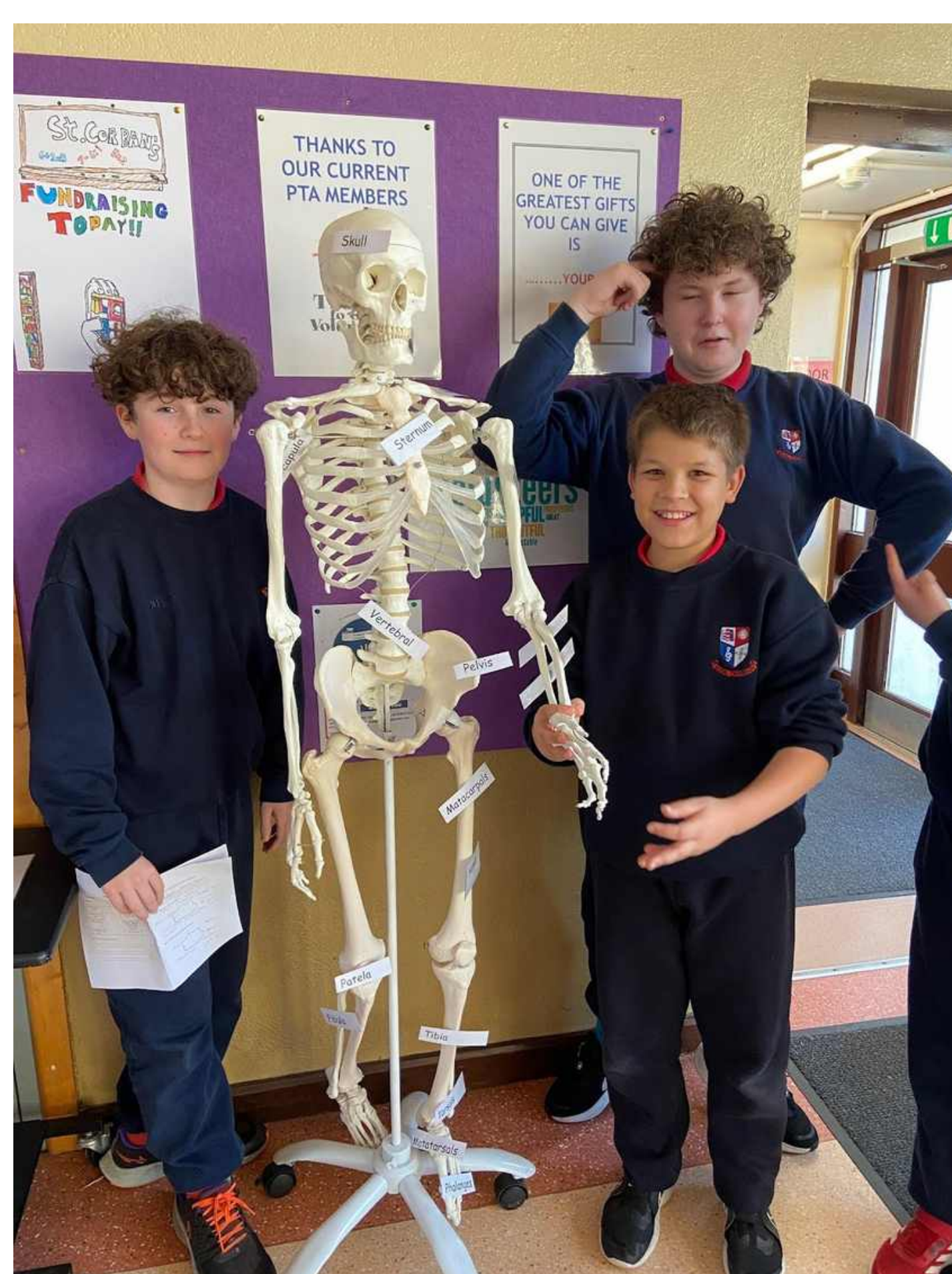
