⭐September Star Pupils ⭐

⭐3rd Class: Room 12- Alfie Byrne
⭐3rd Class: Room 13- Fawwaz Xec
⭐3rd Class: Room 14- Alexa Birca
⭐3rd Class: Room 15- Chloe Sitong Wang
⭐4th Class: Modular 1: Sarah Sunderland
⭐4th Class Modular 2: Sadhbh Brady
⭐4th Class: Room 9- Jude Cullen
⭐4th Class: Room 11- Fianna O'Heanaigh
⭐5th Class: Room 5- Darragh Burns
⭐5th Class: Room 6- Naoise Stack
⭐5th Class: Room 7- David Barker Rafferty
⭐5th Class: Room 8- Ciara Townsend
⭐6th Class: Room 1- Amara Berbati
⭐6th Class: Room 2- Caragh Hendricks
⭐6th Class: Room 3- Kara Hickey
⭐6th Class: Room 4- Calum Keane
⭐SUIMHNEAS- Adam Turkmani
Maith sibh a pháistí!

Principal's Message:

Welcome Back to St. Francis Xavier Senior School

Welcome back to another school year at St. Francis Xavier Senior School!

We have certainly hit the ground running, particularly when it comes to sport! Our sporting teams have been exceptionally active over the past few weeks, representing our school with great enthusiasm, determination and pride. Once again, our pupils have proven themselves to be excellent ambassadors for St. Francis Xavier Senior School, demonstrating outstanding sportsmanship, teamwork and respect for their opponents. We are incredibly proud of their efforts and look forward to celebrating many more sporting achievements throughout the year. A massive thank you to all of the parents that provided lifts and came to support our teams- it would not be possible to participate in the leagues without your co-operation and support.

New Primary Curriculum

We are well underway with the rollout of the new Primary Curriculum, with a particular focus this year on *Social and Environmental Education (SEE)*, encompassing History and Geography. The new curriculum places a renewed emphasis on child-led, exploratory learning, encouraging pupils to ask questions, investigate their surroundings and develop a deeper understanding of the world around them. A key element of this approach is learning about our local area, with a greater focus on Dublin 15 and Dublin city itself. We look forward to seeing our pupils develop their curiosity about their local community and the rich history and geography of the area in which they live and learn.

School Building Improvements

As you may have noticed, a section of the school yard has been fenced off. This area is currently being used by the contractors carrying out our whole-school roof refurbishment.

Since taking up my role as Principal, I have been actively engaging with the Department of Education to secure a major overhaul of the school roof. These essential works are designed to eliminate the ongoing leaks and ensure that the roof has an appropriate level of insulation. This will help to makeour building more energy-efficient and, ultimately, much warmer during the colder months.

The roof refurbishment represents another significant step in our ongoing programme of school building improvements. Alongside the upgrades to our heating and electrical systems, the installation of solar panels and the development of our new modular building, these works will help ensure that our school environment continues to improve for the benefit of our pupils and staff.

Industrial Action – 14th October

As you are aware, industrial action took place on Wednesday, 14th October, in line with the mandates issued by both Fórsa and the INTO. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who stopped by to show their support for our staff on the picket line. Your encouragement and solidarity meant a great deal to those who were there. We hope that progress can be made towards a new public sector agreement in the near future, allowing industrial relations to return to normal and ensuring that our school community can move forward without further disruption.

Celebrating 50 Years of St. Francis Xavier Schools

Later this year, we will be holding a number of events in collaboration with our colleagues in St. Francis Xavier Junior School to celebrate **50 Years of Education in the Heart of our Community**.

This half-century milestone is a significant moment in the history of both schools. It provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the generations of children who have passed through our doors, to recognise the dedication of the staff and families who have contributed to our schools over the years, and to celebrate the important role our schools continue to play in the local community.

We look forward to marking this special anniversary together, celebrating our shared history while looking ahead to the many opportunities and achievements the coming decades will bring.

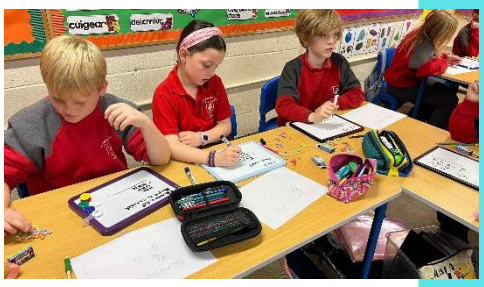
Wishing all our families a restful and enjoyable midterm break. Thank you, as always, for your continued support of our school.

