

## I love Winter

Winter is a lovely time

I love it most for when it's dark and when  
the moon light is free to shine

Winter is very mild

It is a time for any child.

In mid winter Santa comes,

I won't have to fiddle with my thumbs,

Because Santa will bring me all the toys I  
need and then we can say Hip, Hip, Hur-  
ray!

Cause my Mammy won't have to pay.

By Daniel O'Sullivan - 3rd Class

## Poetry Corner



## Winter is Coming

On a chilly cold wintery night a boy was  
walking home no hat, no scarf,  
Freezing dark and a bitterly cold wind  
blows

I feel sorry for him on this frosty, windy,  
snowy night

The days are short, the nights are long

Trees are bare, all the leaves are gone

The birds are quiet and mostly gone to  
the lands of warmth.

As I stand at the window I see the boy all  
shivery and cold

The door of my house I open to invite  
him in out of the Cold.

By Fionn Holland - 4th Class

## Season's Greetings

We are looking forward to Christ-  
mas which is fast approaching.

As usual we will be busy here in  
Tobar an Léinn preparing for our  
Christmas events. Rumour also  
has it that Santa Claus may call to  
the school before Christmas to  
check if we are being naughty or  
nice. Fingers crossed we will all  
make his good list this year.

## Our New Pen Pals

During the past month third and  
fourth class have been writing  
to our new pen pals in Upper  
Aghada, Co. Cork. They are  
fourth and fifth class in a mixed  
school called Scoil Íosagáin. We  
are really looking forward to  
writing to them again.

By Fourth Class



## Christmas Crackers!

Q. What do you get when you cross a snowman  
with a shark?

A. Frost bite!

Q. What do you call an Eskimo cow?

A. An Eskimoo.

Q. What do you get when you eat  
the Christmas decorations?

A. Tinsel-itus.

Q. What do lions sing at Christ-  
mas

A. Jungle Bells.

Q. Where does Santa put his suit after Christ-  
mas?

A. In the clauset.

Q. Why was the squirrel mad at Santa?

A. Because he got NUT-in for Christmas.

Q. How does an Eskimo put his Christmas deco-  
rations on?

A. Igloos them on .

Q. Why couldn't the cat work her new D.V.D. play-  
er?

A. Because she kept hitting paws.



## Nativity Word Scramble

1. STRA \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
2. MAGREN \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
3. MYAR \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
4. SEPHE \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
5. DOEYKN \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
6. AEGLN \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
7. JPHOES \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
8. JSSEU \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
9. KIGSN \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
10. STBALE \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

All these words come from  
the Christmas story. Can  
you unscramble them?



First 3 correct entries out  
of a hat will win a prize.  
Write your answer and  
name on a piece of paper  
and hand it to teacher  
before Dec 20th.

Tobar  
An  
Léinn

NASC

"Tús Maith"

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## TOBAR AN LÉINN

### DO DOUBLE IN DRAMATIC FINISH.

### TOBAR AN LÉINN 5-6 BALLYADAMS 4-8

On the day of the match we arrived early at O'Moore Park. We met with our  
trainer Miss Kirwan and her assistant John Sinnott, we had a brief discus-  
sion on positions and tactics while togging out. We entered the pitch know-  
ing that this was going to be a tough match as Ballyadams had beaten us  
last time we met.

From the throw-in we settled quickly and raced into a lead with scores from  
Darren Brennan, Nathan Dunne and Eoin Donoghue. Our midfielders James  
Keyes and John Mulhall worked tirelessly to ensure that the forwards got  
plenty of good possession. Meanwhile the back line of Martin Ward, Eoghan  
Brennan and I (Daniel) worked very hard to limit the Ballyadams forwards  
to three points in the first half.

An inspiring Enda Mulhall made a number of world class saves to help us  
maintain a healthy lead of 3-4 to 0-3 at the break. This  
was a game of two halves as we soon found out. Having  
had time to recover, Ballyadams threw everything at us.  
An early goal got them underway and although we quick-  
ly replied with a goal from Darren Brennan and points by  
Nathan Dunne, Eoin Donoghue and James Keyes, Bally-  
adams just seemed to grow in confidence.

It was like they had an extra man and they started to  
control possession. They got three great goals in quick  
succession and we were just clinging on to a one point  
lead with only minutes to go. Ballyadams levelled the game and we were all  
feeling nervous. Conor Hennessy and William Ward were brought in to the  
game to give us a boost. Our hearts were broken when Ballyadams scored  
two amazing points in the last minute. We all thought it was over except for  
one player, our captain Eoin Donoghue, who in the dying seconds got the  
ball in the corner, beat two of their players and scored an absolute scream-  
er of a goal.

In a split second we went from the fires of hell to the golden gates of heav-  
en. It wasn't just the nine players on the field who won it, it was the whole  
squad. What a way to do the double!

"TOBAR AN LÉINN ABÚ, ABÚ". Daniel Butler 6th Class

## First Communion News

November was the month to remember people who died. We placed leaves  
in the church to remember people who died. Our next mass is on the 4th  
Sunday of Advent, 18th December. We are working on our Advent calendar  
in our "Thumbs" book preparing for Jesus's Birthday.

By Jennifer Holland - 2nd Class

## Inside this Issue

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rate
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## NOLLAIG MHAITH



Nollaig faoi  
mhaise agus faoi shí-  
ocháin d'ár dtúismith-  
eóirí go léir, ó gach  
duine anseo i dTobar  
an Léinn.

## Congratulations

Congratulations  
to Ms Moore on  
the birth of her  
baby boy Dáire  
last September.

