

# ***Nuachtlitir na Nollag 2023***

Dear Parents,

There aren't too many sleeps left before the Big Day. In our final Nuachtlitir of 2023 we'd like to give you a flavour of some of our festive activities.

## Dates for the Diary/Dátaí don féilire

Friday 22 December 2023 School closes for Christmas Holidays.

Monday 8 January 2024 School reopens at 8.50 a.m.

## Student Council

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome our Student Council in St. Colmcille's S.N.S. We have one representative from each of our seven 6th classes. All of the other classes have a class representative who liaises with the student representative from their house. The members of our Student Council are as follows:

Room 21 – Harry Burke

Room 24 – Isabelle Delaney

Room 22 – Sarah O' Neill

Room 25 – Jimmy Conroy Garcia

Room 23 – Hollie McGrane

Room 26 – Alexandra Clarke

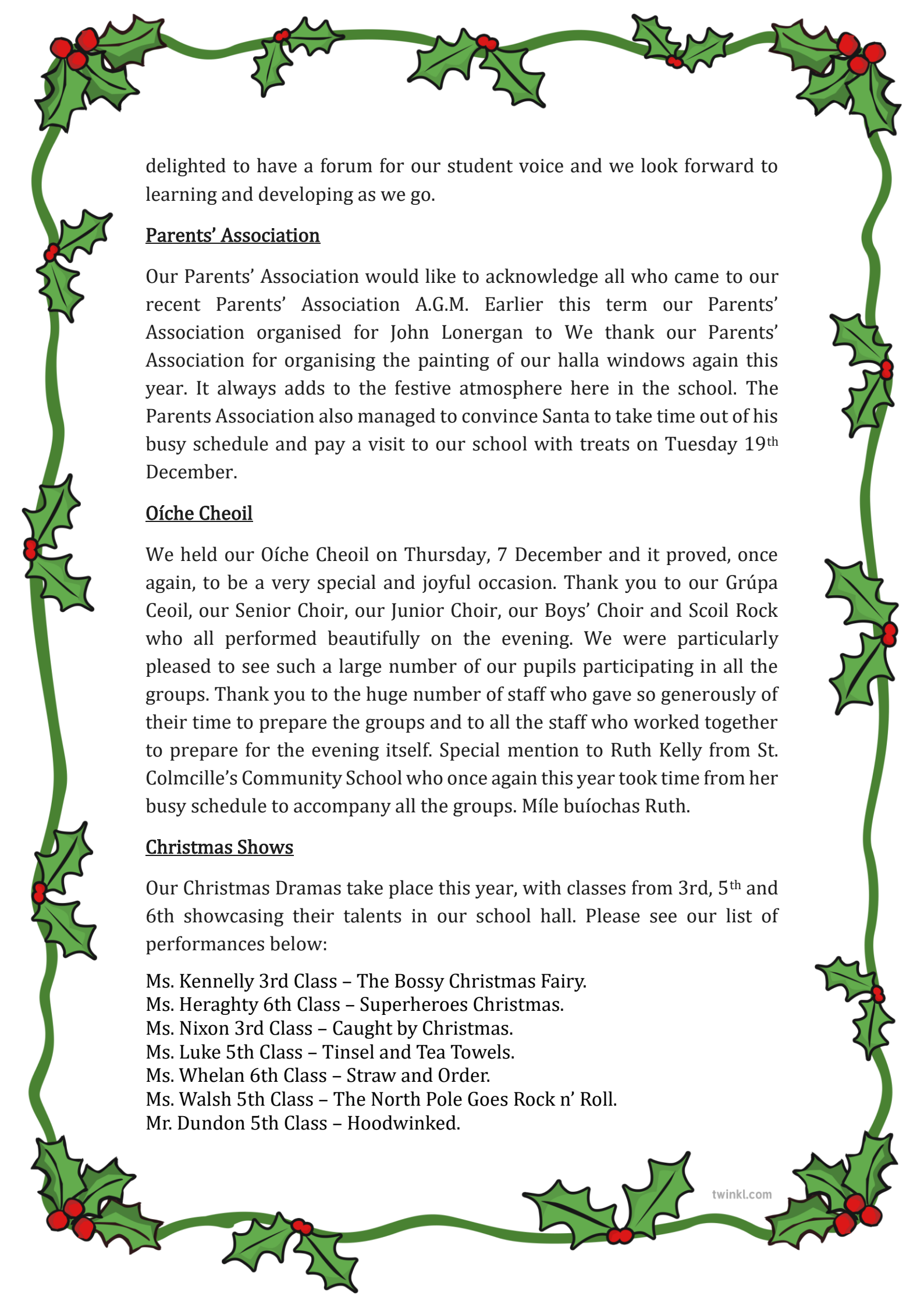
Room 28 – James Kavanagh

Room 2 – Béibhinn O' Riordan

Room 12 – Kian Mahony

Room 8 – Faye Ward

Thank you to Ms. O'Brien, Ms. McMahon, Ms. Curran and Ms. Ní Reachtabhra who helped to get our Council up and running. We're



delighted to have a forum for our student voice and we look forward to learning and developing as we go.

