



CRC SCENE

Santa Claus comes to CRC

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**CRC Decorate-a-Door
Competition**

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CRC Winter Gala Ball

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Send us your stories communications@crc.ie



CEO, Stephanie Manahan

CEO NEW YEAR WELCOME

Christmas is such a special time for the CRC and again our staff defied all expectations and delivered a great celebration of Christmas for the children and adults that attend our services and schools.

For the second year in a row the Social Work department organised the staff appeal and you responded with enormous compassion, generosity and goodness through the kindness you have shown.

2018 was a busy year for all parts of the CRC. Our front-line services delivered more than the 2017 activity levels and we enhanced services to our adults; opening a new service in Killester Hub and developing a new Hub in Clongriffin for 2019 as well as developing our individualised supports and outreach services.

We had our first Winter Gala Ball which was a great success and we look forward to welcoming more of you to fundraising events in the future.

We have taken on an additional service area for the children's disability services (PDS) in Clondalkin and the planned reconfiguration of children's services will happen in Dublin and Waterford from September 2019. We all know it isn't all about the front line and quietly and efficiently we have been supported by our finance, catering, administrative, communications, fundraising, IT, HR, health & safety, transport and facilities colleagues all of whom make sure we can deliver the best services possible.

We have delivered progress against all elements of the Strategic Plan and to continue the pace of progress in 2019 I will be adding to my team with an operations lead who will work closely with the senior leadership team to develop the next phase of work of the strategic plan.

I am excited for the next phase of development of the CRC and of our staff team and building on our successes and achievements to date.

Stephanie Manahan
CEO of CRC

CHRISTMAS AT THE CRC

Thanks to all our dedicated staff that succeeded in making the CRC a magical place to be this Christmas.

Thanks to the ATSS workshop for their Christmas set which brought a lot of happiness to all our clients and their families. Thanks to the CRC team of elves (below) who arranged a fantastic Christmas Party with Santa, not to mention the entertainment from Rainbow Phil, face-painting and balloon making. Waterford held their party on the same weekend and Scoil Mochua took part in an Ice-Dip!

Thanks to everyone who took part in the decorate-a-door challenge and congrats to the winners.

CRC School once again put on a fantastic play 'How to be a Super-Hero' which wowed a packed out audience of families and staff.

A huge debt of gratitude to Gary in the canteen and his team of volunteers for a fabulous Christmas lunch.

See you all again in December!



The CRC's team of Elves



The wonderful winter wonderland created by ATSS



Santa Claus and Mrs Claus



Rainbow Phil with Santa and Mrs Claus

CAFÉ NOËL

We raised a total of €337 for St Francis Hospice

We had a fabulous morning's fun in the Spraoi room when the Accounts Team hosted Café Noel. Thanks to the OT department who generously allowed use of the Spraoi room and to Maureen Daly for the beautiful cake prize for the Raffle. Thanks to all those who donated cakes to feed the

masses of attendees and to the six Master Bakers who set a very tasty and highly designed standard of cake – the winner for the 5th year in a row was Jean Oswell!

There was some serious competition for Best Christmas theme dress-up but the outright winners were East 17 AKA the Gait Lab!



The Accounts Team



The Winners! Gait Lab as East 17



The Star Baker competition



Elves on the shelf! Speech and Language



The School Age Team



The Physiotherapy team

SANTA VISITS THE CRC



Santa and Nathan



Santa and Avannah



Santa saying hi to Molly



Maisie and Lewis with Santa

HE MADE HIS LIST, HE CHECKED IT TWICE, SANTY CAME TO VISIT, THOSE WHO WERE NICE

He came with a smile and sat with the kids. “my my” he chuckled, “you’re growing up so big”

With a handshake, a cuddle, hugs and high fives. Santy gave everyone all of his time.

He knew he was busy, building the toys, but he wanted to stay with the CRC’s good girls and good boys.

With a nod and a smile, Santy said “it’s time to go”, why he never visited Noel Carroll, I guess we will never know.

SPECIAL THANKS

A huge debt of gratitude to Gary in the canteen and his team of volunteers for a fabulous Christmas lunch.



GETTING OUT AND GETTING SOCIAL

WILD LIGHTS IN DUBLIN ZOO

Training and Development dive into an Ocean of Light at this year's Wild Lights in Dublin Zoo.

