

Newsletter – November 2018

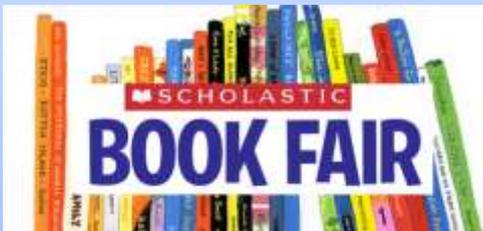


Welcome to our November Newsheet. Once again there is a lot going on so please do take the time to read, add dates to diaries etc. November is a time when our immune systems run low so remember to take those early nights, eat well and exercise to keep us all fighting fit. This month, our pupils will have their flu vaccinations. Please remember to return the form to school, otherwise the school health team will not administer the vaccination.

Pauline Fleming, Acting Principal

Book Fair

The Book fair is back! It arrives on Monday 26 November and will be here all week. Once again, our Primary 7 pupils will be organising and staffing it completely. Please come along and support this event. Opening times are as follows:



Cool Kids Post Box

A new post box will be mounted to the wall outside the office in the front foyer. Please post any Cool Kids envelopes or queries in here if Clare or Emma are unavailable in the office.

ROAD OF HOPE SHOEBOX APPEAL

Thank you so much to those of you who have already sent in your completed shoebox. If you haven't already, don't panic! Our collection day is not until Tuesday 6 November so you have the Halloween break to get one started. Follow this link to find out what to put in your shoebox:

<http://www.stjosephsschool.org/cmsfiles/items/downloads/RoadofHopeShoeBoxAppealFlier.pdf>

Thank you so much for your generosity.



Digital Schools Award!

We are absolutely delighted to have received this award. We received our report last week and some of the comments included:

“The culture of ICT in the school is strong. Discussions with the ICT team demonstrated that the culture continues to be strategically cultivated through budgetary, policy and professional development reviews.”

“The digital leaders team were articulate, confident and spoke with insight about their role. They are a credit to the school and their teachers.”

“The school is on a positive journey and I am happy to recommend St Joseph's Primary School for the Digital Schools Award.”

Thank you to all involved, it is really a fantastic achievement!



‘Being the best that we can be’

Christmas Celebrations

Christmas Carol Concert

Our annual Christmas Carol Concert will be in the Island Hall on Tuesday 18th December from 7pm - 9pm

The Primary Five children will showcase their Nativity play along with Christmas Favourites from our choir and musicians.

Tickets will go on sale on Monday 3rd December from the Island Hall Box Office Please note tickets will not be available from school and this is a strictly first come, first served event.

Tickets have sold out in days for this event in previous years so please be sure to be organised and get your tickets early!

Foundation Stage Christmas Concert

Primary 1 and Primary 2 will entertain us all on Thursday 13 and Friday 14 December with their Christmas concerts. Tickets will go on sale on Monday 12 November from the school office.

There is a limit to 4 tickets per family initially until we are sure all families have tickets.

Tickets cost £4 each.



Open Night

This year our Open Night is on **Tuesday 4 December at 6pm**. We are once again hoping for a fantastic turnout. Please spread the word to those you know with a child ready for Primary 1 in September 2019.

Can you help us by delivering Open Night Flyers in your own area? Please phone Julie in the office and give us your name, area and number of leaflets you need to deliver, and we will send them home in November. Thank you.



Christmas Hampers

Once again we will be making Christmas Hampers this year to share with needy families in the locality through St. Vincent de Paul, Lisburn.

Here's a list of what each year group should bring:

P1 - crisps, pringles, twiglets etc

P2 - biscuits and crackers

P3 - sweets and chocolates

P4 - mince pies and puddings

P5 - Christmas cakes, logs, buns and cakes

P6 - bottles of cranberry sauce, pickles, tea, coffee etc

P7 - bottles of shloer, juice and adult juice etc

We will also use some of the donations to make up luxury hampers for our Christmas Wheel at our Christmas bazaar. Please send any donations of 'adult juice' as well as tins etc into school along with your hamper items.



Digital Admissions

The Education Authority (EA) are introducing a new digital admissions procedure for applications to Primary 1 in September 2019. Parents will apply through a **Parent Portal**: A new portal for parents to apply online for a place, including the listing of preferences.

The new Digital Admissions process will go live on Wednesday 2 January at 10am and will close at 12 midnight on Thursday 31 January 2019.

Parents will have the opportunity to amend their submitted application until the closing date.

This replaces the current paper-based application form.

The EA is planning to provide Assisted Digital Support for parents and users of the new system. This will be in the form of a new telephone service, enhanced website content and several face to face drop-in clinics held in EA offices and other locations during January 2019. Details of the planned digital assistance will be provided in due course.

