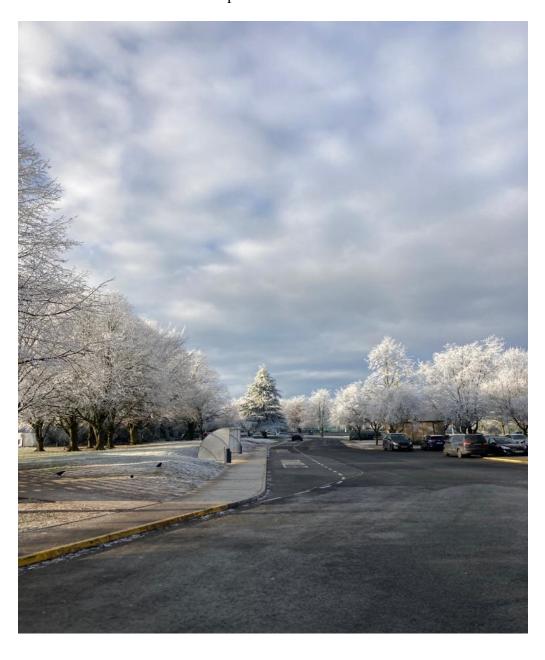


21/12/2022

Dear Parents/ Guardians

We have reached our Christmas Break after a hectic but rewarding first term in Crescent. The Christmas break can signal different emotions for us all but it hopefully offers us all a chance to take a collective breath and reflect on the past year. All your sons and daughters have achieved so much in the past year and I look forward to continued growth in 2023.

"What is Christmas? It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future.





Some Updates:

Santa Hat Day

Our Santa Hat Day and Christmas Jumper Day took place a couple of weeks ago. It was a great day with well over €1,000 raised for Pieta House. Well done to all who supported the cause and to our sixth years who led the way.





Sixth Year Sleep Out

Over 85 of our sixth year students took part in our Christmas sleep out which made a welcome return on last Monday night. An initial target of €1,000 was set for our chosen charity Novas. A fantastic response from our students and the wider Crescent community means that as of today our fund is at €4,200. Thanks to Gráinne, Brendan, Brian and Chris for their leadership in getting this valuable experience for students and the chosen charity in place for 2022.







Rock of Ages

Preparations continue for our school musical in January which is Rock of Ages. Tickets go on sale on Monday 12 December at 12.00pm. Tickets are €10 each. There are three shows, Thursday 19, Friday 20 & Saturday 21 January at 8pm in the Lime Tree Theatre. We look forward to welcoming back a live audience for the first time in three years.

School Building Project

There has been great progress during this term in terms of our school building project. The next step is our movement to temporary accommodation for some of our students. Students will get all of the necessary information regarding their new classroom environment at the various year assemblies when we return on Thursday 5th January for our Lectio Brevis at 9.30am. Second Year students should meet in the school sportshall at 9.30am for their instructions. I would like to thank all parents for your adherence to the collection arrangements that have been in place since our return to school. It will be exciting to see as each part of our school building is refurbished and we will hopefully have a state of the art environment for all our students during 2023.

Christmas Carol Concert

We were treated to a night of musical excellence in St. Nessans Church for our annual Christmas Carol Service on Wednesday 7th December. The level of talent and confidence between our choir, orchestra and traditional Irish group made for a really uplifting evening. Well Done to Róisín Lavery for putting together a great night of music.





Care of the Common Home

Our Green Schools Committee have been working on a range of projects such as the planting of 150 new saplings on the school grounds and also examining how students can walk or cycle to school safely from local areas. In addition to this I am delighted that our application to become part of the Safe Routes to School Programme. This programme examines how changes to the access routes to schools can be changed to allow for students to walk or cycle to school. The next stage will be a parents' survey to be completed in the next term.





Extra-Curricular Activities

It has been an exciting term of activity for all of our teams. Games have been won some have been lost but loads of lifelong learning has taken place. We look forward to knock out games in the new year in a number of codes. Thanks to Fiachra O'Dwyer for co-ordinating all of the sporting activities along with 47 volunteers (teachers, parents, coaches) who have given their time for the health and wellbeing of all our students that are involved.







Junior Cycle Teaching & Learning Day

This in-service day for all staff members takes place on Monday 16th January. **There will be no school for students on this day.**

Supervised Study

Supervised Study will resume on Tuesday $3^{\rm rd}$ and Wednesday $4^{\rm th}$ January from 10am to 5pm during the Christmas Break.



Important Dates for the School Diary in January/ February

Thursday 5 th January	Return to school –Lectio Brevis 9.30am – 12.00pm
Monday 16 th January	Junior Cycle In-service Day – No school for students
Thursday 19 th January	Fifth Year Parent Teacher Meeting – 4.15pm - 6.45pm
Thursday 26 th January	Second Year Parent Teacher Meeting – 4.15pm - 6.45pm
Monday 30 th January	Sixth Year Pre Exams Begin
Wednesday 1st February	Third Year Pre Exams Begin
Thursday 2 nd February	First Year Parent Teacher Meeting – 4.15pm – 6.45 pm
Monday 6 th February	St. Brigids Day – Public Holiday

I would like to thank all of our staff, students and parents for your support during this first term. Please enjoy the next couple of weeks and I look forward to a very positive second term in Crescent for all our students.

Season Greetings Diarmuid