



GOOD

NEWS REPORT

Term 1 – November & December 2024



T'is the Season.....

Hello everyone, and welcome to our Christmas edition of the GNR. With excitement building for a special visitor in a few days' time we hope you all will enjoy the festive season this year.

In this edition we have a little update on our Halloween events. Some wonderful news to share from our pupils as well as some local news. We also have some PA news for upcoming events in the new year.

As always, we also love to hear your news so if you have something that you would like to share, please contact us by email kimelda259@gmail.com

Happy Christmas

Kimelda & Alison

& The Parents' Association.

Notice Board



Christmas
Holidays 20th
Dec – 6th Jan

Happy Christmas
& Happy New
Year to All



We have a very vibrant PA here in Faithlegg N.S. and every parent is deemed a member.

The Committee has a WhatsApp group called Friends of PA Faithlegg - if you would like to be added to keep up to date on P.A. news, share your ideas and volunteer please contact 0874671047 & see how you can support the work carried out by the Committee.

Our School Contact Information



www.faihleggschool.com



secretary@faihleggschool.com



051 382415

PA News



Christmas Raffle
Draw takes place in school on Friday 20th December

RAFFLE CARDS WILL BE COMING HOME SOON!

RETURNED CARDS & PRIZE DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED INTO SCHOOL BY 19TH DECEMBER. THANK YOU!

UPCOMING P.A. EVENTS

P.S if everyone is very good we might even get an extra special visitor on the last day of school!



REDUCE. REUSE. RECYCLE.

FUND RAISER CLOTHING COLLECTION
COMING SOON
FEBRUARY 2025

ALL-TEX CLOTHING COLLECTION
PLEASE SAVE UP GOOD CONDITION UNWANTED CLOTHES, SHOES, BOOTS, CURTAINS, BEDDING ETC. WE GET CASH FOR CLOTHES TO HELP RAISE P.A. FUNDS

PA News



Halloween

As we finished up for midterm break, the last day of school saw a wonderful costume parade take place where the whole school got the opportunity to show off their wonderful and amazing Halloween costumes.



6th Class

A huge thank you to Faithlegg House Hotel who hosted our fantastic Halloween Disco again this year. Another great night was had by all.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with the preparations and on the night and for all the donations for our raffle.

Lastly, thank you to each of the pupils who attended and for having a great night.



PA News

Faithlegg N.S. 2025 calendars fundraiser

Thank you for your continued support of this fundraiser. It brings in a huge donation every year to P.A. funds.

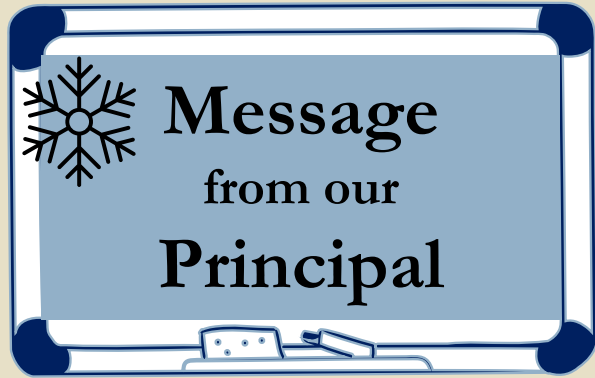
This year, after materials costs, €1,650 was raised. Amazing! This will really help in 2025.

After many years producing these calendars John Palmer is 'retiring'. We wish John and his family well as they have their last 6th Class student finishing up in June. **Thank you, John, for all your work with the P.A. over the years.**

So if you can help us next year, we'd love to hear from you! John has offered to 'train' on the software and printing! 😊

Finally, a special mention to Andrew McDermott, photographer, who kindly takes the individual and family photos for the calendars.





Message
from our
Principal



Nollaig Shona Daoibh go léir!!
Tá súil agam go bhfuil sceitimíní ar gach duine anois roimh an Nollaig. Is am álainn agus speisialta é, agus is seans iontach é chun spiorad na Nollaig a thaispeáint lena chéile. Uaireanta, is féidir leis a bheith am deacair don daoine freisin – bíonn na daoine seo inár smaointe ag an am seo chomh maith. Mar sin, tá súil agam go mbeidh gach duine ag déanamh iarracht breise chun a bheith an-chairdiúil agus cineálta lena chéile i rith an tséasúir.