### Parents' Association

Our Parents' Association would like to acknowledge all who came to our recent Parents' Association A.G.M. Earlier this term our Parents' Association organised for John Lonergan to We thank our Parents' Association for organising the painting of our halla windows again this year. It always adds to the festive atmosphere here in the school. The Parents Association also managed to convince Santa to take time out of his busy schedule and pay a visit to our school with treats on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December.

### Oíche Cheoil

We held our Oíche Cheoil on Thursday, 7 December and it proved, once again, to be a very special and joyful occasion. Thank you to our Grúpa Ceoil, our Senior Choir, our Junior Choir, our Boys' Choir and Scoil Rock who all performed beautifully on the evening. We were particularly pleased to see such a large number of our pupils participating in all the groups. Thank you to the huge number of staff who gave so generously of their time to prepare the groups and to all the staff who worked together to prepare for the evening itself. Special mention to Ruth Kelly from St. Colmcille's Community School who once again this year took time from her busy schedule to accompany all the groups. Míle buíochas Ruth.

### Christmas Shows

Our Christmas Dramas take place this year, with classes from 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> showcasing their talents in our school hall. Please see our list of performances below:

Ms. Kennelly 3<sup>rd</sup> Class – The Bossy Christmas Fairy.

Ms. Heraghty 6<sup>th</sup> Class – Superheroes Christmas.

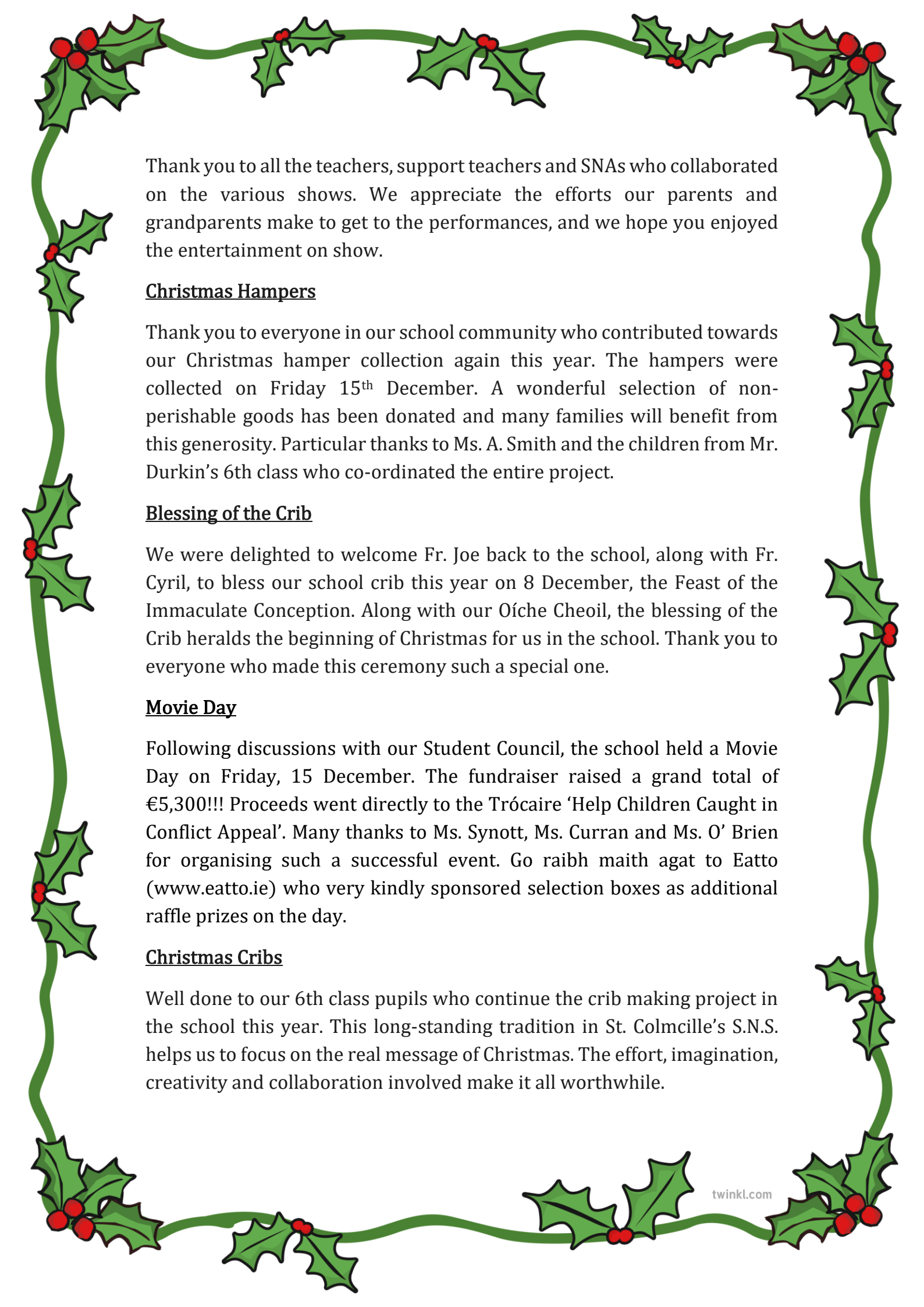
Ms. Nixon 3<sup>rd</sup> Class – Caught by Christmas.

