



Christmas Newsletter 2025



Step into our entrance hall and enjoy the beautiful festive display, capturing the true spirit of Christmas. A big thank you to our talented P1 children, whose artistic skills brought the nativity figures to life with their lovely paintings.

We are also grateful to all our children for sharing their hopes for this Christmas and suggesting thoughtful acts of kindness for Advent. Their ideas remind us what this season is truly about; caring for others and spreading joy in all that we do.

Finally, thank you to every child for the hard work and enthusiasm that made our first term at St Teresa's so productive, enjoyable, and happy. What a wonderful way to end the year!

Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain Faoi Mhaise Daoibh!

The festive spirit was alive and well in Loughmacrory this season! Children were thrilled to spot the Lough Elf making surprise visits to the school gates, spreading smiles and Christmas magic. Another highlight was the arrival of the "O'Neill Cup", proudly displayed on the village Christmas tree.

Thank you to everyone who helped make these experiences so special for our pupils. It was a fantastic way to bring our community together and create lasting festive memories.



Pupils and staff from St. Teresa's are sending their best wishes to Dean Maguirc College pupils Ríoghnach McAleer, Clara Rose Marley, Niamh McElduff and Laura Delaney, as they take the plunge at the **New Year's Day Dip in Loughmacrory**. All proceeds are going to support the **Spirit of Paul McGirr charity**. **Ádh mór oraibh** to everyone taking part, what a brilliant way to start the year!

A Magical Collection of Christmas Entertainment

This Christmas season, St Teresa's Primary School truly sparkled as every single child in our school took to the stage to share their talents in four incredible productions: **Snuggle Up Stable, The Shiniest Star, Bethlehem Bandits, and our grand finale, the Primary School Christmas Musical.**

From the tiniest performers to our Key Stage 2 pupils, the children sang, danced, and acted with confidence and joy, bringing festive cheer to everyone in attendance. Their enthusiasm and energy lit up the stage and warmed the hearts of the entire community.



Behind the scenes, our dedicated staff worked tirelessly to prepare the children for their big moment. Costumes were dazzling, music was uplifting, and every detail came together to create an unforgettable experience. It was truly a team effort and what a success it was!



We are immensely proud of our pupils, not only for their incredible talents but for the spirit and excitement they brought to each performance. These shows didn't just entertain; they reminded us all of the magic of Christmas and the joy of coming together as a community.



Thank you to everyone who supported us in making this celebration possible. From parents and families to staff and volunteers, your help ensured that this year's Christmas shows were nothing short of spectacular.



Christmas Dinner

What a magical Christmas dinner we had at school! The hall was buzzing with excitement as children arrived in their bright and sparkly Christmas jumpers, ready for a festive feast. There were smiles all around as plates were filled with roast potatoes, veggies, and all the yummy trimmings, it was a real treat! It truly felt like Christmas had come early!

A BIG thank you to Tony and Claire, our festive heroes, for cooking up such a delicious dinner and making the day so special. You sprinkled extra Christmas magic on everything!



Christmas Carols



Our wonderful P6 and P7 pupils truly brought the spirit of Christmas to life as they delighted the Ladies' Friendship Group with a selection of their favourite festive songs. The atmosphere was filled with joy, laughter, and plenty of Christmas cheer!



A big thank you to Mr McCullagh and Mrs McElholm for their guidance and support in preparing the children for this special performance. We are also very grateful to the ladies for their warm invitation and kind hospitality. It was an afternoon of music, friendship, and festive fun that will be remembered by all!





Shoebox Appeal



TEAM HOPE

We are truly amazed by the generosity shown during this year's **Team Hope Shoebox Appeal**. Thanks to your kindness, we collected so many beautiful boxes filled with thoughtful gifts that will bring joy to children across the world. A special thank you to Amy, who worked tirelessly to gather the boxes and share where they will be going. Your efforts will make a real difference and spread happiness to children who need it most. Finally, a heartfelt thank you to all our parents and pupils for your incredible support. Your contributions and enthusiasm reflect the true spirit of giving and community. Together, we have made a positive impact that will brighten many lives!



Christmas Pantomime



Primaries 4, 5, 6, and 7 enjoyed an unforgettable festive outing to the Millennium Forum to watch the spectacular pantomime ***Beauty and the Beast!***

The performance was packed with laughter, music, and excitement, and the children loved every moment of this classic Christmas tradition. It was a wonderful opportunity to experience live theatre, celebrate the joy of storytelling, and create lasting memories together.