Merry Christmas everyone!!

I hope everyone is excited for Christmas.

It's a lovely, special time, and it's a great chance to show each other the Christmas spirit.



Sometimes, it can be a difficult time for people as well – and these people are in our thoughts at this time also. Because of that, I hope everyone will make an extra effort to be very friendly and kind to each other throughout the season.

The annual Shoe Box Appeal received was very well supported by numerous children and families, and will have a profound impact on so many lives - particularly poignant at this time of the year. So too will the St. Vincent de Paul donation box for toys and non-perishable food items, which will be available again in the school entrance hall this year.

A big thanks and well done to all the boys & girls for their hard work in 2024, as well as their teachers, and to all parents & families for their much-appreciated kindness and support this year.

We look forward to welcoming everyone to the upcoming Christmas Plays/Concerts.



Wishing all families a safe, joyful Christmas, and a very happy New Year!!

Nollaig Shona agus Ath-bhliain Faoi Mhaise Daoibh go léir!!

A Final Farewell to Mrs. Lynch

A beautiful Mass was held in school to celebrate Mrs Lynch's retirement celebrated by Fr. Breen. She was surrounded by her family, friends, staff, BoM members, P.A. representatives and pupils of the school with 2nd class performing songs during the Mass.

After the Mass, other class groups got to sing songs and play music. Juniors and Seniors performed 'You've Got A Friend In Me', and Mrs Lynch was delighted to have them as her friends. 1st class sang, 'You Can Count On Me', while 3rd performed an amazing medley from 'The Sound of Music', 4th class played tin whistle & 5th class sang, 'I'll Always Remember You'. The pupils from 6th class created the amazing artwork that was around the hall.

After the performances Mrs Lynch enjoyed light refreshments with her family and friends and was presented with her retirement cake which was made by our very own Claire Coleman.

We would like to wish Mrs. Lynch all the very best again in her retirement & 'Thank You' for everything you have done for Faithlegg N.S. and its pupils.





To Ms. Fennell
On Your
Appointment
To
Deputy Principal



Mascot for Ireland Women's National Team



We are delighted to share the news that our very own Alex who plays with the U10s in Park Rangers had the wonderful opportunity to be a mascot for Ireland Women's National Team as they took on Georgia at the end of October.

The team advanced to Round 2 of the UEFA EURO 2025 Qualifying Play-Offs following their win over Georgia in Tallaght Stadium with a score of 3 – 0.

Huge congratulations to Alex and well done to the women's team. We wish them all the best as they progress in the tournament.





Bronze Medallist Jianing

◦ During the Halloween midterm break Jianing participated in the Taekwondo Irish National Championship which was held in University Limerick. Jianing achieved a bronze medal in Sparring in the Green Belt category. Huge congratulations Jianing



And The Stage Is Set

This year the Christmas concerts will take place:

- **Junior & Seniors** –
18th December @ 12:45pm
- **1st & 2nd Class** –
18th December @ 1:45pm
- **3rd & 4th Class** –
17th December @ 7pm
- **5th & 6th Class** –
18th December @ 7pm

Competition Time

CLOSED

🎉 🎉 CONGRATULATIONS 🎉 🎉

We are delighted to share the news of the winning family to our competition.

The lucky winners were

The O'Leary Family

We hope you enjoyed 😊



Sponsored by: Kennedy Family



Library

In this edition we have a little shout out to those to took part in the Summer Stars Program.

We have news about a new book for Christmas which has a very special connection with Waterford's Winterval.

We have information on the wonderful Christmas Annuals by Folens.

Our local libraries have some lovely events coming up.

And we share with you the winning word of 2024 from the Oxford dictionary.

Happy Christmas reading everyone.

