



Scoil Assaim Parents Association

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2020

PARENTS ASSOCIATION



The Parents Association in Scoil Assaim hold several fundraising events throughout the year to help cover our costs in staging other events in and around the school, ie: sports day goodie bags for the boys, mementos for end of year 6th class, communion and confirmation day flowers, funding for workshops and other occasional visiting events.

Committee 2020/21

Chairperson:	Ita Keenan
Secretary:	Camilla O'Connor
Treasurer:	Paraic Burke
Committee:	
Mayte Alvarez	Anne Marie Fidgeon
Sarah Ball	Mairead Monaghan
Delma Byrne	Siobhán Nugent
Eileen Doherty	Clodagh O'Moore
Leonora Doyle	Angela O'Reilly
Deborah Mitchell	Regina O'Rourke
Sandra Hipson	Olwen Richmond
Sonya Johnson	Geraldine Troy
Maria Magdalena	
Anette Whelan	



A very Happy Christmas to one and all from the Scoil Assaim PA!



Welcome to our Newsletter, an important means of communication to keep parents up to date on what the PA is up to and also on important events and upcoming dates happening at Scoil Assaim.

Dear Parents,

As we come to the end of the first term, I would like to acknowledge the huge support we have had from you since we re-opened in September. I know that we all felt a little daunted as we planned the re-opening; it was difficult to know how it would go. As I look back now, **I feel proud of how Scoil Assaim as a school community has done; everyone has played a part in ensuring that school goes ahead each day in as normal a way as possible.** Staff will tell you how much it has meant to feel that support and positivity every day.

I would also like to thank **our staff: teachers, SNAs, our secretary and our caretaker**, who have all been part of keeping the show on the road and making sure that the boys are safe in school each day.

For me, of course, the real stars are the boys! They have been absolutely fantastic as they head in each morning, smiling and ready for the day ahead. Seeing them in the yard, the field and coming and going during the day, reminds us all that we are getting through these strange times and that it is worth the effort.

The Parents' Association, as always, has been ready to help when needed; Ita and the committee are a great group to offer support and we are very grateful for all that they do for the school.

As we face into Christmas, we know that it will be different this year; we will miss family members who cannot travel home for the usual festive fun. Many families have also lost loved ones during the year so this Christmas will be particularly poignant. **Christmas is such a special time; I wish you all a relaxed, happy and peaceful one.**

Best wishes,
Bernadette O'Donovan



SCOIL ASSAIM CLASS PHOTOS

Scoil Assaim Class Photo – The Class photographs with 2021 calendar has been published. There are still a few available for sale from Sam for €5 each. Many thanks to all who purchased.

The PA would like to extend our sincere thanks to Marius Herbert for his ongoing support and assistance throughout each school year. A former Scoil Assaim parent and PA Chairperson, Marius works with us each year on the school calendars, our newsletters and the sixth class memento boxes and we truly benefit from his expertise. We owe him a great debt of gratitude. www.mariusherbert.com

FUNDRAISING

Watch this space! With all the restrictions, fundraising has taken a huge hit for Scoil Assaim as well as the wider community. However, this is forcing us to be all more innovative in our approach to how we fundraise.

The PA are working on a few ideas and hope to get something organised early in 2021.

Should you have any ideas or suggestions and/or would like to help out with ideas and suggestions, please contact Ita Keenan or any member of the PA who would be only delighted to have you on board.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

The Parents' Associations of the three schools on All Saints Drive would again like to remind all parents/guardians of our **voluntary one way traffic flow system around the immediate area. Please do not park at or near the school crossing as well as the yellow zig-zag lines directly in front of school gates.**

This year we remind you to be **mindful of the needs of pedestrians at the "new" entrance and exit gate on Watermill Drive** by leaving space around the gate and asking your son to walk a small distance to your car.

Thank you.





Thank You!