A big thank you to everyone who helped make this magical day possible!



Scoil Spreagtha Ceol na Nollag

Our P4-P7 pupils spread festive joy with a virtual **Scoil Spreagtha Christmas sing-along!** Connecting through Zoom, they sang beautifully in Irish and celebrated the season with music, smiles, and plenty of Christmas spirit.

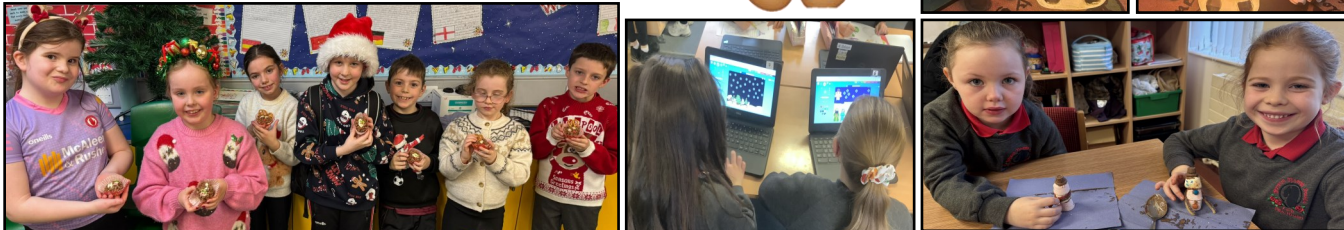
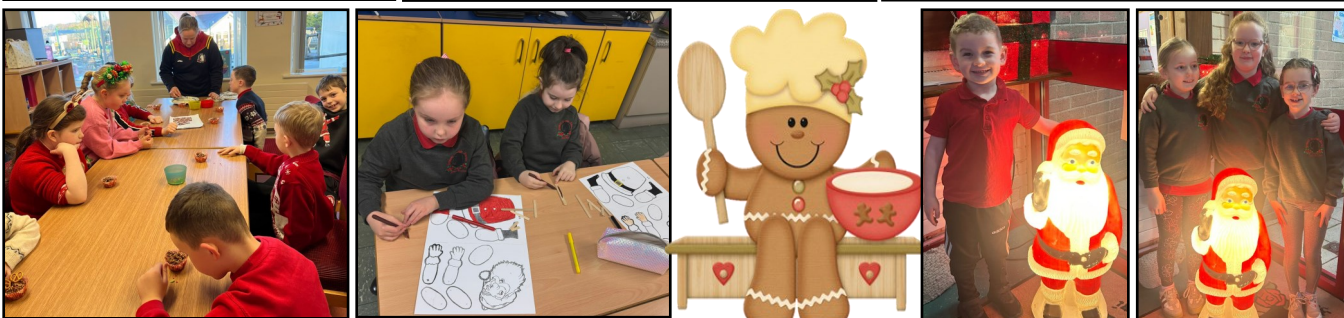


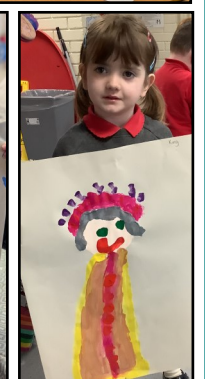
Ho Ho Ho!

Christmas Fun!

December was full of festive fun at school! Children loved coming dressed in their bright and cheerful Christmas jumpers, adding a splash of colour and sparkle to every classroom. The excitement reached its peak when we had a very special visitor—Santa himself! He brought smiles, laughter, and a sprinkle of Christmas magic that made the day unforgettable for our younger classes.

But the fun didn't stop there! Our creative classrooms were buzzing with arts and crafts, as children made beautiful decorations and festive masterpieces. The delicious smell of Christmas baking filled the air as little chefs rolled, mixed, and decorated tasty treats. It was a month packed with joy, creativity, and festive cheer!





A huge thank you to everyone who helped make December so magical. Wishing all our families a **Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain Faoi Mhaise Daoibh** from everyone at St. Teresa's!