Ms. Luke 5<sup>th</sup> Class – Tinsel and Tea Towels.

Ms. Whelan 6<sup>th</sup> Class – Straw and Order.

Ms. Walsh 5<sup>th</sup> Class – The North Pole Goes Rock n' Roll.

Mr. Dundon 5<sup>th</sup> Class – Hoodwinked.



Thank you to all the teachers, support teachers and SNAs who collaborated on the various shows. We appreciate the efforts our parents and grandparents make to get to the performances, and we hope you enjoyed the entertainment on show.

### **Christmas Hampers**

Thank you to everyone in our school community who contributed towards our Christmas hamper collection again this year. The hampers were collected on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December. A wonderful selection of non-perishable goods has been donated and many families will benefit from this generosity. Particular thanks to Ms. A. Smith and the children from Mr. Durkin's 6th class who co-ordinated the entire project.

### **Blessing of the Crib**

We were delighted to welcome Fr. Joe back to the school, along with Fr. Cyril, to bless our school crib this year on 8 December, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Along with our Oíche Cheoil, the blessing of the Crib heralds the beginning of Christmas for us in the school. Thank you to everyone who made this ceremony such a special one.

### **Movie Day**

Following discussions with our Student Council, the school held a Movie Day on Friday, 15 December. The fundraiser raised a grand total of €5,300!!! Proceeds went directly to the Trócaire 'Help Children Caught in Conflict Appeal'. Many thanks to Ms. Synott, Ms. Curran and Ms. O' Brien for organising such a successful event. Go raibh maith agat to Eatto ([www.eatto.ie](http://www.eatto.ie)) who very kindly sponsored selection boxes as additional raffle prizes on the day.

### **Christmas Cribs**

Well done to our 6th class pupils who continue the crib making project in the school this year. This long-standing tradition in St. Colmcille's S.N.S. helps us to focus on the real message of Christmas. The effort, imagination, creativity and collaboration involved make it all worthwhile.

### Christmas Carol Service

On Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December, Ms. Kirwan's 3<sup>rd</sup> class performed a Nativity and all of our third classes sang Christmas carols in St. Colmcille's church. Special thank you to Ms. Kirwan, Lorraine and all of the staff involved with preparing for and participating in this great event.

### Frásaí /Thoughts

Some of our latest thoughts and fráasaí of 2023 are listed below:

#### Frásaí na Seachtaine

Slán go fóill! - goodbye.

Tóg go bog é! – Take it easy!

Ar fheabhas - excellent.

Bhí na páistí ar fheabhas ag an Oíche Cheoil – the children were excellent at the Oíche Cheoil

Bíonn tú ag obair go dian. Lean ar aghaidh! You are working very hard. Keep going!

Is aoibhinn liom ag ..... I love.....

Thug mé bronntanas do.....(mhamaí, dhaidí, mo chara etc) I gave a present to....mammy, daddy, my friend

#### Thoughts of the week

'Don't wait for opportunities to come, create them yourself'.

'Every day is a chance to start anew and create your own story'.

'Dream big and don't be afraid to take risks'.

'Kindness is a language that everyone can understand, even without words'.



'Love what you do, and you'll do great work'

'Our reactions to life's events shape most of our experiences'.

'Believe in your dreams, for they can create a beautiful future'.

