**Parking**

As we all know parking is a bit of an issue outside the school. There is usually gridlock when collecting and dropping off children. We would like to urge people to drop off their children and drive away promptly. In the interest of Health and Safety the entrance to the car park must be left free from parked cars. This is to ensure emergency vehicles can gain access to school at all times. A recent visit from the Health and Safety Officer stressed the importance of this regulation and we ask all parents to adhere strictly to this. The Safety Officer also noted that small children were playing in the car park on the day he visited. This is very dangerous and the school cannot take any responsibility for children who are not at school. We remind you that all young children should be strictly supervised at all times when on school grounds.

**Non-Uniform Day**

Our non-uniform day was on 9/12/09. We raised €300.30. A great result, many thanks for all your support. This money went towards our wonderful Christmas Tree which is now standing high in the school.

**Parent Association**

We would like to welcome new committee members Eimir Kennedy, Susan O’Kelly and Caroline Whyte.

The Christmas Holidays are fast approaching and everyone has been so busy that the few weeks break will be welcomed by all!!

The staff in the school would like to thank the children who have worked so hard and taken participation in so many projects. We would also like to thank the parents/guardians who have been a huge support to us this term.

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Thank you all and we wish you a very happy Christmas and look forward to seeing you all on 7th January 2010.

**Robertstown News Sheet Christmas 2009**

**Read-A-Thon**

We have raised €1,400 so well done to everyone. All this money goes towards much needed school funds. Thanks for all your support.

**Hallelujah Concert**

The Hallelujah Concert took place in the RDS on 12/12/09. Prior to this the children spent months preparing for this concert. They were very dedicated and worked really hard. Their behaviour was exemplary on the day and they made Robertstown National School very proud. We would also like to say a big thanks you to Ms. O’Sullivan and Ms. Parle, for organising and preparing the children for the concert. We would also like to thank all the parents who came and

**Lighting of Village Christmas Tree**

We had a great evening on 3/12/09. All Robertstown turned out in force for the lighting of the Christmas tree. Alannah Reville won a colouring competition and that meant she got the exciting job of turning on the lights. The choir sang beautifully and entertained everyone. We had a very special visitor – Santa. He arrived on a tractor.

**Netbooks (mini laptops)**

We have 12 new netbooks in the school. All children have access to these on a rota basis. They have been instructed on how to use them and the importance of internet safety. Most children have used them at this stage. Ms. Stynes class wrote a report on the event of Lighting the Village Christmas Tree on these new netbooks. This is a new and exciting phase of IT progression within the school. We hope to extend this project in the near future. The aim is to provide a netbook for each child in the classroom.

**Credit Union Art Competition**

Well done to all those who participated in the Credit Union Competition. It is great to see so many involved and enthusiasm. Sophie Murphy won the regional competition and Eoghan Fitzgerald won the regional and leinster final which means he is now through to the next level.

**St. Vincent de Paul**

Nora Mulhall from SVP came to our school and spoke to the children about all the work SVP do. She encouraged the children to donate perishable foods and we are delighted with the response. We would like to thank everyone for their generousity.

**ISPCC**

There is a new clothing bank at the far end of the tower and we would like to encourage people to donate any old clothes they may have.

**Christmas Raffle**

The Christmas Raffle takes place on Tuesday, 22nd of December. Many thanks to those who donated items and sold or bought tickets.

Good luck everyone.

**New Extension**

Our new extension is flying up. This will house two new classrooms and a resource room. This is due to be completed by February.

**Village Signs Project**

Peter Pilkington has been working with the children on beautiful mosaic signs for the village. As people have visited the school they have commented on the fabulous work done by all the talented children in 4th, 5th and 6th classes. It is envisaged that the signs will be up by February 2010 and hopefully these signs will enhance Robertstown’s chances of improving their marking with the Tidy Towns. Many thanks to Peter for all his hard work and sharing his skills and talents with the children.

**Basketball**

5th & 6th classes have done very well in their matches. Many thanks to Louise McDonald for all her hard work, in coaching the children.