Celebrating Champions

We were delighted to welcome Nathan Kelly, Captain of the Tyrone Senior Champions Loch Mhic Ruairí team, to our school along with the prestigious O'Neill Cup. The excitement was evident as the children gathered for a special assembly. We were thrilled to have the Nippers join us and to welcome

back our former principal, Mrs. Sweeney, who shared in the celebration. Nathan spoke about his incredible journey to victory and the dedication needed to succeed at the highest level. Mrs. Sweeney expressed her pride in Nathan and the team, reminding everyone that their success began in primary school, with commitment to sport and a determination never to give up. The highlight for the children was getting their photographs taken with the cup, so many smiles and happy faces! A huge thank you to Nathan for inspiring us all. It was truly a fantastic morning for our school community!



Cross Country

12 of our talented runners took part in the second round of the Flahavan's Cross Country League in Castlederg and delivered fantastic performances. In the girls' race, Caela finished 4th, Aine 6th, Aoibhinn 13th, and Niamh 14th – securing 1st place overall for the girls' team. In the boys' race, Noah claimed an impressive 2nd place, with Cahir finishing 9th, helping the boys' team achieve 4th place overall. A huge thank you to Gemma, Roisin, and Tanya for accompanying the children and providing incredible support and encouragement throughout the morning.



Wheelchair football

Our P7 class had an incredible experience at the One-Walls, where Paul Callaghan from Ulster GAA led a wheelchair football session. The session was a powerful reminder of the importance of valuing and celebrating everyone's abilities. It was inspiring to see how quickly the children embraced the challenge and showed admiration for the skill, determination, and positive attitude of those who use a wheelchair every day. A heartfelt thank you to Paul and Ulster GAA for their outstanding work in promoting games for all and for giving our P7 pupils such a memorable and meaningful learning experience.



Soccer Tournament

We are thrilled to celebrate the fantastic performance of our P7 girls at the Omagh Town Soccer Tournament held at Youth Sport. Throughout the day, they demonstrated outstanding teamwork, effort, and determination, embracing every challenge with smiles and great spirit. Both teams progressed through the group stages and even met in an exciting semi-final clash!

The girls supported one another on and off the pitch, showing true sportsmanship. Their hard work paid off as they finished as Shield Champions. What a remarkable achievement for the entire group. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them. Well done, girls!



Football blitz



Our Primary 7 pupils had a fantastic morning at the Football Blitz in Carrickmore. They displayed excellent teamwork and enthusiasm while taking part in a series of matches in the impressive new indoor football facility. It was a brilliant experience for everyone involved, and we are proud of the effort and sportsmanship shown by all our pupils!



P4 Gaming

Our P4 pupils were thrilled to welcome James to school as part of our partnership with the **AMMA Centre**. The children took part in an exciting games-based learning session using MakeCode Arcade, where they explored coding, problem-solving, creativity, and digital design. They had the opportunity to create and test their own games, developing key digital skills in a fun and engaging way. It was a fantastic experience for everyone involved! A huge thank you to James and the AMMA team for delivering such an inspiring day of learning.



Feeling Safe at School

Our school celebrated Feeling Safe at School Week with a range of exciting activities promoting kindness, respect, and safety. Pupils and staff kicked things off with **Odd Socks Day**, a fun way to celebrate individuality and spread the message of inclusion. Classes from P3 to P7 collaborated to write inspiring poems based on the theme **"Power for Good"**, and pupils joined the BBC Live Lesson to learn practical ways to stay safe and support one another.

Congratulations to our poster competition winners, whose creative designs captured the spirit of kindness and respect. A special highlight was the P5 inspirational assembly, reminding us all of the importance of using our power for good every day. Thank you to everyone who helped make this week a celebration of positivity and safety in our school community!



Winners of the
**"Power for
Good"** poster
competition and
group poems.



Community Support

We would like to extend a sincere thank you to everyone for their amazing generosity during our recent Black and Amber Day. This special event supported Phyllis McCrory's Head

Shave in memory of John McCrory and celebrated Miss Coyle's participation in the Dublin Hyrox event, both of which took place over the weekend. Your donations will make a real difference to the following charities:

- Termonmaguirc Cancer Patients Comfort Fund
- Care for Cancer Omagh
- Cancer Fund for Children (Daisy Lodge)
- Macmillan Cancer Support

Your kindness and support truly demonstrate the power of community. Thank you for helping us make a positive impact!



