

DROM NEWS



www.dromns.com

Instagram: @dromns1

Bumper Edition!

From the Desk of Santa Claus

North Pole

December 20, 2024

Dear Boys and Girls of Drom National School,

Ho! Ho! Ho! Greetings from the North Pole! I hope this letter finds all of you in great spirits as Christmas quickly approaches. Mrs. Claus and I have been keeping a close eye on all the wonderful things happening in your school this year, and I must say, I'm very impressed! Your teachers have told me about how hard you've been working in your classes, and I've also heard about the kindness and teamwork you've been showing to one another. That truly warms my heart.

The elves have been bustling away in the workshop, crafting toys and gifts for children around the world. They've even told me about some of the fantastic wishes they've received from Drom National School - what creative ideas you all have! Don't worry, I'm checking my list (twice, of course) to make sure everything is just right.

Rudolph and the other reindeer are in tip-top shape and ready for the big night. They've been practicing their flying and can't wait to zoom across the skies of Drom and all of Ireland. They've asked me to remind you to leave out some treats if you can - maybe a carrot for them and a little something sweet for me?

As you count down the days to Christmas, remember that the best gifts you can give aren't always wrapped in paper. A kind word, a helping hand, or a big smile can brighten someone's day just like a twinkling Christmas light.

Now, before I go, let me remind you to be in bed nice and early on Christmas Eve. I can only visit when everyone is sound asleep.

Keep being the amazing children that you are, and I'll do my best to deliver something special to each of you.

Merry Christmas to all the boys and girls of Drom National School!

With lots of love, magic, and Christmas cheer,

Santa Claus 📬



JANUARY 2025



UPCOMING EVENTS

JAN 7

SAY YES TO LANGUAGES RESUMES

OUR SAY YES TO LANGUAGES GERMAN PROGRAM WITH PATRICIA MCLOUGHNEY CONTINUES.

JAN 15

MUSIC GENERATION RESUMES

OUR MUSIC EDUCATION AND UKULELE PROGRAM WITH MUSIC GENERATION TIPPERARY RESUMES.

JAN 16

EXPLORING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS THROUGH CODING

PAMELA O' BRIEN OF TUS - THURLES CAMPUS, CALLS TO DROM NATIONAL SCHOOL FOR A SECOND WORKSHOP EXPLORING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS. THROUGH CODING.

JAN 19 - 25

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

REFLECTING ON THE THEME OF 'ALIVE IN CHRIST', CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WILL EXPLORE WHAT IT MEANS TO BE FULLY ALIVE AS A HUMAN BEING - LIVING LIFE TO THE FULL IN CHRIST.

JAN 23

GRANDPARENTS DAY

WE INVITE ALL THE WONDERFUL GRANDPARENTS IN OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY TO JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL MASS ON THIS DAY FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS.

JAN 28

SAY YES TO LANGUAGES CONCLUDES

SO LONG, FAREWELL, AUF WIEDERSEHEN ... WE BID A FOND FAREWELL TO MS. PATRICIA MCLOUGHNEY AS WE CONCLUDE OUR SAY YES TO LANGUAGES PROGRAM FOR 2024 - 2025.

EXPLORING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS THROUGH CODING

By Chloe Kiely and Niamh Heaney

On the 6th of November 2024, Pamela O'Brien visited Drom National School to speak to the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Classes about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

First, we learned about Climate Action. Pamela explained how climate change is affecting the world around us and shared ideas on how we can make a positive difference. It really made us think about what we can do to help the planet.

Next, we explored the goal of Life Below Water. For this, we did a fun activity using MakeCode Arcade. We programmed a game where a duck had to collect trash from the sea. It was amazing to see how coding could connect to real-world problems!

Then, we used Micro:bits to explore technology in action. Our first project was to create a light alarm. We programmed the Micro:bit so that if the light level went above 180, it would beep. It was so cool to see how we could use simple coding to solve problems.