Imelda

Summer Stars Reading Programme 2024

On Thursday the 24th of October the local town library staff paid a visit to our school to hand out the awards and medals to those who took part in this year's Summer Stars programme.

Congratulations to you all.

The programme runs every summer so if you would like to take part next summer, it's free and a lovely way to keep up your reading.





This beautiful book can be purchased in the Book Centre for €9.95

<https://winterval.ie/news/news-detail/farrons-adventure>

New Book on Sale

“This beautiful storybook sees Adam’s mischievous Viking elf ‘Farron’ traversing through Ireland’s oldest city, Waterford, during one of Adam’s favourite festivals, ‘Winterval’. The book is a tale of an epic adventure featuring a friendly elf who is filled with sheer determination and joyous optimism as the ‘saving’ of Christmas sits firmly on his shoulders. ‘Farron’s Adventure’ is magnificently illustrated by Dave Duffy and was designed and printed in Waterford, ensuring a guaranteed Irish storybook for children this Christmas. The book is published by the Winterval Festival, with proceeds from book sales going to the voluntary charity ‘Junior for Juniors’, whose mission is to bring comfort and solace to young patients in the paediatric wards of University Hospital Waterford.” ❤️ ❤️



Folens Christmas Annuals

(Completely optional
purchase)

These wonderful Christmas Annuals by Folens are a lovely addition to your Christmas reading. They are full of lovely short stories, puzzles, colouring pages & competitions. If you would like to purchase an annual, they cost €4.50 and payment can be made by sending in an envelope with your money to class teacher clearly marked with child's name and class. These books all come with a pen or pencil.

While
Stocks
Last

Leabharlanna Phort Láirge
Waterford Libraries

**Christmas Stories with
a Special Christmas
Surprise**

Friday 6th December
Age 0-3yrs @ 10.45 am

in
Ardkeen Library

Drop in - All Welcome

Family Time
at Your Library

Children under 12 years MUST be accompanied and supervised in the Library by a Parent/Guardian

Leabharlanna Phort Láirge
Waterford Libraries

**Christmas
Coffee Morning**

Wednesday 11th December
@ 10.30am

in
Ardkeen Library


Drop in - All Welcome

Family Time
at Your Library

Children under 12 years MUST be accompanied and supervised in the Library by a Parent/Guardian

News from our Local Library

- The 6th of December will see a Christmas Story time with Jess @ 10.45am in Ardkeen library. There will also be a special surprise for pre-schoolers.
- On the 11th of December a FREE coffee morning will be held again in Ardkeen library which is open to all from 10.30am.
- There is also lots happening across all our local libraries over the next few weeks so do check out <https://waterfordlibraries.ie/events/> for more on these events.

A background image showing a close-up of Scrabble tiles and a portion of the game board. The tiles are arranged in a grid, with letters like 'S', 'C', 'K', 'H', 'O', 'T', 'L', 'E' visible. Some tiles have numbers indicating their point value. The board has various colored squares, including blue, green, and red, with text like 'DOUBLE LETTER SCORE' and 'DOUBLE WORD SCORE'.

Word of the Year

- The Oxford Dictionary has announced its word of the year for 2024, and the winning word is...

- **Brain Rot**

- **Meaning:**

(n.) Supposed deterioration of a person's mental or intellectual state, especially viewed as a result of overconsumption of material (now particularly online content) considered to be trivial or unchallenging. Also: something characterized as likely to lead to such deterioration.

Puzzle Time

Can You
Solve This
Word Search?



Christmas

J M P F L C E H M Y L J J M U
Z W G W F I N A Q C O I S E R
J K F I T X G S Y P V N L J N
O C T A F C A H M H E G C R A
V H W D M T X W T K M L O U O
A R Z E D I S Z F S I E O D U
O I G C E C L M X H N B K O J
U S Z O C F P Y O F C E I L W
Z T Y R E V V Y Z G E L E P Y
L M O A M A N I G X P L S H A
W A X T B T A D C Q I S C M M
S S O I E R P E L V E S V J K
N X I O R E R E N W C T R P T
O H F N L E L D V Z S A N T A
W E E S T S R A T H J X U A N