### **Homework Club**

The new term will begin on Monday, 8 January 2024. For all information contact [akeys@stcolmcilles.org](mailto:akeys@stcolmcilles.org)

### **Ukulele Lessons**

Ukulele classes will be starting in St. Colmcille's SNS on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Anyone interested in enrolling their child in ukelele classes, please contact Anna: [altoschoolofmusic@gmail.com](mailto:altoschoolofmusic@gmail.com)

### **Podcast:**

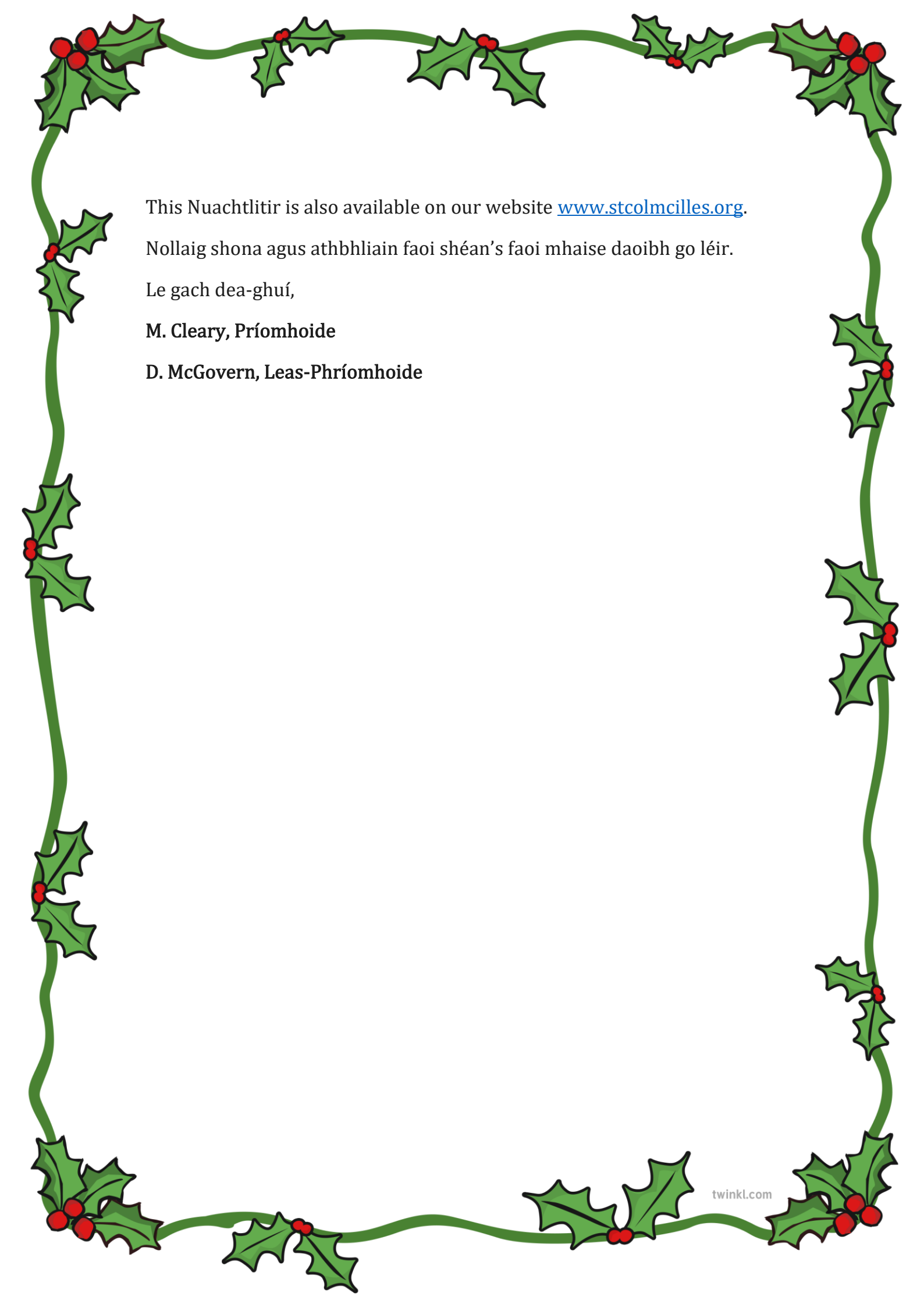
Well done to the boys and girls of Mr. Dolan's 6<sup>th</sup> class, assisted by Mr. Dolan, Ms. Glennon, Ms. J. O'Sullivan, Ms. Madden and Alwyn who produced an excellent podcast earlier this year. This podcast includes an interview with new Principal, Ms. Cleary.

The following link should bring you to their final edited version.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1N4fB9q\\_WZUuKixkjFzd8A0BpEnEfUcY3/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1N4fB9q_WZUuKixkjFzd8A0BpEnEfUcY3/view?usp=sharing)

**Finally**, I would like to thank all the pupils, staff and parents of our school community who have made our first term in St. Colmcille's S.N.S. another positive and enjoyable experience.

On behalf of all the staff, we would like to wish everyone a peaceful and happy Christmas and we look forward to continuing our journey of discovery and learning together in the New Year.



This Nuachtlitir is also available on our website [www.stcolmcilles.org](http://www.stcolmcilles.org).

Nollaig shona agus athbhliain faoi shéan's faoi mhaise daoibh go léir.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

**M. Cleary, Príomhoide**

**D. McGovern, Leas-Phríomhoide**

