

Scoil O Curnáin
An Caislén Nua
Co. Luimnigh

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Courtenay National School
Newcastle West
Co. Limerick

Principal: Laura Horgan
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Christmas was in full swing this week at school and we had such fun.

Santa in Killeedy

Thanks to the community of Killeedy, a very enjoyable morning was had on Monday visiting Santa and Mrs. Claus:



Vaccinations and a Variety Show!

Bernie the nurse took a break from the Junior Infant Vaccination schedule on Wednesday to give us a bit of a sing-song! She is a woman of many talents it seems!



Carol Service



We were filled with pride on Thursday when staff and pupils participated in a very special carol service, entertaining the entire community at the square. The hard work and commitment of staff, musicians and pupils meant that the attention of passers-by was completely captured as the town was filled with joyful Christmas music and song. An astonishing €1,582.82 was collected on the morning and we are so very grateful to members of our PA as well as staff who stood with buckets. We were blown away by the generosity of all who contributed, out thanks to one and all for their part in this event. We are well on our way to finishing our sensory room shortly with thanks to these funds.

Junior and Senior Infants "Christmas Cheer"

There was most certainly a sense of Christmas Cheer on Friday when parents and families joined us for the Junior and Senior Infant Christmas Cheer Event. A huge thanks to the dedicated and hardworking team of Junior and Senior Infant staff who worked so hard to ensure that everyone had an equal part in the event and it was such a happy and enjoyable performance. Our thanks to the huge numbers of family members that called in to participate in the event. It was lovely to see everyone gathered in the school hall together. We were also delighted to be able to use the new stage that was bought last year. Out thanks to the PA who fundraised for this stage. Santa and Mrs. Claus also came to entertain us all at the event, before visiting some of the other classrooms also!



Courtenay Chess Club

Some of our chess club-goers participated in a Friendly chess competition organised by NCW chess club at the community Centre last weekend – well done to all involved. The Courtenay Chess Club finished for this school term last Wednesday with a Christmas Chess Party. Mr. Shepherd and Mr. Sheridan have told us that Chess Club will start back again on Wednesday Jan 17th 2024.



School Closures in Term 1

We have been informed that a Department of Education training day will take place for staff in the school on Tuesday January 16th. The purpose of this day is to introduce staff to the new Primary Mathematics Curriculum which is being rolled out this year. More information for parents can be found here: [PMC – Information for Parents](#). The school will be closed on this day to facilitate training for staff.

The school will also close at 12.00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 14th to facilitate staff training. Further details will issue closer to the date.

Panto

A reminder of the trips to the Panto for some classes on Tuesday and Wednesday this week December 19th and 20th. Children should wear their school uniforms for these trips and will need to bring a packed lunch with them on the day, suitable to eat on the bus (i.e. try not to send items like yogurt, crisps or anything that could be spilled easily).

Closure for Christmas Holidays

The school will close early for Christmas Holidays on Friday December 22nd and will remain closed until Monday, January 8th. Busses will leave the school at 11.45 on the day and pupils who do not get a bus from school can be collected between 11.50 and 12.00 p.m. on the day.

Thank you

The commitment, support and dedication of staff and families alike is unwavering in our lovely school. This contributes to a warm and caring environment that supports all pupils and creates the atmosphere necessary for positive experiences for all. Thank you so much for this work. It does not go unnoticed by our pupils.

Every good wish to pupils, staff, families, our Board of Management and the wider community, for a safe and peaceful Christmas this year. I hope you all enjoy the break and we look forward to seeing you all again in January.

Laura Horgan