Handwriting Winners

We are delighted to announce the winners of our **Handwriting Certificates**, celebrating the effort and dedication our pupils have shown in developing their handwriting skills.

A huge congratulations to all our winners of the **Best Handwriting** award and **Most Improved Handwriting** award.



Your hard work and commitment to excellence are truly inspiring. Keep up the fantastic effort as we continue to value the importance of clear and confident writing.



Credit Union Winners

We are delighted to announce that several of our talented pupils have been named winners in the Credit Union Art Competition. This year's theme, **"The Future Is..."**, inspired our students to impress the judges with their creativity and imagination.

Their incredible artwork has now progressed to the next round of judging, and we couldn't be prouder of their achievements. A huge well done to all participants for embracing the theme and sharing your vision of the future through art. Your hard work and creativity truly shine!

We were so delighted to hear, just before the holidays, that Cara's artwork won first prize in the Chapter final and progressed to the National Final.



Don't forget to visit our school website regularly to keep up to date with all the celebrations, achievements, and exciting learning happening in our school.

All Souls' Day Assembly



Primary 4 led a beautiful and respectful assembly in the chapel to mark **All Souls' Day**. It was a special time of reflection and prayer as we honoured and remembered all our loved ones who have passed away. We were delighted to be joined by family and friends from the community. This meaningful gathering brought our school community together in faith and gratitude, keeping their memory alive in our hearts.

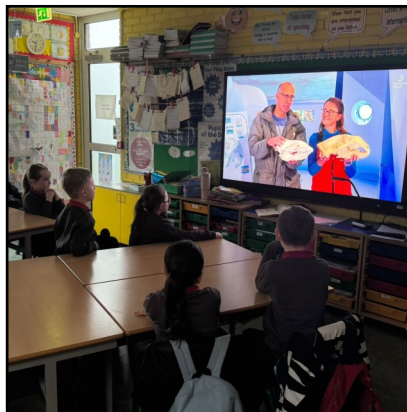
Ulster American Folk Park

Our Primary 7 pupils enjoyed an unforgettable day at the Ulster American Folk Park, immersing themselves in the history of the Irish Famine. From stepping inside the old schoolhouse to boarding the Famine ship and visiting the blacksmith's forge, they were transported back in time to experience what life was like during this pivotal era.



Protect our Planet

Primary 4 took part in exciting activities to learn how to care for the environment. They sorted actions that help or harm our planet and joined an online event, **POP to the Poles**, where polar explorers shared how global warming is affecting the Arctic. Well done to P4 for showing such enthusiasm and commitment to protecting our planet!



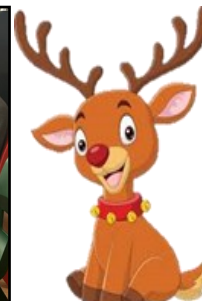


Student leaders



Student Council 2025-26

We are proud to celebrate the dedication of our **School Council** in making every pupil's voice heard and valued. This year, you will lead exciting new initiatives, share creative ideas, and represent your classmates with confidence and fairness. Congratulations to **Noah, Francie, Grace, Jaiden, Aine, Ria, Paídí, Cahir, Niamh, and Sally** on your appointment. We wish you every success as you take on these important roles and make a positive impact throughout our school community.



P.E. Monitors

A huge thank you to our **P.E. Monitors** for taking on such an important role in keeping our school active and organised. Your work in supporting lessons and managing equipment ensures every class enjoys smooth, well-prepared activities and that resources are always ready when needed. We wish **Cormac and Thomas Óg** every success as you approach this responsibility with enthusiasm, teamwork, and a strong sense of organisation.



Classroom Monitors

The support provided by our **Classroom Monitors** is truly invaluable. Their calm, caring presence in the P1, P2, and P3 classrooms will make a big difference throughout the year, helping to create safe, happy spaces where our youngest learners can thrive. By stepping into these roles, these pupils are becoming wonderful role models for others.

Best of luck to **Ethan, Emma, Saoirse, Caela, Cianna, Clara, Isabelle, Caleb, Cadhla, Grace, Aoibhinn, and Maisie** as you take on this important and meaningful responsibility.



Digital Leaders

Our Digital Leaders will play a key role in strengthening ICT skills and supporting the 5E's across classrooms. This year, they'll work with the AMMA team to deliver MakeCode

Arcade to all year groups, bringing coding, creativity, and problem-solving to life.