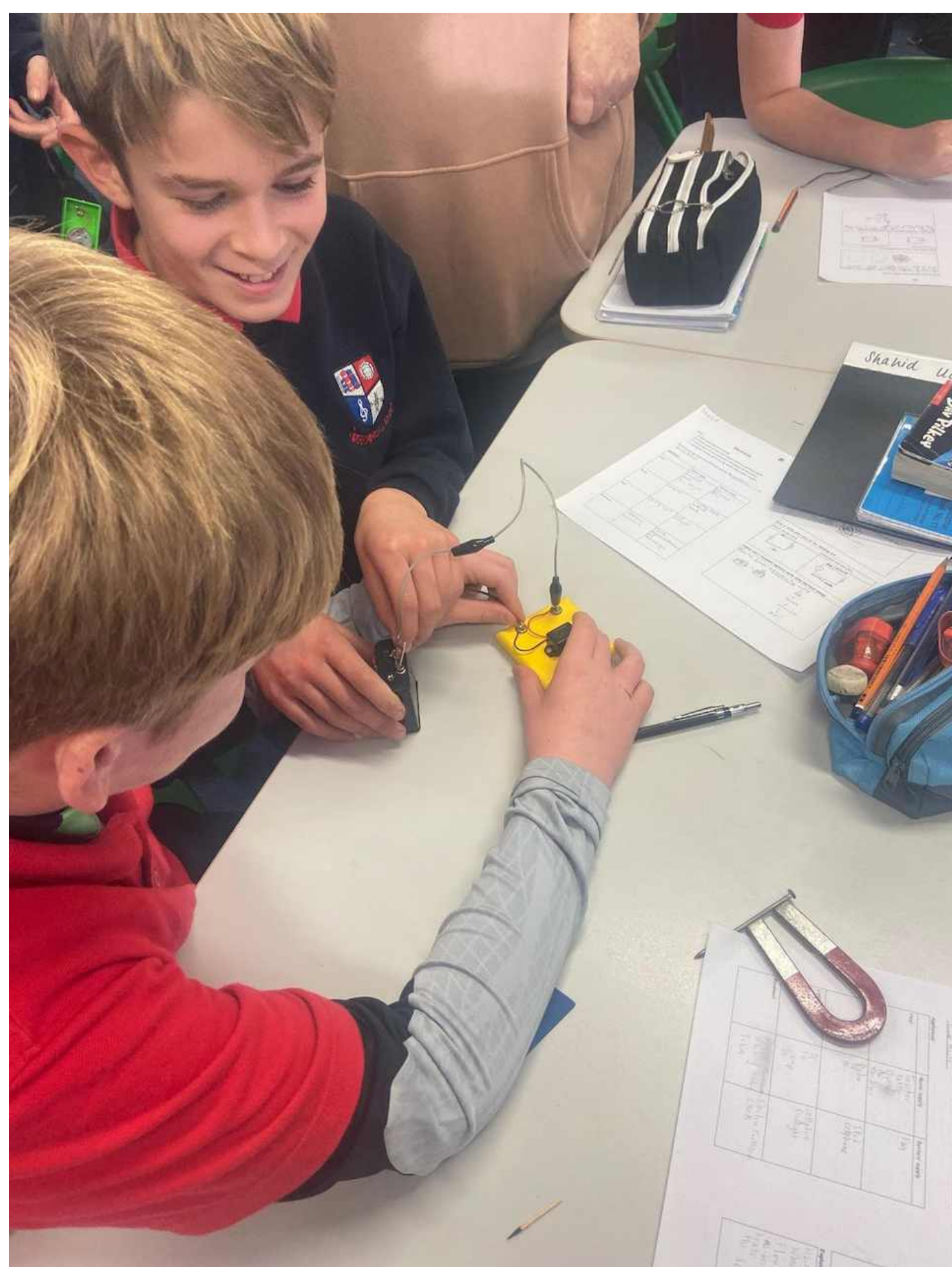
# SIXTH CLASS NEWS