Finally, we worked with LED lights. We connected the Micro:bit to an LED strip and programmed it so the lights would turn on when we placed our hand over the Micro:bit. Watching the lights glow felt like magic—but it was all thanks to what we had learned about circuits and programming.

The whole experience was exciting and fun! We learned so much about the Sustainable Development Goals and how technology can help solve global challenges. A big thank you to Pamela O'Brien for visiting us and sharing her knowledge.

HURLING TRAINING

Drom National School was abuzz with excitement on Friday, 8th November, as Tony Shanahan, renowned trainer from Drom & Inch GAA, made his much-anticipated return to lead hurling training sessions with the students.

Tony, a familiar face in the community, brought his signature positivity and dedication to the training field, inspiring young players to give their best. Known for his encouraging words and knack for making every player feel valued, Tony's sessions are filled with energy, teamwork, and plenty of fun.

Tony has a way of making everyone believe in themselves. Even if you make a mistake, Tony is there to help you learn and improve. Tony's effective training style combines a deep understanding of the game with innovative drills that keep everyone engaged. His focus on developing skills while fostering a love for hurling has been a hallmark of his approach, and it's clear the students are benefiting from his expertise.

We express our gratitude for Tony's ongoing commitment to the school. Tony's dedication to our students and to the sport of hurling is incredible. He's not just training players; he's building confidence, teamwork, and a passion for the game.

With Tony Shanahan back on the 'pitch' at Drom National School, it's safe to say the future of hurling in the community is as bright as ever.

TEAM HOPE SHOEBOX APPEAL

A sincere word of thanks to everyone who contributed so generously to the Team Hope Shoebox Appeal. Tadhg Heaney and Norah O'Sullivan proudly presented the shoeboxes to Team Hope Ambassador, Mr. Tim Coffey, on behalf of the school.

SCIENCE WEEK

From the 10th to the 17th of November, Drom National School celebrated Science Week with a jam-packed schedule of experiments and activities, igniting a love of discovery and curiosity among its students.

The Incredible Infants led the charge with a week of engaging experiments, exploring different scientific concepts each day.

The fun began on Monday with an exciting online workshop from Curious Minds. The children warmed up with the ever-entertaining Mark the Science Guy and dove into fascinating topics like biodiversity, how spaceships land without gravity, weather phenomena, and even how to compost their underpants! A highlight was watching sound waves make flames of fire dance—a mesmerizing introduction to the magic of science.

Tuesday saw the young scientists experimenting with heat and acids. Using lemon juice, they wrote invisible messages, which they revealed by placing the paper near a radiator. Their amazement continued on Wednesday as they explored chemical reactions. By mixing vinegar and bread soda, they captured the resulting gas to inflate a balloon—an experiment that had them giggling with delight.

On Thursday, the children investigated air pressure with a clever experiment using a candle, coloured water, and a glass, marvelling at how the water reacted to changes in pressure. The week wrapped up on Friday with a thrilling demonstration of sound waves. The students watched in awe as powerful sound waves from a large speaker made popcorn "dance" on cling film—a perfect finale to an unforgettable week.

Science Week at Drom National School was a resounding success, filled with hands-on learning, laughter, and discovery. The Incredible Infants proved that science can be as fun as it is educational, leaving everyone excited for next year's adventures in STEM!

CHILDREN'S BOOK IRELAND

ONLINE BOOK CLINIC

On Friday, 15th November, eight lucky students from Drom National School participated in an unforgettable Online Book Clinic organized by Children's Books Ireland in association with Drom Broadband Connection Point. The clinic was hosted by none other than Juliette Saumande, a renowned children's author and "Book Doctor." The students—Clíona Cahill, Ardit O'Meara Dani, Georgia Maher, Charlotte Kennedy, Caitlin Fahey, Lauryn Collins, Paddy Ryan, and Sonny O'Dwyer—had the exciting opportunity to chat about their reading preferences and receive expert book recommendations tailored just for them.