A WORD OF THANKS TO SCOIL ASSAIM STAFF

On behalf of the school community, the Parents' Association would like to extend a huge thanks to Ms O'Donovan, all of the teaching staff and all of the support staff for their tireless efforts in keeping Scoil Assaim safe for our children. More than that however, they have worked so hard to bring a sense of normalcy to the boys' day which has been so important during these trying times. They have found alternative ways

of doing things, and the boys have undoubtedly benefited from having to "think outside the box" sometimes. We have been inspired by the creativity and innovative approaches that have been used in the classrooms this term. We would like to wish all of the boys, parents, teachers and support staff a very merry Christmas and look forward to brighter times in 2021.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SCOIL ASSAIM

HALLOWEEN ART COMPETITION

In an effort to continue to convey the message to young people to avoid danger and keep safe at Halloween, Dublin City Council organised a Halloween Poster Competition for the primary schools in the Clontarf/Donaghmede Local Electoral Area. Students then had to design an A4 poster with the theme "Keep Safe at Halloween" and there were two age categories: 4-8 years and 9-13 years.

The winners in each category for their poster designs are **Paddy Crowley 2nd Class** and **Sam Corvin 6th Class**.

Congratulations to both the boys on winning. Both boys received a €50 'One 4 All' voucher.



WEEK 8
THE EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS

- SMARTER PEOPLE AND SPORTS STARS
- PE HAS BENEFITS IN THE CLASSROOM
- YOUR COMMUNITY AND SCHOOLS
- STAYING ACTIVE FOR LIFE

MARATHONKIDS

The 5th and 6th class boys have been running 'MarathonKids' which sees the boys partake in four running sessions a week for eight weeks, thereby completing their first ever marathon. The programme is targeted at 5th and 6th class pupils across Dublin.

They will learn the benefit of sport and physical activity. They were due to finish the last mile at **The National Sports Campus** but Covid dictated otherwise. They are still very proud of their achievements as are their teachers.



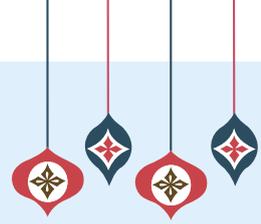
A FAREWELL TO MS. CARTWRIGHT

Caitríona Cartwright retired on October 2nd of this year, having dedicated 18 1/2 years to Scoil Assaim. Her devotion and passion to ensuring the boys got the best possible education was clearly her main focus, which was further evident in the fact that Caitríona completed two masters

during her time in Scoil Assaim. Caitríona's expertise, kindness and dedication will be sorely missed.

We wish Caitríona good health, happiness and success as she moves forward to the next chapter in her life.





In November, the 5th class attended a virtual Fighting Words workshop – a creative writing workshop directed by famous Irish author Roddy Doyle where the boys were encouraged to use their imaginations and creative writing skills to create a story. Although the boys were disappointed that they couldn't attend the workshop in person, the volunteers



associated with Fighting Words facilitated the workshop via Zoom. Working together initially, the boys this year created their story called "The Switch of Man Man and Girl Girl". To find out more about Man Man and Girl Girl and the evil Dr. Pepper go to www.fightingwords.ie/stories/switch-man-man-and-girl-girl



CHRISTMAS CARD PROJECT

The Christmas Card Project was a great success again this year. All classes have taken part and the boys have designed their own cards which have been printed and have been distributed to all who ordered them. **More than ever, family and friends will welcome a Scoil Assaim Christmas Card. All the profits made will as always be given to the school.** Thank you to all who assisted in the organisation and all who supported this initiative. It is very much appreciated.



CHRISTMAS IN SCOIL ASSAIM



Ms O'Donovan has suggested a **Christmas Choral event for the 17th of December** and the boys have started learning their two songs. You may have heard them by the time you read this and we are sure they will have hit the right note with their musical efforts.



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Every Christmas, **sixth class boys** raise funds for two chosen charities. Despite restrictions, the boys and teachers have risen to the challenge and have been very innovative in coming up with covid-compliant ways to raise money this year for their two chosen charities - **Temple Street Children's Hospital** and the **Irish Cancer Society**. Please see their excellent video on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KULs-aBJbtA&feature=youtu.be> for full details. Well done boys and teachers in coming up with great ideas to fundraise. Thank you to all who parents who contributed to the raffle table and to all who bought tickets. As ever, your contributions and support are very much

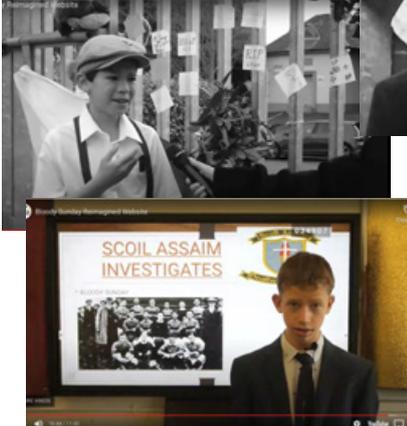


There has been great excitement over the past few weeks when the elves arrived into 2nd class unexpectedly at lunch time one day. They have been up to tricks and are very mischievous.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SCOIL ASSAIM