The boys in Sixth Class at St. Corbans are having an exciting term! In English, they're nearing the end of *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* and writing their own thrilling stories. Their creativity extends to Art, where they've made Christmas cards, decorations, and prints.

PE remains a highlight, with swimming and tag rugby sessions led by coach Michal from Leinster Rugby. The boys' skills are improving rapidly. In Maths, they've been working on fractions and decimals, showing focus and determination.

The boys have also started French lessons and competed in the 'LanguageNut' competition, with some making it to the top of the leaderboards. Confirmation candidates attended a retreat in November, marking an important milestone ahead of their Confirmation in February.



During Wellbeing Week, the Sixth Class worked with younger students on mindfulness activities and taught them how to play Bench Ball. They also welcomed the Naas GAA Senior hurlers and footballers with their trophies and competed in a chess tournament showcasing great sportsmanship.

As Christmas approaches, the boys are busy with carol rehearsals for the Christmas Service and preparations for their Christmas plays. There's a real buzz in the school!



# SPORTS NEWS



## Basketball

The 6th Class Basketball Team entered the Cumann na mBunscol Basketball League in October. Unfortunately, with a mixture of wins and losses they didn't make it to the semi-finals. However, they look forward to the upcoming blitz in springtime.

## Rugby

Twenty of our 5th and 6th class boys took part in a rugby blitz in December. They demonstrated their wonderful skills and had a brilliant day.



## Cumann na mBunscol News

The Cumann na mBunscol AGM took place in December and we were very proud to come away with the award for Large School of the Year on the night. This is a huge achievement and it is great recognition of all of the dedication and hard work of our talented sportsmen and our teachers who give so generously of their time to work with the boys and prepare them for the competitions. Corbans abú!



# SPORTS NEWS



We celebrated Naas GAA's Double Win and St. Corban's Double Win in Hurling and Football with a Blue and White Day in the school in November. Some of the Naas Footballers and Hurlers brought the Kildare Senior Hurling and Football Championship Cups with them and presented our U11 Footballers and Hurlers with their medals.



