



## *'Being the best that we can be'*

**'Friday Note'**

**Friday 18 November 2016**

**No.7**

### **Looking back...**

#### **Sporting News**

##### **St Josephs' Swim Team**

St Joseph's Swimmers were in action again at the Swim Ulster Schools' Championships on 15<sup>th</sup> October in the Bangor Aurora Centre, competing against over 200 of the best swimmers from schools all across Ulster. Our P7 swimmers Rihanna Lawlor and Moya O'Kane competed in 2 events each and made the finals in both. Rihanna finished in a fine 5<sup>th</sup> place in the 50 metre Butterfly and went one place better in the 50 metre Freestyle, finishing 4<sup>th</sup> - less than half a second behind third. Moya swam in the 100 metre Individual Medley - where the swimmers compete in all 4 strokes (butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle) over 4 lengths and the 50 metre backstroke. Moya made the final in both her events winning the IM by a clear margin (over 3 seconds). The backstroke was a much closer race but again Moya came away with 1<sup>st</sup> place. This time the gap was .01 of a second! Well done girls – this is a great reward for all your hard work in the pool!

### **Post Inspection Update**

- A summary of the 6 'Action Plans for School Improvement' has been sent home today for your information. Full copies are available for you to read at the school office.
- Robert Thompson and myself observed 9 lessons altogether in Mathematics: Problem Solving and we saw a super range of mathematical activity going on in classes. The children were all using a wealth of mathematical language and developing a wide range of problem solving skills. We are really looking forward to observing 5 more lessons this Monday.
- Joan Henderson(Ex-ETI Inspector) visited the school on Monday to work with Foundation Stage teachers and classroom assistants. Together they looked at planning for learning in the Foundation Stage as well as observations and assessment. The teachers were really enthused about the day and are beginning to implement her recommendations into classroom practice.

### **Road of Hope**

Wow!!! we are just so proud of the number of shoeboxes collected here in school. We collected a total of 198 shoeboxes. Fiona from 'Road of Hope' came to school yesterday to collect them and she was really pleased. She says a massive thank you to all of you. This year almost all of the shoeboxes will be travelling to Romania in time for Christmas.

### **Anti-Bullying Week**

This week we marked anti-bullying week here in St. Joseph's. Classes worked individually on the theme and we covered it in both assemblies as well. Today each year group had a special presentation based on the theme as well from NSPCC and on Tuesday, George Ellis will be in school to talk to P4 – P7 about cyberbullying.

**Book Fair 2016 comes to St. Joseph's.** Our annual Scholastic Book Fair will be held in school during the week beginning 21<sup>st</sup> November. This is a fantastic opportunity to purchase a range of exciting and interesting books and promote our love of reading! We also have the added bonus of earning back commission from every book sold. Last year we were able to spend £2800 on class novels, group reads and books to stock up class libraries! The P7 pupils run the book fair as a business and this experience for them is invaluable so please support it in whatever way you can.....perhaps use it as a Christmas shopping opportunity! The book fair will be open from 8am-9am, 2.15-4pm each day.

### **Mathletics**

We are aware that some parents have been experiencing problems using Mathletics on an iPad. In order to use this fantastic resource effectively, download the latest Mathletics App. Try this and see how it goes.



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### Looking ahead...

Monday 21 November 2016	Tuesday 22 November 2016	Wednesday 23 November 2016	Thursday 24 November 2016	Friday 25 November 2016
<b>Book Fair Week</b>  P4 Tennis...last session today!  P5 – Fire authority visit to school  Photo orders MUST be returned today  Mathematics: Problem Solving Lesson Observations – Robert Thompson and Pauline Fleming  Planning, Preparation and Assessment Day for P5 Sub Teachers: Miss Leonard and Miss Flanagan	<b>Book Fair Week</b>  Maths Problem Solving workshop for parents @ 7pm  George Ellis Cyber Bullying workshops with P4 – P7  P3 Pottery Workshops at the Island Arts Centre  Mrs Gould at EA training 'Understanding and Managing Behaviour' 2pm – 4pm  Miss Clarke at Maths Coordinator training at EA 1.30pm – 4pm  Mrs Gorman: Professional Development Day with P6 Mrs Hanna. Sub teacher: Miss Leonard	<b>Book Fair Week</b>  NSPCC Follow Up workshops with P6 pupils  Mrs Gould at EA training 'Understanding and Managing Behaviour' 2pm – 4pm  Mr Reid: Professional development Day with Mrs Gartland. Sub teacher: Miss McNally	<b>Book Fair Week</b>  9.30am Miss McAnerney's Parent Assembly: all welcome  Justin Edwards (CCEA's Chief Executive) at assembly to present competition certificates  P1 at SERC Performing Arts students performing 'King Grumpyguts' at 10.30am  Mrs McCambridge absent: Sub teacher: Mr Reid Miss Leonard in Mr Reid's P5 class	<b>Book Fair Week</b>  Digital Leaders' Assembly  P5 Swimming  P6 Badminton/Squash  Application forms for P1 September 2017 available from EA website ( <a href="http://www.eani.org.uk">www.eani.org.uk</a> )  P2 at SERC Performing Arts students performing 'King Grumpyguts' at 10.30am  Mrs Gartland at St. Teresa's Primary school as part of her Professional Qualification for Headship course (PQH). Sub teacher: Miss Leonard  Miss Beatty Professional Development. Sub teacher: Miss Leonard  P7 at Bussy Malone (Hunterhouse) production in Island Hall.

### **Christmas Bazaar Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2016 @6.30pm**

Our annual Christmas Bazaar always begins our Christmas celebrations. Bring the family along to enjoy the variety of activities. At the minute we are collecting items for Tombola (little gift sets, candles, etc) and each class will also collect certain items to make up hampers:

- P1 - crisps/Pringles/party mixtures
- P2 - biscuits/cakes
- P3 - sweets/chocolates/selection boxes
- P4 - puddings/tins/mince pies/packets
- P5 - soft drinks/juices/water
- P6 - Bottles/jars
- P7 - Bottles/jars

You can send these in from now to your child's teacher as soon as possible and before Friday 2 December. . Thank you.

**Open Night:** If you have or know of a child ready for P1 next year, please come along to our open night on Tuesday 6 December at 7pm and see what we have to offer.

Enjoy your weekend. Pauline Fleming (Acting Principal)



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