HISTORY IN SCOIL ASSAIM

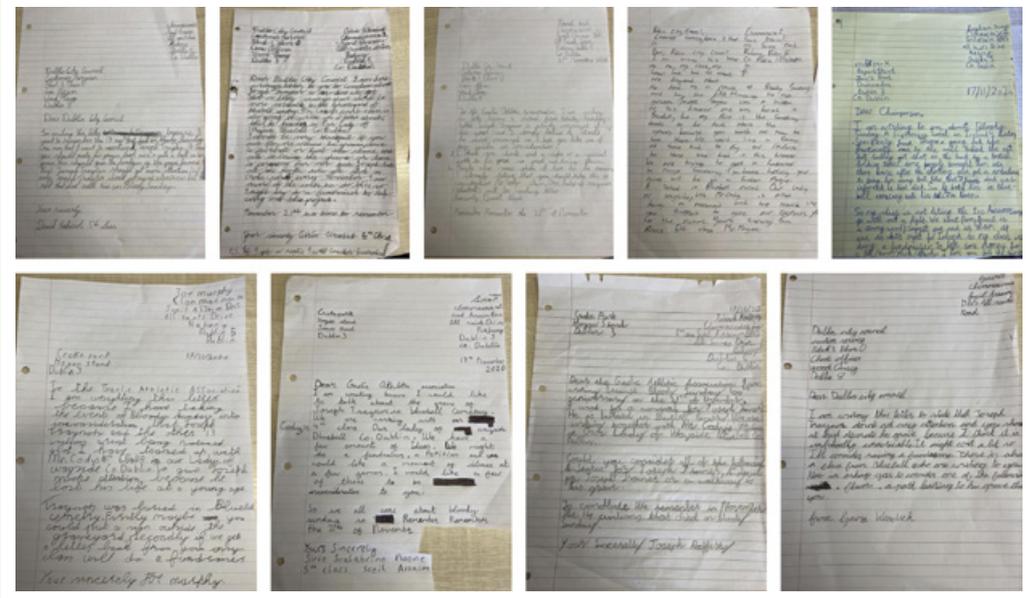
History-wise, it's been a busy term with the boys doing projects about 1916 and also Bloody Sunday. The 6th class boys are entering their Bloody Sunday Movie project for a competition hosted by the G.A.A. A note from Mr. Wycherley - "We hope to convey an understanding of the horror of Bloody Sunday, but also hope to give it a modern twist. The entry deadline is the 15th of December so its all hands-on set at the moment." Best of luck to all involved. If you haven't seen the movie check it out on the school website.



In alignment with the Bloody Sunday Commemoration on 21st November, the 5th class boys have been learning about the devastating events that occurred on the streets of Dublin City and in Croke Park on this day in 1920.

However, the boy's learning has gone beyond just learning about these events. The boys in Clonmacnoise 1 & 2 decided to take action when they discovered that Bloody Sunday victim, Joseph's Traynor's grave is difficult to locate in Bluebell Cemetery, Inchicore. Mr. Cody, a fourth-class teacher in 'Our Lady of Wayside', Bluebell contacted the school to

help his class resolve this issue. In response to this, the boys have written well-crafted letters to the G.A.A and Dublin City Council in the hope of action being taken. These letters, and a shared letter the boys created, can be viewed on our school website. Since then, we have received a response from the G.A.A informing us that a street located beside Croke Park will be renamed "Joseph Traynor Way" in Traynor's honour. The boys also contributed some funds so that we could send flowers to Traynor's grave. A photo of this can also be found on our website. Well done boys!



SCIENCE WEEK

IN SCOIL ASSAIM



National Science week was a great success in Scoil Assaim. Unfortunately, this year the school were not able to invite any scientists into the school building in person. However, there was a lot of virtual activity taking place, along with scientific experiments and projects.

Here is a brief update on experiments from 2nd, 3rd and 4th class. The sixth-class boys created instructional videos on various science experiments for some of the younger classes. Check out the school website for some super experiments carried out at home.

