

# ST. PIUS X BOYS' NATIONAL SCHOOL

## DECEMBER 2014 NEWSLETTER



### NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It's hard to believe that another year has slipped by . . . the 49<sup>th</sup> in Pius history. 2015 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the schools and we hope you will join with us in our celebrations next year.

We had a wonderful pre-Christmas season with 12 Christmas performances, each one better than the next. Our general purpose room came into its own, looking and feeling like a small theatre. Many thanks to all of our teachers, Aoife Stewart, Louise Smith, Ciara Mooney & Niamh Redmond on the piano, Vincent Ryan, Brian Dillon, Lorcan Coyle and Michael Smyth for stage, sound and lights, new kid on the block, John Murtagh for fronting our carol services and Sinéad Lally for her photographic expertise.

We are so lucky to have such a wonderful choir under the guidance of Aoife, Louise and Ciara. They have a busy year ahead of them and we wish them well.

I wish to make special mention of our super school secretary, Ms. Karen Reddy, whose patience and good humour know no bounds. She's just like Mrs. Claus (without whom good old Santa would be completely lost - - - you don't think he delivers all those toys without the helpful direction of Mrs. C, do you?) Karen takes everything in her stride and accomplishes a myriad of tasks every day with unflappability and panache.

Our children are so fortunate to have a Parents' Association as active and as well organised as ours. Many thanks to Ms. Shannon Ward and her team of elves for their unstinting work in providing activities and classes for our students together with information and

demonstrations for parents. The Christmas calendars have been a terrific success with huge interest and uptake from students. I look forward to celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with this wonderful cohort of Mums and Dads.

Before I sign off, let us pause in life's pleasures for a moment. Let us not lose sight of the meaning of Christmas. Let us remember those who are grieving, those who are unwell and those in financial difficulty. Your St. Vincent de Paul contributions have been gratefully received and we shall have some collection buckets at Friday's Christmas farewell. Christmas is about spirit, the same spirit and generosity which have grown in the Pius community over the last 49 years and of which we are so proud . . . a spirit of friendship, of welcome, of inclusiveness. As we ring the bells to welcome 2015, let us look towards the next 50 years with confidence and with pride. Our past pupils live in every corner of the world and I know that each and

every one of them has been touched by the St. Pius spirit and that it lives within them yet and makes them finer men. May that same spirit live on through

the next five decades and beyond. I would like to thank the members of the Board of Management for their unwavering commitment and the time they so selflessly devote to the running of the school.

Have a wonderful and safe Christmas and we shall see you all, le toil Dé, in the New Year.

Beannachtaí na Nollag Daoibh go Léir.  
**Dermot Lynch** [www.piusxbns.ie](http://www.piusxbns.ie)

*"At Christmas, all roads lead home"*  
MARJORIE HOLMES

## SCIENCE

Pius X BNS have had a very busy term with science. There were lots of interesting experiments and investigations taking place around the school for Science Week. Mr. Smyth's fourth class boys recently took part in the Intel Mini Scientist Competition. There was an array of interesting and amazing projects from Nano Science and Snails to Renewable Energy and the Human Body. The judges were extremely impressed by the level of knowledge the boys had about their projects and found it very difficult to choose a winner. The project entitled "Snails" by Kian Reddy, Erwan Kinsella, Lucas Weber & Darragh Sutcliffe was the winner and these boys represented St. Pius X BNS in the regional final on the 12<sup>th</sup> December.



## TRI-GOLF

In January, we hope to launch a 'mini' version of golf for our pupils. It is designed for all pupils from Junior infants to sixth classes who will participate in fun activity based golf sessions. In addition, the resources and ideas for games and activities are linked with the PE curriculum. Tri-Golf will encourage boys who might not otherwise enjoy participating in sport. Tri-Golf will also help to encourage responsible social behaviour because of golf's emphasis on good sportsmanship.

We are at present processing the order for equipment which we hope will arrive in January. We are really excited about this new departure and we hope the boys will have many fun-filled learning experiences from Tri-Golf activities.

## TENNIS

St. Pius will enter a tennis team in the Primary Schools League this coming Spring, with the help of David Gough. David will visit the senior classes in the New Year (when they get back into the 'swing' of things) hoping the school can 'serve' up some star players and improve on their semi-final appearance last year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Templeogue Tennis Club for its support of the school teams over the past year.



Nilim ach tar éis bogadh go Bleá Cliath ó thús na téarma seo agus ag an am, rith sé liom go mbeinn mar shaghas imirceach ar shlí ag teacht ón 'People's Republic'!(An Phoblacht Daonlathach). In ainneoin na gnáth pointí díspóireachta idir na Corcaíoch agus muintir Bleá Cliath (Sexton v Rodge, Roy Keane v Robbie Keane, Brendan O Connor v Tubridy...leanann an liosta ar aghaidh!), athrú mór ab ea é dul ó scoil beag faoin tuath go scoil lán-buachaillí sa chathair. Ach d'imigh aon imní a bhí orm ón gcéad lá a bhuaíl mé le foireann na scoile, daltaí agus tuismitheoirí i St Pius. Bhraith mé aitmeasféar iontach an nóiméad a sheas mé laistigh den doras agus chuir gach duine fáilte is fiche romham. Bhí mé an-thógtha freisin leis na háiseanna, ó mo sheomra bréa fairsing go dtí an dromchla deas atá mórthimpeall na scoile. Buaic phointe dom sa chéad téarma ná dramaí na Nollag. Chuir na ranganna taispeantaisí den scoth ar súil do thuismitheoirí agus táim cinnte go bhfuil an chéad ~~Colin Farrell~~ Cillian Murphy eile ina measc! Táim ag súil go mór leis an Athbhliain atá romhainn. Nollaig Shona. SNL



### SCHOOL CLOSED FRIDAY, 19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 12 NOON

Reopen Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2015 @ 8.45a.m.

School Closed Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> and Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2015: Mid Term Break

School Closed Monday 16<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

School Closed Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March @ 12 Noon: Reopen Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April, 2015.

School Closed Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

School Closed Monday 1<sup>st</sup>, Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2015.

**CLOSED FOR SUMMER HOLIDAYS TUESDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE @ 12 NOON!!!!!!!**