Best of luck to **Shae, Charlie, Aodhan, Stephen, and Darragh** as you help shape an exciting digital learning experience for everyone.



Christmas Draw

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to our annual Christmas Raffle.

The response was incredible. Our pupils were out knocking doors throughout the community and surrounding areas, and they were genuinely blown away by the warmth and generosity shown. It was unreal to witness, and we are so grateful for your support.

We were also delighted to welcome back past pupil, Eoin McElholm, who joined us with the O'Neill Cup to help with the draw. Eoin is a fantastic role model for all our children and a true ambassador for our club. It is always a pleasure to have him in school and we appreciate him giving up his time today.



Here are the lucky Prize Winners who were drawn out of the box

- **First Prize:** *65" LG TV* - **Joseph Moore**. Seller: Michael-John Coyle
 - **Second Prize:** *PlayStation 5* - **Jordan Reid**. Seller: Caleb Reid
 - **Third Prize:** *Samsung Chromebook* - **Edel McDonald**. Seller: Fiadh Woods
 - *£100 MFC Voucher* Winner: **Pat Kelly**. Seller: Caleb Reid
 - *Hughes Eurospar Hamper* Winner: **Keri Meenan**. Seller: Maisie, Freddie & Elsie Meenan
 - *Hughes' Eurospar Voucher* Winner: **Ciaran McCartan**. Speller: Caela & Dara McCarney
 - *Jackie's Nisa Hamper/Voucher* Winner: **Dympna Curran**. Seller: Killian & Shea Curran
 - *Amazon Echo Pop* Winner: **Oscar Hamilton**. Seller: Colleen and Erin Doobs
 - *£30 Sasta Voucher* Winner: **Maeve McCooey**. Seller: Grace McCooey
 - *Shark Tank – 1 Month Open Gym Membership* Winner: **Kenny McAree**. Seller: Caleb Reid
 - *SilverHill Duck Luxury Duvet & Pillow Set* Winner: **Erin Dobbs**. Seller: Colleen Dobbs
 - *Pizzamac Voucher* Winner: **Aine McGinley** Seller: Mea McGinley
 - *BodyTalk with Arlene Voucher*
- Winner: **Anne Gallagher**.
Seller: Artúir Mc Atee
- *Massage with Julie Gallagher*
- Winner: **Christopher McGaughey**.
Seller: Sara Mc Gaughey



We also had bonus prizes for the ticket sellers of the lucky winners, who went above and beyond over the past few weeks. A huge well done to each of you for your incredible effort – your hard work really paid off! This event wouldn't have been possible without the amazing support of our sponsors and the entire community. We are so grateful to everyone who bought tickets, helped with sales, and supported us throughout the raffle. Your generosity and community spirit make St. Teresa's PS such a special place.

Special thanks to our main sponsors:

Main Sponsors

- Gussy McAleer & Family – GMA Bricklaying
- Paul Ward & Family – Ward Plant Hire
- Niall McGaughey & Family – NMG Mechanical
- Stephen Grugan & Family – Grugan Motors
- Cathal O'Brien & Family – O'Brien Mechanical
- Damien McAleer & Family – OMC Plumbing
- James Bradley & Family – Rocket Flair Studios
- Shane McCullagh – McAleer & Rushe
- Barry Cullen – Silverhill Duck
- Mickey Kelly & Family & Finbar Fox – Fox Contracts
- Kerry McDonald & Family – Country Kennels
- Rory McCallan & Family

Vouchers, Prizes & Donations

- Arlene McElduff – BodyTalk
- Colleen Heaney, Sean O'Neill & Fabian O'Neill – MFC
- Sharon & Gary Curran & Family
- Julie Gallagher – Sports Massage – Lough Bodywork
- Dan Fox – SharkTank
- Dan Fox & Kevy McKernan – Sasta
- Paddy Hughes – Hughes' Eurospar
- Jackie & Mark Ward – Jackie's Nisa
- Mickey McCartan – Pizzamac
- Loughmacrory Youth Club
- Pádraigín Kelly

Finally, thank you all for your wonderful support throughout Term 1. Every penny raised goes straight to school funds, helping us continue to provide the very best for your children, the children of St Teresa's Primary School.



Thank You



**Ar scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine!
Working Together, We Thrive!**