In her role as the "Book Doctor," Juliette brought warmth and enthusiasm to every conversation. She carefully listened to each student as they shared their favourite stories, characters, and genres, as well as the types of books they didn't enjoy as much. Using this insight, Juliette prescribed each child a personalized "Book Prescription" with a curated list of titles perfectly suited to their unique interests.

The children were thrilled with their recommendations and couldn't wait to begin their new reading adventures. From action-packed stories to heart-warming tales and imaginative fantasies, Juliette ensured there was something for everyone to enjoy.

A special word of thanks goes to Aoife Murray and her colleague Rachel for organizing this one-of-a-kind event. Their efforts created an enriching and inspiring experience for our students, helping to nurture a lifelong love of reading.

Events like this are a beautiful reminder of the transformative power of books to inspire, entertain, and transport young readers to new and exciting worlds. We look forward to hearing all about the amazing stories our students will explore, thanks to their personalized recommendations from the Book Doctor!

PEACE PROMS WORKSHOP

On Friday, 15th November, the 3rd to 6th Class students from Drom National School had the wonderful opportunity to attend a Peace Proms Workshop at the University of Limerick Sports Arena. Led by the energetic and inspiring Greg Beardsell from the Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland, the day was filled with music, laughter, and excitement.

Peace Proms is a unique musical initiative that brings together thousands of children from schools all over Ireland to celebrate unity, peace, and diversity through music. It aims to give children the chance to develop their musical talents, work collaboratively with peers from different communities, and perform in large-scale concerts with a live orchestra.

The students from Drom National School joined children from schools across Ireland for a day of rehearsals and music-making. Under Greg Beardsell's guidance, they learned and polished a variety of songs that will be performed at the upcoming Peace Proms Concert on March 2nd. Greg's infectious enthusiasm kept the children engaged and motivated throughout the day, making it an unforgettable experience for all.

The children particularly enjoyed singing alongside their new friends from other schools and being part of such a large and vibrant group. It was a day of connection, cooperation, and shared joy as they worked together to create something truly special.

The Peace Proms Concert promises to be a spectacular event, with the children singing in harmony alongside the Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland. Our students are already counting down the days to showcase their hard work and share their love of music on such a grand stage.

A big thank you to Greg Beardsell, the Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland, and everyone involved in organizing this incredible initiative. It was a day that our students will treasure, and we can't wait to see them shine at the concert in March!

MID-TIPPERARY GAA QUIZ

On 1st December, a team of bright young minds from Drom National School represented us proudly at the Mid-Tipperary GAA Quiz, held at Revel in the Ragg.

The team, made up of Tommy Bourke, Tadhg Heaney, Daniel Coleman, and Niamh Heaney, took on the challenge with enthusiasm and determination.

The quiz proved to be a tough one, with questions testing knowledge across a wide range of topics, but the team handled it with great effort and teamwork. While the questions were challenging, the evening was filled with fun and camaraderie, as the event brought together schools and communities from all over the Mid-Tipperary area.

We are very proud of our team's performance and the way they represented Drom National School with such positivity and sportsmanship. A big thank you to the organizers for hosting such an enjoyable event, and congratulations to all the participants for their hard work and effort.

Well done, Team Drom! We look forward to next year's quiz and another chance to showcase our school's knowledge and teamwork.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

November and December were truly special months at Drom National School, with a series of fantastic fundraising events held to support our Guided Reading Program. The response to our Timber Auction, Christmas Hamper Draw, and Carol Service was nothing short of extraordinary.

From generous donations for the auction and hamper draw to the tireless efforts of volunteers and the incredible support from both our school and the wider community, every contribution played a crucial role in the success of these events.

We are thrilled to share that, thanks to everyone's hard work and generosity, we have raised an astonishing €5,500 for our school. What an achievement!

While we often say it, it remains undeniably true: we may be a small school, but we are mighty. This level of support reflects the strong sense of community and shared purpose that makes our school such a special place.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated, donated, and supported these events in any way. As our school motto proudly states:

"Ag Fás le Chéile – Growing Together."

Together, we continue to grow, learn, and thrive.