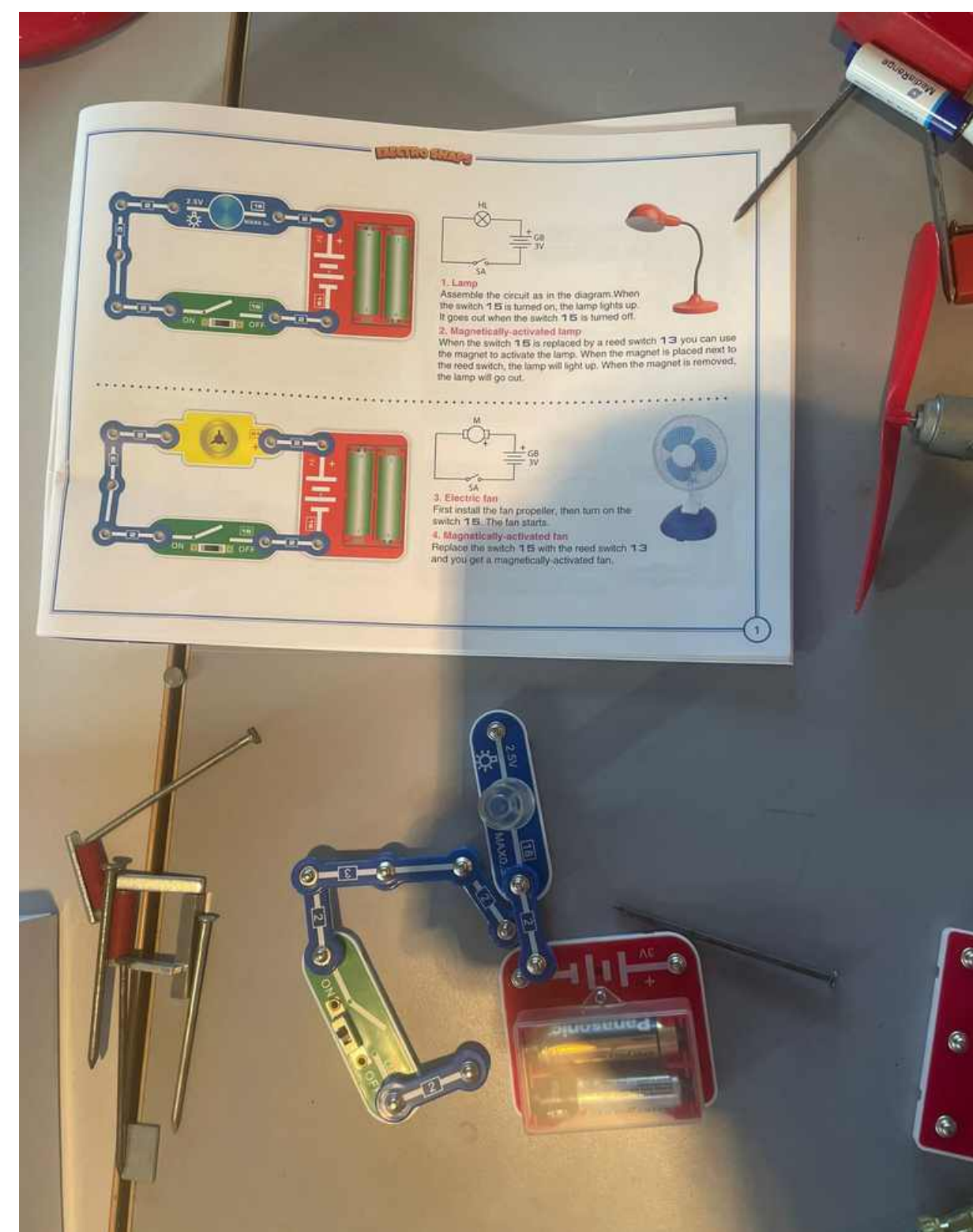
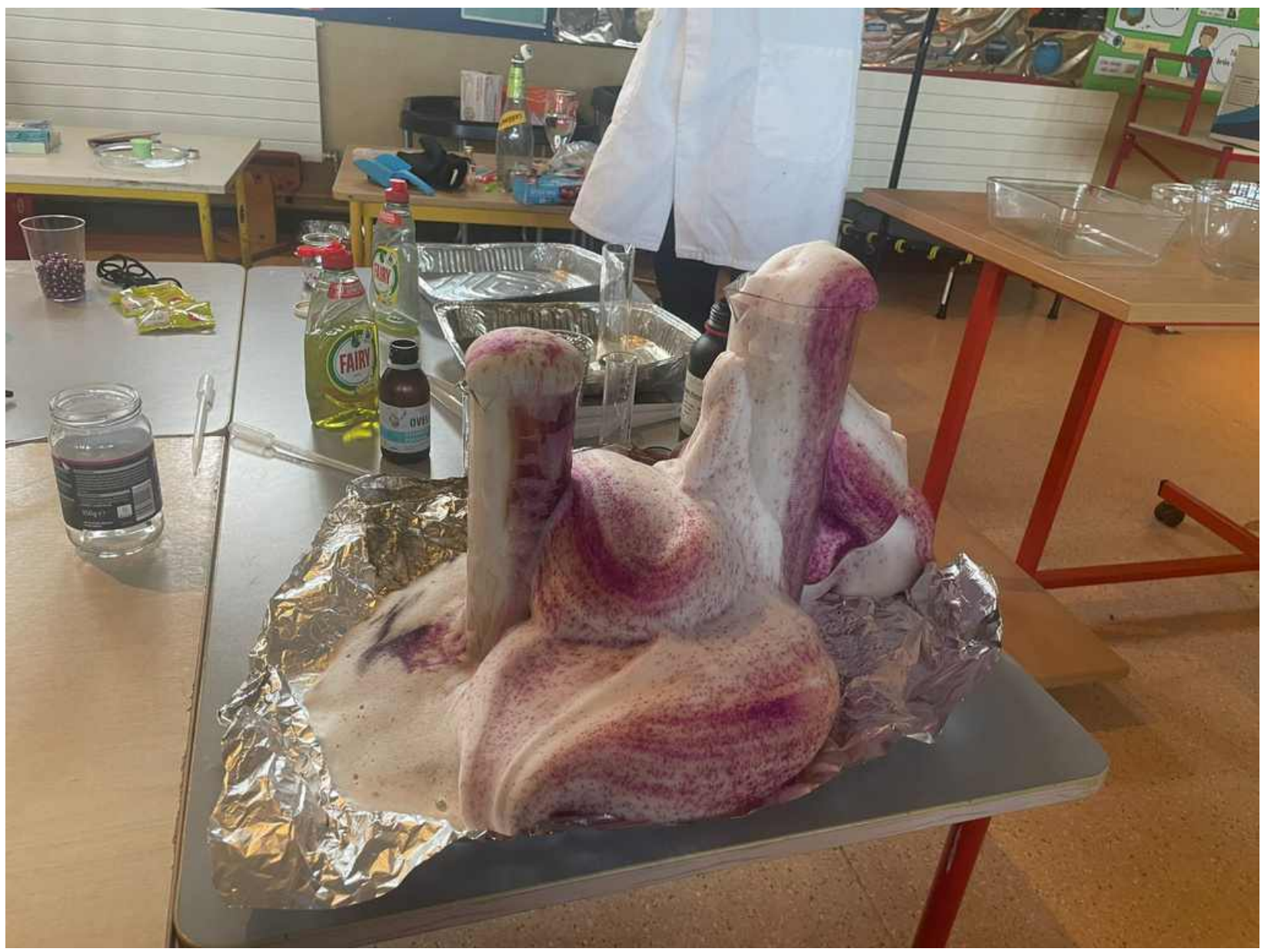