'Being the best that we can be'

Microsoft Office for Free

This is just the right time of year to let you know that you can download MS Office for FREE on up to 5 devices. I know this will come in really useful in the coming months and is a great saving for all of us.

Follow the link below:

<http://www.stjosephsschool.org/news/news/download-microsoft-office-for-free/>



WHOLE SCHOOL EXHIBITION

Our annual whole school art exhibition takes place alongside the book fair this year on the 26th of November to the 30th of November. This will be a lovely celebration of the children's talent and hard work. Your child will be excited to show and sell you their work. 50% of the sales go to your young artist or artiste and 50% to school funds. Come along and browse our wonderful array of books and art. Everyone is Welcome.

Shared Education

Our shared education partnership with Harmony Hill Primary School enters its 2nd year of funding this year. This is a superb opportunity for teacher training and sharing good practice with staff from Harmony Hill.

Over the next few months, children will work together sharing work digitally using the online courses on our virtual learning environment **Fronter**. Miss Clarke and Miss Holmes from Harmony Hill have been working together to set up rooms based on our topics. Children will be able to exchange their work and take part in online discussions with other children in their school year.

Teachers will also meet to plan the shared contact days - children will take part in a range of activities to enhance learning and teaching in both schools. Teachers from Harmony Hill and St. Joseph's took part in CCEA Communication training on 15th October. The training was led by Mrs Fleming and Mrs Hanna for all teachers from both schools. Over the next number of weeks teaching staff will be working with the staff from Harmony Hill to build a portfolio of children's work for internal moderation. We will keep you up to date with any news.



P4 Do this in Memory of Me Programme:

We would encourage P4 children to attend as this is an important Parish based programme in preparation for First Holy Communion. The dates of the Masses are as follows:

Sunday 7th October 2018 - Enrolment Sunday
Sunday 28th October 2018
Sunday 25th November 2018
Sunday 16th December 2018
Sunday 27th January 2019
Sunday 17th March 2019
Sunday 14th April 2019
Thursday 18th April 2019
Sunday 5th May 2019
Sunday 23rd June 2019

First Holy Communion for our P4 children will be on Saturday 18th May 2018 at 10am.



POTTERY STUDIO SESSIONS

Pottery workshops continue in the Island Arts Centre with Mr Reid's P5 class and Miss Awada's P2 class. Each class will have three sessions during November working with real clay that will be fired in a kiln. We are one of few primary schools in Northern Ireland that offer this facility. The children love their experiences working with clay and are learning valuable transferable skills.

'Being the best that we can be'

Celebrating Maths Week Ireland

We had a lovely week last week in St Joseph's celebrating Maths Week Ireland and Digital Maths. Lots of different activities took place in each class to celebrate all things Mathematical - QR Code Scavenger Hunts, Maths Trails, Shape Hunts and Investigations to name but a few. Our P3 and P4 children had great fun using their 'Maths Eyes' at home too. They found lots of maths all around them and used Seesaw to show their teacher and class what they had been up to! You can see lots of lovely photos of some of the activities that took place throughout the week on our school website and twitter page.



P4 Do This in Memory of Me programme

The next Mass of the Do this in Memory of Me programme for children making their First Holy Communion this year is on Sunday, 28th October at 10am in St Patrick's Church. Refreshments will be provided in the Parish Centre after Mass.

Eco Council

Our school Eco Council will be promoting the 'Turn Off Fortnight' both at home and at school from 12 November until 23rd November! During this time, we will be reminding classes to turn off lights and all electrical devices.



PTA News

PTA Quiz:

Thank you to everyone who supported the PTA Quiz night in the Racquets Club recently. It was a great night with approximately £600 raised for PTA funds. It was lovely to see so many new parents attending. A big thank you to our Quiz Master Alison (Sam and Lilia's mum) who did a fantastic job!

Christmas Cards:

All Christmas Card designs have now been sent away to the Class Fundraising Company. Sample cards will be given out after Halloween to all children who submitted a design. Information on how to place orders will be attached to the sample cards.

Christmas Bazaar:

Our annual Christmas Bazaar will take place this year on **Monday 10th December** from 5.30-7.30pm. It is always a fun night to start of our Christmas celebrations in school. We are appealing for donations for Ballot Prizes and the Big Wheel. If you know any local businesses who could help us out by providing a voucher or prizes, please let us know or send them into the school office.

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and look out for a PTA News Sheet soon!

<https://www.facebook.com/stjosephslisburnpta/>

P3 Optician Visit

P3 had a great morning last Friday when Mr Jess (Lucy's dad) came to visit. He told the children all about his job as an Optician and how we see things to help them learn more about their topic 'The 5 Senses'. Thank you Mr Jess!



‘Being the best that we can be’

Dates for your diary!