Jingle Bells

Decorations

Mince Pie

Gifts

December

Cookies

Rudolph

Love

Lights

Family

Santa

Elves

Christmas

Trees

Snow



Christmas

J M P F L C E H M Y L J J M U
Z W G W F I N A Q C O I S E R
J K F I T X G S Y P V N L J N
O C T A F C A H M H E G C R A
V H W D M T X W T K M L O U O
A R Z E D I S Z F S I E O D U
O I G C E C L M X H N B K O J
U S Z O C F P Y O F C E I L W
Z T Y R E V V Y Z G E L E P Y
L M O A M A N I G X P L S H A
W A X T B T A D C Q I S C M M
S S O I E R P E L V E S V J K
N X I O R E R E N W C T R P T
O H F N L E L D V Z S A N T A
W E E S T S R A T H J X U A N

Jingle Bells

December

Lights

Elves

Snow

Decorations

Cookies

Family

Christmas

Mince Pie

Rudolph

Santa

Trees

Gifts

Love

Answer

Did you
find them
all?



Lots of lovely fresh herbs still available in the community herb gardens in Cheekpoint. Ideal for those winter stews and dishes. Bay leaves, parsley, blackcurrant sage, thyme and more. Can be frozen or dried too.



WELCOME TO THE COMMUNITY HERB GARDEN



Herbs have powerful health benefits and are delicious when added to cooked dishes or when eaten raw in a salad or as a garnish, so why not have some fun experimenting!

Below is some general information on herbs and their uses. Please help yourself.

	APPLE MINT: <i>Mentha Cili</i> Distinct taste of apples. Used mainly for teas but also for salads and desserts.		CORIANDER: <i>Lai an Chui</i> Crisp peppery taste. Used in Mexican, Indian and Asian curries and liqueurs.		LEMON VERBENA: <i>Berbertha Lemniscata</i> Used to make herbal tea and to add a lemon flavour to fish and poultry dishes.		SAGE: <i>Salvia</i> Slight pepper, citrus, eucalyptus taste. Used mainly in stuffings, pork, sausage and cheeses.
	BAY: <i>Distilling Labyrinth</i> Mint, vanilla and black tea flavours. Mainly used in stews and casseroles.		CURLY PARSLEY: <i>Parsil Chnatch</i> Slightly peppery taste. Used as a garnish on fish and salads. High in Vitamin A & C.		LOVAGE: <i>Lactuca</i> Flavour and smell reminiscent both of celery and parsley. Add leaves to a mix of salad greens or let wilt and use in soups and stocks.		TARRAGON: <i>Dragon</i> Bittersweet flavour, often compared to leopards, anise and fennel. Used mainly with fish and chicken.
	BLACKCURRANT SAGE: <i>Salvia Cuscuta Dotted</i> Amazing blackcurrant scent. Used as a rub for chicken also used for cocktails.		FEVERFEW: <i>Lai Duanlin</i> Known as Medieval Aspirin.		MARJORAM: <i>Oreganum Carum</i> Sweet, spicy and citrus taste. Used with sausages, meats, eggs and Italian cuisine.		THYME: <i>Tim</i> Slightly pungent, spicy but still sweet, savoury/dove-like flavour. Used with meats, stews, soups, eggs and cheeses.
	BORAGE: <i>Boraginaceae</i> Cucumber-like aroma. Leaves and flowers can be used in salads and stews.		FLAT LEAF PARSLEY: <i>Parsil Mithic</i> Earthy flavour. Used in sauces and stews.		MINT: <i>Mint</i> Clean and crisp with a cool aftertaste. Used with lamb, sweet and savoury dishes, teas and jellies.		WINTER SAVORY: <i>Lactuca Blanda</i> Slightly bitter peppery/piney taste. Used to flavour meat, fish, salads, soup, stews and sausage.
	CHIVES: <i>Scilla</i> Onion flavour. Used with potatoes, eggs, vegetables, soups and salads.		LEMON BALM: <i>Lai na Mande</i> Sweet taste of lemon and mint. Add to salads, butter and oils or to make tea.		OREGANO: <i>Oreganum</i> Aromatic flavour. Used mainly in Mediterranean dishes.	<p>Thanks to our main sponsors</p>   <p>The herb garden was kindly sponsored by West Coast County Council and by SUIR Shipping Limited and stocked by the generosity of both Cheekpoint Garden Centre and Eastern Island Garden Centre.</p> <p>Special thanks also to Rose Ni Sheelaohain for the herb donations and to the local volunteers who helped create the herb garden during the summer of 2023.</p>	
	CHOCOLATE MINT: <i>Mentha Chocolate</i> Scent of chocolate. Used in fruit salads, desserts and teas.		LEMON THYME: <i>Tim Lemniscata</i> Woody balsamic taste with a lemon tang. Used with poultry, seafood, marinades, soups, stews and salads.		ROSEMARY: <i>Ro. Alnus</i> Piney, earthy, woody flavour. Mainly used with chicken, duck and with BBQs.		