From giant squid to polar bears, penguins, colossal blue whales and dainty seahorses, Dublin Zoo was transformed into a world of illumination.



GRANDPARENTS GATHERING

It's all about family here at the CRC

Our social work department hosted a Grandparent's Gathering just before Christmas for our Grandparents and their families. Lovely to see some new faces and even better to know that support is there when needed. If you'd like to get involved contact Eimear Cullen in social work on 01 854 2333.



Grandparents and staff enjoying some Christmas treats

MALAHIDE PLAY CENTRE DAY OUT

The Parent and Toddler group had a fantastic day out filled with fun and games in Malahide Play Centre. Even Santa Claus stopped by to join in the fun.



Parent and Toddler Group with Santa

SCOIL MOCHUA

ICE DIP FOR A NICE TRIP

The brave souls at Scoil Mochua and Colin Bell (parent) held an 'Ice Dip for a Nice Trip' on Saturday December 8th on Portmarnock strand.

The event was to raise money for a whole school trip to Lullymore which took place on December 14th. Just over €4,500 was raised by staff and parents to bring 65 pupils, 70 staff members, 10 parents on 16 buses on a special trip to see Santa at Lullymore.



The brave souls from Scoil Mochua and Colin Bell



Everyone enjoying the nice trip to Lullymore

CRC DECORATE-A-DOOR COMPETITION

We all certainly love a bit of competition in the CRC and this challenge saw the best of that competitive streak in our staff! There were 42 entries in total and 7 category winners. There were no disqualifications despite the blatant promises of door donations, threats and bribery towards our judges Maria and Maureen.

The winners were announced at a prize-giving ceremony at the Christmas Staff Lunch and trophies were awarded to all category winners.



School Room 10



School Room 14



School Room 3



School Room 5



School Music Room



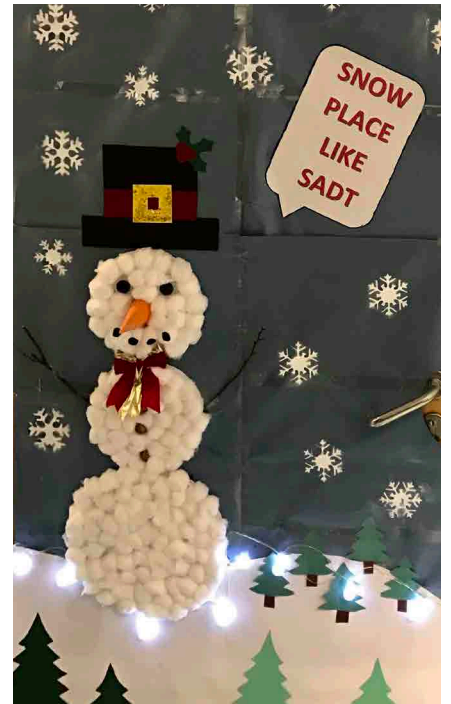
CEO Door



Accounts Department



CE Department



School Age Team



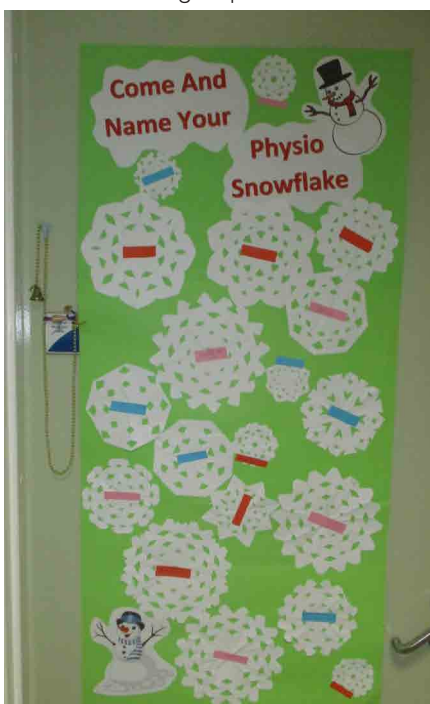
Nursing Department



Patrick Hall's Door



ATSS Department



Physio Department



School Room 16



School Staff Room



OT Department



School Room 1



School Resource Room



Scoil Mochua



School Room 4



QSR Department



School Room 2



Communications Department



Fundraising Department

THE WINNERS OF THE 2018 DECORATE A DOOR COMPETITION



School Spirit of Christmas Award



School Spirit of Christmas Award



School Spirit of Christmas Award



Best Festive Door



Best Interactive Door



Best Christmas Work Related Door



Best Creative Door



Best Technical Door

CRC WINTER GALA BALL

Many of you attended the Gala Ball in the Grand Hotel Malahide in November and made it the amazing event that it was. With your support we raised over €14,000 that will go towards purchasing a bus for Adult Services.

