



'Being the best that we can be'

Friday Note

Friday 20 October 2017

No.6

Looking back...

What a week..... With Storm Ophelia and the DENI directive to close on Monday and Tuesday of this week...it has been a very disruptive one. We hope you and your families remained safe during the storm.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Mrs Suzanne Gartland who has recently been awarded her Professional Qualification for Headship (PQH). We are absolutely delighted that Suzanne has achieved this award and it is testament to her commitment to school improvement across St. Joseph's! Well done Suzanne!

Flag Pole for our Eco Flag!

Yes we found one! Well...we didn't but Mr and Mrs Lynch did! (Dearbhla, Oran and Grace's mum and dad). They have also very kindly purchased it for us so that we can display our Eco-Flag with pride! Thank you so much Mr and Mrs Lynch. Look out for our eco flag being displayed soon.

Road of Hope Shoe Box Appeal

Every year we at St Joseph's always support Road of Hope by filling shoe boxes with items to help provide Christmas Gifts for those less fortunate than ourselves in Eastern Europe. Last year we collected over 180 shoe boxes which Fiona was delighted with. Shoe boxes should be returned to school by **Tuesday 7th November**. For information on what to include in the shoe boxes please have a look at the flyer that was sent home on Wednesday or further information can be found on our school website.

PTA News

Unfortunately due to school closures this week, the PTA meeting that was due to take place on Tuesday night, 17th October, had to be postponed. A new date will be organised as soon as possible.

Christmas Card Designs:

The deadline for return of PTA Christmas Card designs was extended to today, Friday 20th October. Thank you for all the lovely designs that were submitted! The designs are now ready to be posted off to the Class Fundraising Team. In a few weeks you will receive a sample of your child's card and an official order form. Further details of how to place an order will be sent home with your child's sample card.

Maths Week Ireland

Hurricane Ophelia didn't stop us from celebrating Maths Week Ireland this week in St Joseph's! Each class took part in a variety of fun and practical maths activities throughout the week. Have a look at some of the photos on our website and twitter page.

Maths Week celebrations continue this weekend throughout Ireland.

Maths Week 2017 in Northern Ireland culminates in **Maths in the City** at the Ulster Museum on **Saturday 21st October** with local and internationally renowned mathematicians entertaining the public with mazes, maths magic, puzzles and card tricks both inside and outside the Ulster Museum.

The event is free and all the family are welcome! Why not go along with your family and see how much fun maths can be!

Foundation Stage Literacy and Numeracy Workshops

We are delighted to be able to host two curriculum workshops in the coming months especially for parents of pupils in the Foundation Stage (Primary 1 and 2). These workshops will help parents to understand how Literacy and Numeracy are taught in the Foundation Stage and will give parents tips on things to do at home to help children learn.

- Literacy: Reading and Writing Workshop: **Tuesday 14 November 2017@ 6pm**
- Numeracy Workshop: **Tuesday 30 January 2018 @6pm**

We hope that as many parents as possible can come along.

St. Joseph's Primary School Prospectus

We are currently updating our school prospectus for our open night on Tuesday 5 December 2017. We would like to update our parent comments. If you would like a comment about St. Joseph's to be included, please email me before Friday 27 October. I would really appreciate a range of comments and particularly from Primary 1 parents this year. Thank you!

LOST PROPERTY: Please ensure all lost property is picked up next week when you are in school for your parent consultations.



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Looking ahead...

What a lovely week next week.....

We have a lovely week in store for pupils next week....

- **Freddy Fitness** will be in school on Wednesday and Thursday to deliver his fun filled fitness workshops to our pupils. Pupils should wear their PE gear on their allocated day. Remember to bring in all sponsorship money before next Friday 27 October. Thank you for all your support.
- **Halloween Art Workshops:** Pupils will participate in Halloween themed art workshops on either Monday, Tuesday or Friday. Ms Gorman has very kindly prepared all of the materials and Ms Braskiene will deliver these in each class next week. Look out for some spooky creations coming home next week!
- **Halloween Dress-Up Day:** On Friday 27 October pupils can come to school dressed in their Halloween costumes. We will have a school parade as well as spooky walks etc. It's a fun filled day to end the first half of this term.

*******Mid-Term Break: Remember school is closed from Friday 27 October and will reopen again on Monday 6 November.*******

Reporting to Parents

*******Reporting to Parents Week beginning: Monday 23 October 2017*******

REMINDER: The school will close at 2pm each day next week to facilitate reporting to parents. There will be NO AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES that week.

Pick Up arrangements

In order to ensure the safe pick up of pupils from the school next week we will implement the previous arrangements as follows:

- All P1 – p3 children with no siblings in P4- P6 must be picked up at 1.45pm at their normal pick up point
- P4 – P7 pupils with siblings must be picked up at 2pm at their normal pick up points

Monday 23 October 2017	Tuesday 24 October 2017	Wednesday 25 October 2017	Thursday 26 October 2017	Friday 27 September 2017
Parent Teacher Consultations	Parent Teacher Consultations	Parent Teacher Consultations	Parent Teacher Consultations	Parent Teacher Consultations
School closes at 2pm	School closes at 2pm	School closes at 2pm	School closes at 2pm	School closes at 2pm
Please see pick up arrangements above	Please see pick up arrangements above	Please see pick up arrangements above	Please see pick up arrangements above	Please see pick up arrangements above
Halloween Art Workshops	No choir today due to parent consultations Halloween Art Workshops P7 At Rathmore Grammar School to see their production of 'Oklahoma!' leaving at 9am sharp	PLEASE NOTE: NO TRANSFER CLUB TODAY Freddy Fitness Day for P1 – P3 and P4 Mrs Connolly: Pupils can come to school in their normal PE Gear P6 at tennis	Freddy Fitness Day for P5 – P7 and P4 Mrs Gould: Pupils can come to school in their normal PE Gear	Halloween Dress-Up Day: Come to school dressed in your Halloween costume! Halloween Art Workshops

Enjoy your weekend!
Pauline Fleming (Acting Principal)

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