What a very special year this year for Winterval as the festival celebrates being European City of Christmas. And as always, the festival is full of both wonderful new & familiar events which are Free & Ticketed, for all the family.

To check out the full details of this year's festival click <https://winterval.ie/>

Something Really Special This Year At Winterval



Located at the
Apple Market
in the City.

Open seven days
a week from
2pm – 8pm



As Waterford celebrates winning the status as the European City of Christmas Waterford opened a portal to connect it with the EU Capital of Christmas.

'The Gateway to Brno' now connects Waterford City with the City of Brno in the Czech Republic.

The Dolmen-shaped gateway offers a real-time stream between both cities in an aim to bring both cities and cultures closer together.

What a lovely way to share Christmas.

Christmas FM returns this year for its 17th year on the air waves spreading joy with Christmas music while raising funds for charities ❤️

If you'd like to find out more check out <https://christmasfm.com/>

Now, make sure you listen in on **Tuesday the 10th December** 🤔
a special mention might be made for a very special school 😊

ChristmasFM
Bringing you the Magic of Christmas



Team Hope 2024

Our wonderful 6th class have once again organised the Team Hope Shoe box appeal in our school. They were delighted with the response. Huge thank you to everyone who was able to help this year.



Society of St. Vincent de Paul



SVP School Collection 2024

Each year, the school has kindly organised a collection for SVP and this year is no different.

If you feel that you are able to help there will be a box inside the front door (until 20/12/24) where you can leave any non-perishable food, and toys. These will then be sent to our local SVP office where they will be distributed to families in need this Christmas.

If you would like to find out more about SVP and the work they do, check out their website <https://www.svp.ie/>

Thank you.

Senior Citizens Christmas Cards 2024

The pupils of Faithlegg NS are currently busy working on making beautiful Christmas cards for our local senior citizens and for our local nursing homes again this year.

These will be delivered shortly to local nursing homes in and around our city.

We hope the residents will enjoy reading these and we wish them, their families and staff a very Merry Christmas.



Mount Congreve Gardens

<https://www.mountcongrevebookings.com/Home>

Ticketed
Event

This year the beautiful Mount Congreve Gardens have some lovely Christmas events happening. Check out their website for full details.

One event that caught our eye here at the Good News Report news desk is the Magical Elf Trail. The elves who are hiding around the garden need to be found and for those who can find them all, they will receive a festive selection box.

This event is running from 23rd Nov – 31st Dec.



The Japanese Gardens in Tramore once again have their 'Enchanted Garden Christmas lights' on display. This is a ticketed event. To find out more information check out their website

<https://www.lafcadiohearngardens.com/>

Christmas News & A Local Image



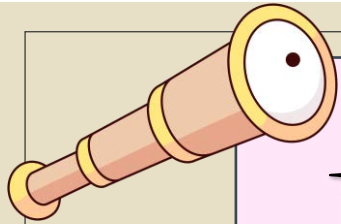
The beautiful Nativity scene in
Passage East 2024

Checkpoint Village

On Monday the 9th of December the residents of Checkpoint village will have their annual Christmas gathering from 7-8pm at the Suir Inn.