# MISCELLANEOUS



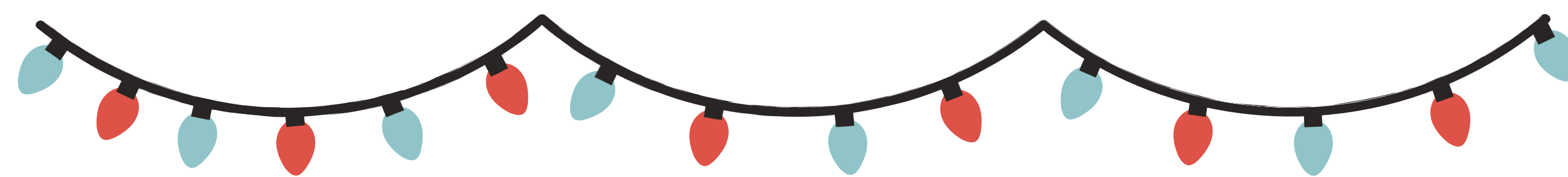
## STEM Club

In our first STEM club, we powered up with electrical circuits, got hands-on with the effects of dry ice, and put our engineering skills to the test building marble runs and bridges. The day reached new heights with water rocket launches, and the explosive Coke and Mentos experiment was the perfect grand finale.



## Science Week

Geat science fun! We explored electrical circuits where sparks of curiosity lit up every experiment! We experimented with dry ice, and demonstrated Newton's Laws of Motion and center of gravity in action. The highlight was launching water rockets, which brought physics to life in an exciting way.



## Christmas Shoebox Appeal

We were delighted to take part in the Shoebox Appeal again this year. A wonderful opportunity for our pupils to donate gifts to children affected by poverty in Africa and Eastern Europe. We collected a fantastic 187 boxes this year and some families also donated online. Sincere thanks to all those who donated to this worthy cause. You'll bring a smile to a child's face this Christmas!