Mon 5 Nov	Pupils return to school after Halloween mid-term
Tues 6 Nov	Transfer Club at 8am P6 YMCA Shared Education workshop 1.30pm - 3.30pm in St. Joseph's Primary School ROAD OF HOPE SHOEBOX COLLECTION
Wed 7 Nov	P3 at tennis Pottery at Lisburn Arts Centre P2 Mrs Awada @ 9.45am and P5 Mr Reid @ 10.45am Primary 1: Shared Education Planning Day: Miss Hearty Sub: Miss Evans and Mrs McManus Sub Mrs Twene Primary 4 at INTO Film Screening in Island Arts Centre NSPCC Assembly for KS1 and KS2 And P7 workshops
Thurs 8 Nov	Awards Assembly NSPCC Primary 6 workshops Friends School Science Students delivering science experiments in P6 (9.15am - 10am) Mrs Gould at CCEA ICT Course: Sub Miss Teague
Fri 9 Nov	Awards Assembly Safeguarding team Meeting at 8.30am P5 at swimming P7 at badminton
Mon 12 Nov	3pm: Collegiate Book Discussion: Literacy Charlotte Slater: Work Experience in P^ Mrs Gartland Mrs Awada: Digital Literacy Course: Sub: Mrs Twene Mrs Crilly: Community Connections Course Primary 6 Mrs Gartland: Young Enterprise Workshop in Island Arts centre Board of Governor Meeting at 6pm
Tues 13 Nov	8am Transfer Club P6 YMCA Shared Education workshop 1.30pm - 3.30pm in St. Joseph's Primary School Mrs Awada: Digital Literacy Course: Sub: Mrs Twene P4 - P7 Guided Reading Classroom Observations: Mrs Hanna Sub: Miss Leonard FOUNDATION STAGE LITERACY WORKSHOP AT 6PM
Wed 14 Nov	Pottery at Lisburn Arts Centre P2 Mrs Awada @ 9.45am and P5 Mr Reid @ 10.45am P3 at tennis P6 and P7 at SERC Workshops Anti-Bullying Assemblies KS 1 at 9.15 and KS2 at 9.45am Mrs Hanna: Shared Education Planning Day : Sub: Miss Leonard
Thurs 15 Nov	Flu Vaccinations Friends School Science Students delivering science experiments in P6 (9.15am - 10am) P1 - P3 Guided Reading Classroom Observations
Fri 16 Nov	Flu Vaccinations P5 at swimming P7 at badminton

Mon 19 Nov	3pm: Maths development: Internal Standardisation P2 Shared education Development day: Subs: Mrs Awada: Mrs Twene and Miss McAnerney; Miss Leonard
Tues 20 Nov	8am Transfer Club P6 YMCA Shared Education workshop 1.30pm - 3.30pm in St. Joseph's Primary School 2.15pm - 4pm Healthy Planning Session for P4 - P7 P3 Shared education Development Day: Mrs Gould Sub: Mrs Twene, Miss Clarke: Sub: Miss Leonard
Wed 21 Nov	Pottery at Lisburn Arts Centre P2 Mrs Awada @ 9.45am and P5 Mr Reid @ 10.45am Primary 4 Shared education Development Day: Mrs Connolly sub: Miss Teague and Mrs Hanna Sub: Miss Leonard Miss Hearty: Developing the Arts Course; Sub: Miss Evans Mrs Awada: Playful Learning in Practice Course: Sub: Mrs Twene P3 at tennis 2.15pm - 4pm Healthy Planning Session for P1 - P3
Thurs 22 Nov	Mrs Awada: Playful Learning in Practice Course: Sub: Mrs Twene Friends School Science Students delivering science experiments in P6 (9.15am - 10am) Primary 5: Shared Education Development day: Mr Reid: Sub: Miss Leonard and Ms Kitt: Sub: Miss Teague Pupil Conference 1
Fri 23 Nov	Primary 6: Shared education Development day: Mrs Gorman: Sub: Miss Leonard and Mrs Gartland: Sub: Miss Teague P5 at swimming P7 at badminton
Mon 26 Nov	BOOK FAIR 3pm: Healthy Planning session Mrs Crilly: Community Connections Course
Tues 27 Oct	BOOK FAIR 8am Transfer Club 2.15pm - 4pm Healthy Planning Session for P4 - P7
Wed 28 Nov	BOOK FAIR P3 at tennis 2.15pm - 4pm Healthy Planning Session for P1 - P3 Pottery at Lisburn Arts Centre P4 Mrs Connolly @ 9.45am and P6 Mrs Gartland @ 10.45am Mrs O'Hare Shared Education Development day: Sub: Miss Leonard
Thur 29	BOOK FAIR
Fri 30 Nov	BOOK FAIR Planner 3 ends P5 at swimming P7 at badminton Pupil Council: Wear your house colours Day £1



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