To keep the Gala Ball fresh in your memory have a look at the collage of photos on SharePoint under Gala Ball. We hope you enjoy the pictures! We've also made a video about the importance of transport for our clients which is available on our CRC Youtube channel or on our Facebook page.









U.N. INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DISABILITY

TO MARK INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ON MONDAY 3RD DEC, WE LAUNCHED A NEW CRC RIBBON THAT WAS DESIGNED BY FIRHOUSE LOCAL CENTRE.

The launch was attended by Minister Finian McGrath, Minister for Disabilities who has been a great supporter of the CRC and Firhouse over the last number of years. All proceeds from the ribbon sales will go towards Art Projects for Adult Services.

In December Firhouse also welcomed Minister Katherine Zappone to their centre for a constituency visit. She met with CEO Stephanie Manahan, Head of Adult Services, Alison McCallion and all staff and clients from Firhouse. She was given a tour of the centre from manager Breda Gavagan and also spoke specifically to some clients regarding their own personal requests in relation to Home Care packages.



The CRC Ribbon (Picture courtesy of Shay McDonnell)



Some of the Firhouse team behind the project



Finian McGrath launching the ribbon



Alison McCallion and Stephanie Manahan



Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Katherine Zappone, visits Firhouse

NURSING DEPARTMENT REFURBISHMENT

CUTTING THE RIBBON TO MARK THE OPENING OF OUR REVAMPED NURSING DEPARTMENT

Our wonderful Nursing Department got a make-over recently and we celebrated, as is tradition, with cakes, cakes and more cakes! Thanks to Jenni & the team for the lovely morning.



GAISCE - GUARD OF HONOUR

Members of our CRC Transition Programme had a very special request from Gaisce to form part of a Guard of Honour for President Higgins at the Gaisce Gold Ceremony in Dublin Castle, Monday 10th December. President Higgins and his wife Sabina stopped to chat to our students and commended them on their own achievements in attaining their Gaisce Bronze and Silver awards.



Members of the Transition Programme meeting the President



AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS

DANCE MOVES GROUP NOMINATED FOR HSE EXCELLENCE AWARD

Supporting Community Participation in Children with Physical Disability through Dance” is a joint project between Physiotherapy and OT which ran in the early part of 2018.

Eleanor Corcoran and Karen Lennon together ran an eight-week therapeutic dance programme for six young clients with varying types of physical disability. The aims of this group were to empower children who were not regularly participating in community-based activities to become involved and in turn this would build confidence and friendships. The focus was on strengths not weaknesses and each child chose a specific goal that they wanted to achieve over the eight weeks. The classes consisted of warm-ups, introduction to new dance styles such as Latin and Hip-Hop with each child choosing an individual dance step of their own. There were body awareness activities included, practice routines and a final performance for family and CRC staff. Feedback was extremely positive – “What I enjoyed most about the group was dancing and telling

jokes”, “We have been trying to get our daughter to join a dance group for close to a year now with no joy and now she is open to the idea of joining one”.

Eleanor and Karen submitted their work on this innovative dance group for the HSE Excellence Awards and were shortlisted in their category and highly commended for their work. They will present at a HSE Showcase on February 1st.



CRC WINS GOOD GOVERNANCE AWARD

The CRC won Best Governance Improvement initiative in the Good Governance awards on Wednesday November 15th. We were also delighted to be a finalist for an award for our 2017 Annual Report.

The award was in recognition of the CRC stakeholder engagement programme ‘Keeping Connected’ which sets out to identify opportunities to get greater impact from Board engagement with key stakeholders. The ‘Keeping Connected’ agenda item is an interactive presentation which enables clients and the staff to meet and engage with the Board and to communicate in a forum that is welcoming, direct, challenging and responsive. It gives a voice to all corners of the organisation to its highest level and is a great opportunity for real partnership.



The Good Governance Award

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