# AFTER SCHOOL



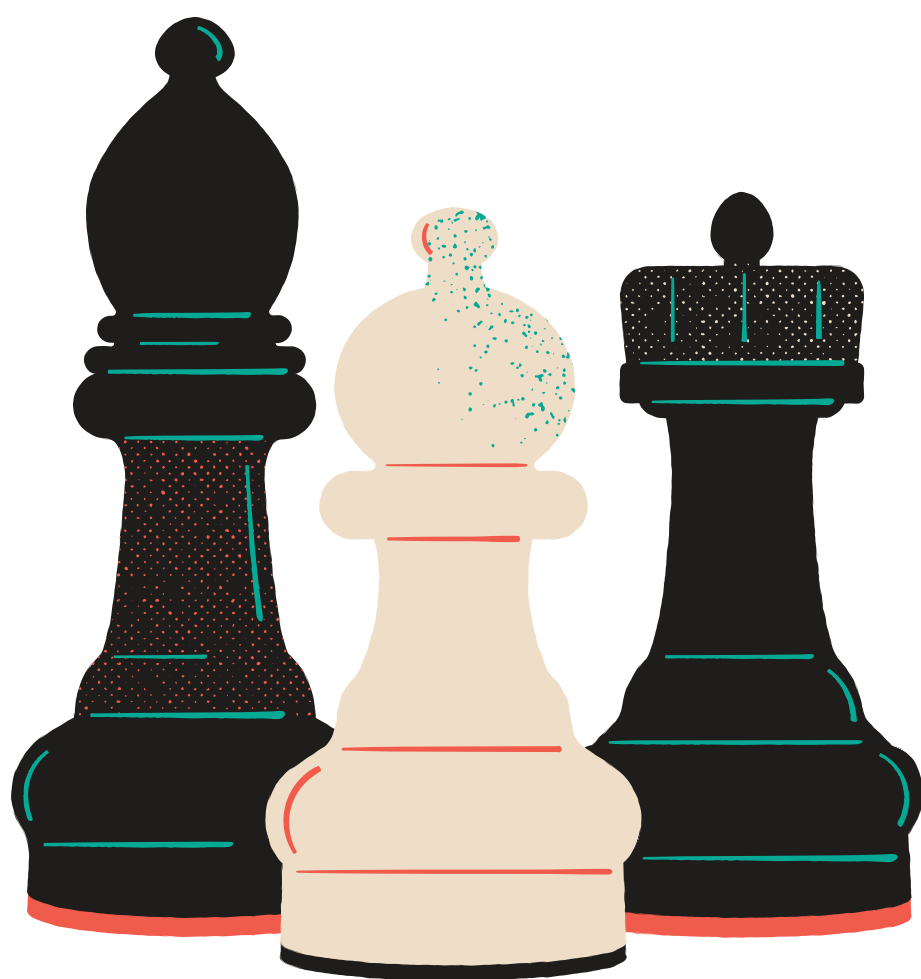
## School Choir











The school choir recently travelled to the National Indoor Arena Centre in Blanchardstown to practice with Greg and other choirs around the country for the 2025 Peace Proms that will be taking place in the RDS Dublin in February.



## After School Clubs

A programme of paid After-school Activities will began after Hallowe'en. There was a huge demand for places in the clubs and they were a huge success. The next programme of After-school activities has been organised for January. Details of the clubs were sent via Aladdin. Please contact [afterschoolclubs@stcorbans.com](mailto:afterschoolclubs@stcorbans.com) if you wish to put your son's name on the waiting list for any of the clubs. There are still some places available in the Homework Club.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Chess Club (4th-6th Class) 	Lego Club (1st - 2nd Class) 	Sports Club (4th- 6th Class) 	BoardGames Club (1st - 2nd) 
	Homework Club (1st -6th) 	Homework Club (1st -6th) 	
Science Club (3rd -6th Class) 	Club Chorbain 6th (already booked out) 	Choir (already booked out) 	Coding (already booked out) 





# SANTA VISIT





# PARENTS' ASSOCIATION



It has been a very busy half-term for our Parents' Association. From organising the hugely successful Christmas Raffle, results below, to coordinating the pupils' Christmas Cards. They also provided 5 selection boxes to be raffled in each class. The winners were thrilled with their prize.