On the night there will be some music, mulled wine and nibbles and the residents will turn on the Christmas tree lights for 2024.

Wrap up warm as this is an outdoor event.



Bird Watching



Would you like to help Bird Watch Ireland with their winter survey for 2024?

Each year from the information gathered from this survey Bird Watch Ireland can find out information like the different species of birds in Ireland at wintertime and see how their numbers may increase or decrease due to climate and other environmental factors.

If you would like to find out more and learn about what Bird Watch Ireland do check out their website <https://birdwatchireland.ie/> and the survey can be found here <https://birdwatchireland.ie/our-work/surveys-research/research-surveys/irish-garden-bird-survey/>

Irish Garden Bird Survey Mon 25th Nov to Sun 23rd Feb

This simple survey asks people to spend a short amount of time each week watching their garden birds and recording what they see.



Participating in the Irish Garden Bird Survey each winter is a simple and effective way of contributing to a crucial body of data that will help to guide conservation, while also increasing your bird knowledge. The survey is open to individuals, families, schools and local community groups.

You can find more information about the Irish Garden Bird Survey here:
<https://birdwatchireland.ie/our-work/surveys-research/research-surveys/irish-garden-bird-survey/>

News Buzzing Around

Parents & guardians,
Have you ever thought about keeping bees
but not sure where to start? This
information might be just for you.

Dates of these lectures are for next April
2025

More information can be obtained from
www.waterfordbees.com
or by emailing waterfordbees@gmail.com

Introduction to Beekeeping



EAST WATERFORD BEEKEEPERS'
ASSOCIATION

Lecture Dates:

Saturday April 5 and April 12, 2025
Time: 10am, Dunhill Education Centre

Course Fee. €150

to include :

- Lectures,
- Apiary Demonstrations,
- Association and Federation Membership,
- Beekeeping Insurance
- An Beachaire Beekeepers Magazine,
- Participation in all Association and Federation Education Programmes.



For more information
www.waterfordbees.com
waterfordbees@gmail.com

Comedy Wildlife Photo Awards 2024

This year again see some amazing photos of wildlife which are super funny in the comedy wildlife photo awards. The overall winners will be announced on the 10th of December.

Check out the link below to see this year's finalists. Which one would you choose to be the overall winner?

Think this one is ours – we do like a good joke too and in saying that.....

https://www.comedywildlifephotocom/gallery/finalists/2024_finalists.php



Wendy Kaveney Photo – “Did you hear the one about the?”

Faithlegg N.S. Christmas Jokes

What is the king
of the pencilcase?
The Ruler

Why are Christmas trees
so bad at sewing?
**They're always
dropping their needles**

What do elves do after
school?
Their gnome work!

Who hides in the bakery
at Christmas?
A mince spy



Why did the red-nosed
reindeer help the old
lady cross the road?
**It would have been
Rudolph him not to.**

What do you call
an old snowman?
Water

What's every parent's
favourite Christmas Carol?
Silent Night

Why are mummies such big fans of
Christmas?
Because they enjoy wrapping



To Fr Breen,
we would like
to wish you and
the church
committee a
very peaceful
Christmas and
Happy New
Year.

*And to the wonderful
staff at Faithlegg
National School we
would like to wish you
all a lovely Christmas
break with your families
and a peaceful New
Year.*



A Round-Up of 2024

Golf
Classic

School
Concerts

Communion

Mrs. Lynch Retired

Christmas & Easter
Raffles

Peace Proms

All-Tex Clothing Reuse
Scheme

Street Art Ink –
Mural on playground wall

QUIZ
NIGHT

WORLD BOOK
DAY

PLANTED TREES ON
SNOWHILL ORCHARD

Cake
Sale

Halloween Disco

1st Ever – Second
Handbook Sale

Confirmation

Faithlegg
Church
200 Years

**To everyone who helped with
the GNR.**

**To our PA committee, school
staff, & Board of Management.**

If you would like to get in touch at any stage, you
can email kimelda259@gmail.com we'd love to
hear from you.

