



# Abbeyleix South National School

*Scoil Náisiúnta Mainistir Laoise Theas*

## December 2023 Newsletter

### *Principal's Message*

Thank you all, for your continued support of everything we do as a school community.

Thank you to the staff for the immeasurable commitment they make to ensure that the Abbeyleix South National School is a happy and vibrant place of learning.

I wish all our pupils, staff, family members, Parents' Association and our Board of Management a very happy and healthy Christmas.

I hope that Christmas is filled with excitement, fun and laughter.

We look forward to everything that 2024 holds for us.  
Ms. Jackson

### Welcome Back!

### Work Experience

Thank you to Ashling Kirwan, Lily Delaney Costelloe and Grace Kerfoot for their assistance in our classrooms. It is always a joy to see past pupils coming in and sharing their memories and experiences of school life.



This week Mary White and John Joe Fennelly visited the school and they brought the Tidy Towns trophies with them.

They spoke with our Green Schools Committee and joined us for an assembly with the whole school.

We were all delighted to have the opportunity to ask them lots of questions about their work in Abbeyleix.



## Our Nativity Play - Silent Night

On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December the school held its annual nativity performance in St. Michael's and All Angels' Church. Pupils from Scoil Mhuire came to see our play during the week too. Well done to all our pupils for super performances.



## More Festive Fun..

We had a Pyjama Day in aid of Pieta House, breakfast with Santa, a super Craft Day with cookie decorating, a Christmas Jumper Day and a Santa Hat Day.





### Nativity Videographer

A special thank you to Richard Reid for recording this year's Nativity Play.



### Buddy Reading

Our pupils from the senior room have spent some time in the junior room this month. We have implemented the Buddy Reading system.

Younger students grow as readers when they hear more experienced readers model fluent reading.



### Out and About in Abbeyleix this Christmas

Pupils from 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class ventured to Abbeyleix Hospital Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

They sang carols and chatted away to everyone. It was an enjoyable experience for all.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- School will reopen on the 8th of January 2024
- GAA Training will begin on the 30<sup>th</sup> January for all classes
- French begins on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> for 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> classes

### Hot Lunches

Our school will be receiving hot lunches by the Department of Education from April 2024. We are on the pilot scheme. We are looking forward to this new initiative. We will share more details about this in the new year.

## PHOTO OF THE MONTH

**We said goodbye to Avril as a staff at a wonderful afternoon tea in the Manor Hotel.**

**It was a lovely occasion reminiscing on her time at the South School.**

**The Parents' Association presented Avril with a gift at our last assembly on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December.**

**She was also presented with flowers on behalf of the Board of Management and was thanked for her service to the school and the pupils from Fifth and Sixth Classes presented Avril with a gift too.**