## SAVE THE DATE

6 FEBRUARY 2025

The Parent's Association invites all families to support our next Fill the Van Fundraising Project by clearing out your cupboards and setting aside clothes to donate.

The more kilograms we collect, the more funds we raise for the school.

The next drop-off at school will be on Thursday, 6 February 2025.



The Parents' Association are looking forward to the New Year and have already begun working and planning for the next term with Fill the Van organised to take place in February. Save the Date and keep us in mind if you are doing a clear out over the break.



# PARENTS' ASSOCIATION



## Christmas Raffle Prize Winners



Place	Prize	Sponsor	WINNER
1st	€100 Dunnes Stores Voucher €100 The Residence Day Spa Naas Voucher	EBS	Eamonn McCarthy
2nd	Leinster V Bath @Aviva, Tickets x2	Leinster Rugby	Alan Scanlon
3rd	FourBall Voucher	Millicent Golf Club	Rowan Lucas
4th	€100 cash	MMWARD Estate Agents	Maricris Paglinawan
5th	Lunch for 2 and a bottle of wine	Peploe's St Stephen's Green	Ivan Gasljevic
6th	Luggwods Christmas Experience Family Pass	Luggwods	Kim Wrafter
7th	Wonderlights Family Pass	Follow Fox Events	Michael Dundon
8th	Splatmaster Junior Paintball x4	Redhills Adventure Kildare	Fionn Dowling
9th	€100 Voucher	CarveOn.com	Pat Maguire
10 <sup>th</sup>	National Stud Family Pass & Naas Racecourse GA Tickets x4	Irish National Stud & Naas Racecourse	Amy Boyle
11 <sup>th</sup>	AYU Cosmetics Hamper	AYU	Kyon Hartigan
12 <sup>th</sup>	Unit 3 Gym & Class Vouchers for 1 week	Unit 3 Health & Fitness Naas	Darren Collins
13 <sup>th</sup>	Unit 3 Gym & Class Vouchers for 1 week	Unit 3 Health & Fitness Naas	Shane Ryan
14 <sup>th</sup>	Voucher for Acrylic or BIAB Nails	Nails by Cait	Sarah Downey
15 <sup>th</sup>	Luxury Gift Hamper	Daly's Pharmacy	Jamie Queally
16 <sup>th</sup>	Kildare Village Voucher €50	Kildare Village	Trisha Madden
17 <sup>th</sup>	Hey Darling Voucher €50	Hey Darling	Aoife McMahon
18 <sup>th</sup>	Renew Skin Clinic Voucher €50	Renew Skin Clinic	Finn Brennan
19 <sup>th</sup>	Lips & P's Voucher €50	Lips & P's	Sarah Gannon
20 <sup>th</sup>	Lidl voucher €40	Lidl Ireland	Laura Greene
21 <sup>st</sup>	Fruit 4 U Voucher €40	Fruit 4 U	Cathy Carroll
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Nearly Sisters Hamper	Nearly Sisters, Newbridge	Aislinn Aherne
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Gift Hamper	Donated by Parents	Martin Fogarty
24 <sup>th</sup>	Gift Hamper	Donated by Parents	Jane Howlett
SELLERS PRIZES			
1st	Personalised Rodey North Face Backpack	Swag.eu	Daniel Cronin
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Emerald Park Voucher €50	Donated by a parent	Jake Kelly
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Voucher for 3x Large Pizzas	Domino's Pizza	Vladimir Bogos
4 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Treats Hamper	Specsavers Naas	Maksim Virlan
5 <sup>th</sup>	12 Luxury Christmas Cupcakes	Donated by a parent	Milo Cagney



**TOTAL FUNDS RAISED: €8,665**

*St Corban's BNS PA Team wish to say a big THANK YOU to all our generous sponsors who donated prizes listed above and to all the boys for their hard work selling lines!  
All proceeds will be used to support and enhance the boys' school experience*