## Eucharistic Congress Bell

On Tuesday 4th of October 2011, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class represented Tobar An Léinn in the arrival of the Eucharistic Congress Bell. The parishes Mountrath, Ballyfin, Raheen and Castletown gathered in Mountrath for the celebration of the Bell. It took place in St Fintan's church. We marched from the G.A.A grounds to the church. When we arrived at the church, pupils from Mountrath Secondary School took the Bell to the Altar. The choir sang Christ Be Our light and Maria. The Eucharistic Congress will be held in Dublin next year in 2012 from June 10-17<sup>th</sup>, but it will first go around Ireland to gather in every Parish, they are hoping to have 25,000 attending the festivities next year from all around the world. The Bell was chosen because of its historical significance in Ireland. In the very early days of Christianity, the Bell was seen as one of the principal symbols of the new Christian Religion which had arrived in this country. We all enjoyed our visit to Mountrath on the day.



## Green Schools Green Code

Use less water

In your home

Save

Conserve

Every drop



*Caoimhe Earls—6th Class*

## The Stranded Pirate

Once upon a time there was a pirate called Petey Bluebeard. Petey lived on Coconut Island. One day while Petey was on his ship a

terrible storm arose. The ship's sails were ripped up like paper, many of his crew members fell overboard and one was even struck by lightning! Petey was suddenly hit by a wooden barrel and was knocked out.



When he woke he was lying on a sandy beach. He stood up and looked around, taking in his surroundings. He seemed to be stranded. He turned around hoping to see a ship but the only ship he saw was his own wrecked ship. Petey sighed, "Looks like I'll be here quite a while," so he set off to explore the island.

Soon he came to some trees with coconuts hanging from them. He was going to get hungry so he took some. He picked up branches to make torches and weapons. It soon became dark so he quickly looked for shelter. A few minutes later Petey came across a nice cave. He grabbed some leaves from trees to make a makeshift bed for the night. He grabbed some large rocks to block the entrance in case a lion or tiger came to the cave. He set up a small fire by getting sticks and putting them on top of each other and then surrounding them with stones and lit it by striking flint off iron and then went to sleep.

Petey was woken up by the noise of roaring outside the cave. He ran over to the rocks and took

some out to see what the commotion was about. When he looked out he saw a lion trying to attack a leopard but the leopard had climbed a tree. Petey threw some rocks at the lion and the lion turned around, saw Petey and charged at him but then the leopard jumped from the tree and landed on the lion's back, instantly killing it. The leopard walked away leaving Petey. Petey was getting thirsty so he walked around looking for a fresh spring of water and food. He came across a

river with wild pigs drinking from it. He got a spear and threw it across the river at the pig, killing it. He did the same for the other two. He got the coconut shells and filled them with water and brought them back to the cave and quickly ran back to collect the carcasses of the pigs. While the pigs dried out Petey improved the cave and made a proper bed. He cooked some pork from the pigs and then went to sleep. Petey was woken by the sound of a bell but he thought it was part of his dream when suddenly there it was again. Petey looked outside and into the sea and saw the Jolly Roger flag. It was a pirate's ship!!! Petey ran and got his stuff and ran to where his "In-case-of-an-emergency" boat was stowed and set off to the ship. When he reached the ship he climbed aboard and was even happier when he saw his brother Blackbeard!

Finally Petey had escaped the island!

*The End By David Mc Evoy 6th Class*

## Leinster schools swimming Championships

In mid-November Ellen and I were representing Tobar an Léinn in the Leinster Schools swimming championships in Tallaght. Ellen swam in two lengths butterfly and breaststroke and got gold in both making her eligible for the All Ireland in Galway on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of December 2011. I swam in the freestyle and butterfly and qualified in the butterfly for the All Ireland. Hopefully we will be coming back with a National All Ireland medal in our hands.

*By Conor Donoghue.—5th Class*



## Irish Dancing.

On Tuesday afternoons, a lot of children go to Irish dancing lessons in the Red Cross Centre. We learn jigs and reels. Sometimes we win prizes. We enjoy Irish dancing. It is fun and it is good exercise.

**By Senior Infants.**



## An Interview with All Star- Miss Kirwan

**What did it feel like to receive an All Star Award?**

-I was very happy, excited and honoured to receive it.

**How does it feel to have such a great talent?**

-I feel very fortunate to have such a talent as it has given me great opportunities.

**Were you confident that you would win the All-Star?**

-No I was not. There was a lot of competition.

**What team mate do you get on the best with?**

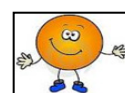
-Angela Casey and of course my sisters, Martha and Nóirín.

**If you were to sell the award how much would you sell it for?**

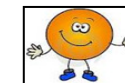
-It is not for sale, it's too important to me. It's priceless.



**By Third Class**



## Cumann na mBunscol, Girls Football, Almost but Not Quite.



We started our training for the Cumann na mBunscol in September. The 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class girls and Miss Kirwan gave up their lunch breaks to make sure we would succeed in our matches. Chloe Fox was our captain. Emma Grant was our goalie; she was new to this position but she tried her best every time. We first played Clonaghadoo and unfortunately we lost. We kept pushing on to get to the next match. It was a tough match against Arles Killeen to get to the quarter finals but in the end we were the champions and made it to the quarter final. We played Knock in the quarter finals and defeated them and it was onto the semis for us. We played Castle Cuffe in the semis but unfortunately we lost our confidence in the end. We lost but we said we will definitely conquer it next year.

*By, Mollie Brennan, Ciara Dunphy, Emma Hennessy, Emma Grant.—5th Class*