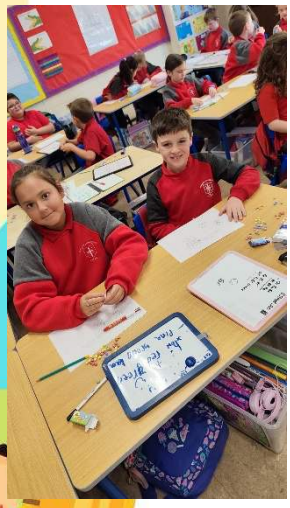
Sean McKeown,
Principal

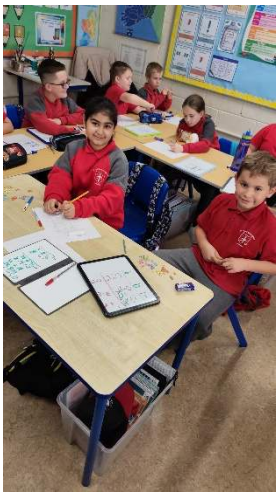
3th Class

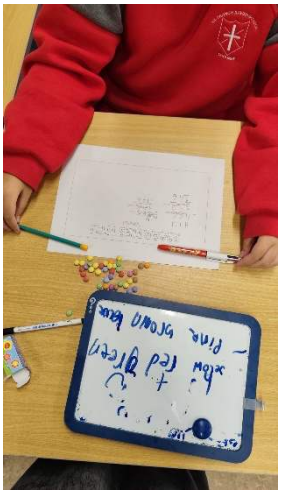
Pupils in Ms Reilly's and Ms Hanbury's classes used smarties to create subtraction sums for each other using their knowledge of place value to challenge each other. They enjoyed eating their hundreds, ten and units after!

They also enjoyed guessing various quantities at a Halloween Guesstimation Station!









4th Class

4th Class enjoyed swimming lessons in Coolmine Sports and Leisure Centre over the last five weeks. They practised their swimming skills and had great fun at the same time! It was amazing to see the progress the children made from the first session to the last. We are so grateful to the coaches for their time, energy and patience. The pupils have also been studying schools in the past and carried out some very interesting research by interviewing parents and grandparents about their time in school.

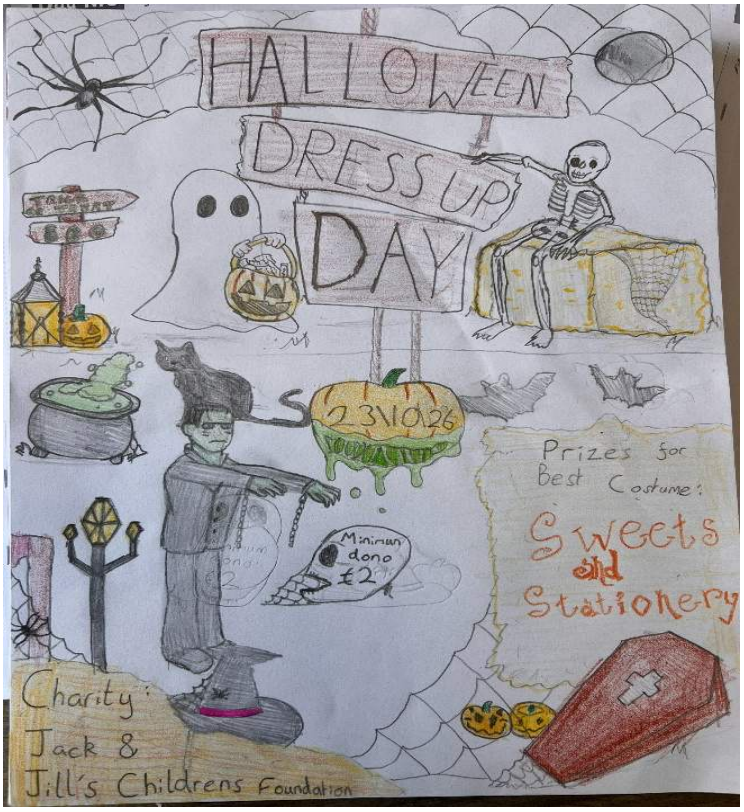
In 4th Class we worked on enhancing our "clay" skills during our art lessons. We worked on the skills of slipping and scoring and created some very detailed, spooky clay monsters which we then painted and displayed.

6th Class

6th Class have been thoroughly enjoying their rugby sessions with an external coach. The children have been developing their rugby skills, teamwork and sportsmanship while having great fun!

We also held our Student Council elections recently. Pupils who put themselves forward delivered thoughtful and well-prepared speeches to their classmates, sharing their ideas and hopes for the school year ahead. Well done to everyone who took part, and congratulations to our newly elected representatives!

They got to work straight away planning the Halloween Dress up day in aid of the Jack and Jill Children's Foundation!



Sonas, Solas and Suaimhneas

Hi all, Sonas, Solas and Suaimhneas have had a great September and have enjoyed being back in school. We got a new trampoline in our garden which is being used by everyone and has proven to be a big hit. We have been doing gymnastics in the hall on Fridays and we have really been enjoying it. We have welcomed some new students to both Solas and Sonas and they are settling in very well.

Sonas made spooky monster lava lamps for Halloween. We loved looking at them in our classroom and in our dark sensory room.