2ND CLASS

The boys learned how different substances react when mixed together by making bubbling potions, they investigated the force of different magnets and they tested different materials to see how well they could reflect light. Each group then designed and created a bag with a reflective strip to help people keep safe on dark evenings. Well done boys!



3RD CLASS

We certainly have lots of scientists in the making in 3rd Class! Well done to all the boys for getting stuck in to Science Week. We had lots of fun, from oohing and aaahing at optical illusions, to creating their own optical illusion art to experimenting with jelly babies and water! The real highlight for the boys was learning all about electricity, where they got to investigate how to make electrical circuits to power light bulbs, buzzers and motors with batteries! Lots of bright sparks in 3rd Class!

4TH CLASS

The boys in 4th class have recently enjoyed a very busy and fun filled science week. We did an experiment everyday - marble rollercoasters, foam rockets, parachute designs and much more.



WHAT'S
HAPPENING IN
SCOIL ASSAIM

HALLOWEEN IN SCOIL ASSAIM

Leading up to Halloween, the boys were busy carving out pumpkins and created some incredible designs. These designs are available to view on our school website. Despite the absence of the usual Halloween celebrations within communities, the fancy dress on the last day of

term generated great excitement and atmosphere. As always, the boys surpassed themselves with creativity and design in costume making. See the school website for loads more photos



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SCOIL ASSAIM

WORLD KINDNESS DAY

The boys in Ard 1 have been spreading so much kindness around the school and local community this last while. The boys wrote letters and drew pictures for residents of Raheny Community Nursing Home and posted them

on World Kindness Day. The boys also spread lots of positivity around the school on World Kindness Day by designing positive messages in chalk on the pathways and creating a banner for the school gate.



SCHOOL PICS

2ND CLASS



MS. GRIFFIN



MS. FOX



MS. FINNEGAN



SCHOOL PICS

3RD CLASS



MS. McQUILLAN



MR. LAMBERT



SCHOOL PICS

4TH CLASS



MS. KELLY



MS. COLLINS



SCHOOL PICS

5TH CLASS

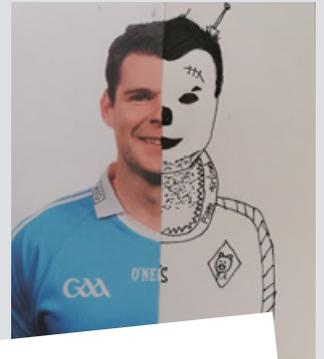


MR. HAYES



MR. GOLDRICK

The school was chosen as one of the schools to take part in Supervalu "Support from the Stands" initiative. This is being run in partnership with the GAA. 30 schools from around the country have been chosen. The idea is that school children are being asked to create self-portraits of their county colours: these will be displayed in the stands in Croke Park on All Ireland Football Final Day.



Mr. Hayes' 5th Class,
 Clonmacnoise 2,
 Scoll Assam,
 Raheny,
 Dublin 5.
 17th November 2020.

The Gaelic Athletic Association (G.A.A.),
 Hogan Stand,
 Jones Road,
 Dublin 3.

To the Gaelic Athletic Association,

We are writing this letter because we are currently learning about the tragedy of Bloody Sunday that occurred in Croke Park on 21st November 1920. We are working alongside another class, Mr. Cody's 4th Class in Our Lady of Wayside, Bluebell, Co. Dublin. We wish to raise awareness about a particular victim of Bloody Sunday, Joseph Traynor who tragically passed away in Croke Park on this day, he was just twenty years old. He is buried in Bluebell Cemetery, Inchicore.

Mr. Cody and his class have contacted us in an effort to commemorate the life of Joseph Traynor. As you already know, Joseph Traynor was a labourer who frantically fled the scene but was sadly shot twice in the back. He tragically died later that day.

Although we recognise that Joseph is buried in a marked grave, Mr. Cody has informed us that the grave isn't well marked. When Mr. Cody visited the cemetery, he found Traynor's grave quite difficult to find. We believe, as a class, that Joseph Traynor's grave deserves more attention and respect. As a result, we would strongly appreciate if you would consider one or some of the following actions.

SCHOOL PICS

6TH CLASS



MS. CLOHERTY



MR. MAHER



Merry CHRISTMAS

*to all pupils, staff and parents
from
Scoil Assaim Parents Association*