SAY YES TO LANGUAGES

A VISIT FROM JULIA SOMMER & FAMILY

In December, we were incredibly fortunate to welcome Julia Sommer and her wonderful children to our school as part of the Say Yes to Languages German program, brilliantly led by our talented language teacher, Patricia McLoughney.

Julia, a native of Germany now living in Ireland, is the inaugural winner of the Rise with Aldi bread baking competition. She joined us to enhance a lesson centered around the song and book *In der Weihnachts-backerei*. Patricia expertly guided the children through the song about making cookies at Christmas, while Julia's children treated us to the most delicious homemade German cookies. Talk about a sweet incentive! The children were more engaged than ever, with the promise of these scrumptious German treats motivating their language practice!

We're so grateful to have such a dedicated language teacher who goes above and beyond to provide these incredible learning opportunities to the children in the school. A huge thank you to Patricia and of course, Julia and her children for their generous gift of cookies and for helping us practice our newly learned German skills. Frohe Weihnachten!

CAROL SERVICE

What an unforgettable evening at St. Mary's Church, Drom! On Wednesday, 18th December 2024, the children of Drom NS, joined by the incredible Avril Stapleton of Music Generation Tipperary and the magnificent Drom Parish Choir, came together to celebrate the magic of the season with a heart-warming Christmas Carol Service and a stunning Nativity performance. Witnessing such talent, passion, and generosity of spirit was truly a privilege — it filled everyone in attendance with the pure joy and warmth of Christmas.

A heartfelt thank you to the children, their parents, the staff, and the Board of Management of Drom NS; Avril Stapleton and Music Generation Tipperary; the Drom Parish Choir; and Celia and Sheila for transforming the church so beautifully for the service. We're deeply grateful to Fr. Murphy for his unwavering support of the school and to our wonderful friend and neighbour, Anne Cunningham, whose help and kindness are invaluable. A special mention goes to our exceptional secretary, Debbie Hennessy, whose dedication and commitment to both the school and our children know no bounds.

The spirit of community, togetherness, and joy was truly alive last Wednesday night — a beautiful reminder of the season's magic!

MUSIC GENERATION TIPPERARY INSTRUMENTAL WORKSHOP

Music Generation Tipperary is hosting an instrument workshop for children aged 7–12 years on Saturday, 18th January 2025, in Thurles, from 12:00 pm to 3:30 pm. The workshop is open to all abilities, and the cost is €10 per child.

CREDIT UNION QUIZ

The Credit Union Quiz is scheduled for Friday, February 7th, 2025, at 7 PM in the Templemore Arms. The school will be proudly represented by two teams of four students each—one team from Third & Fourth Class and the other from Fifth & Sixth Class. Ms. Moore-Walsh is inviting expressions of interest from students eager to participate in this exciting event.

She will hold lunchtime preparation sessions from Tuesday to Friday throughout January & February, each lasting approximately 10 minutes, to prepare the children for the quiz. Following these sessions, the final eight students will be selected to represent the school.

If your child/children are interested in joining the Credit Union Quiz Club in January and February as part of the preparation for the Credit Union Quiz 2024/2025, please complete the form at the link below. We look forward to fostering teamwork, learning, and school spirit through this wonderful event!

Credit Union Quiz Club Form Link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/fNk5jQtk6v>

Music Generation
Tipperary
Thiobraid Árann

**MUSIC
GENERATION
MUSIC MASH
UP**

Workshop
Saturday
18th January 2025
12.00-3.30

ages 7-12
all abilities
welcome
10 Euro per
child.

Contact:
mbourne_1@tipperaryetb.ie

Music Generation
Tipperary
Thiobraid Árann

Tipperary
ETB

Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

CODING WORKSHOP



November / December

EVENTS

TEAM HOPE SHOEBOX APPEAL



PEACE PROMS WORKSHOP



November / December

EVENTS

ONLINE BOOK CLINIC



November / December

EVENTS

SCIENCE WEEK



SAY YES TO LANGUAGES



November / December

EVENTS

CAROL SERVICE

