

St Joseph's National School

Newsletter December 2018



Junior Infants: Ms Bohan, Ms Daly, Ms Dooley , Ms Flanagan.

The boys and girls have settled in very well to school life here at St Joseph's. They have been learning a lot through Aistear and Team Teaching. They have written their letters and are all looking forward to Santa Claus coming this Christmas.

Senior Infants: Mrs Egan, Mr Hilliard Ms O'Connor, Ms Rawle, Ms Rooney.-
The pupils have been very busy for the past number of weeks learning their lines and songs for their **Christmas Nativity** which takes place in the School Hall on 10th, 12th, 13th and 14th December .
A special word of thanks to musical director- Mrs Kenny for all her help.

Language Unit: Ms Devine. The children are looking forward to attending the show Elfie saves Christmas on Fri 7th December.

1st Class: Ms Brady, Mrs Duke, Ms Kearney, Ms McWeeney.

The children have been participating in the **PAX** Programme and have greatly improved their capacity to engage with learning, to manage their behaviour and to regulate their emotions . This has been of great benefit to their academic and social development. **It's also good fun too!!!!!!....**
Well done everyone!!!

2nd Class: Ms McClean and Mr McWeeney have joined forces and have been teaching their classes the **Tin Whistle** . The girls are really enjoying this and have already mastered a number of tunes.
They are also busy preparing for the Sacrament of **First Holy Communion** which takes place on **Saturday 11th May 2019**.



3rd Class: Ms Keogh, Mrs KilBane.

3rd/4th Class: Ms Donlon

The girls have set themselves the challenge of perfecting two songs from the wonderful musical **The Greatest Showman** "**This is me**" and "**A Million Dreams**". Tá siad ag foghlaim an t-amhrán-"**An Chéad Nollaig**" freisin.
They are also enjoying Football with Ciaran and Dance with Aimee.



4th Class : Ms Finan, Ms Smith.

The pupils visited **St Joseph's Care Centre** to entertain the residents with their brilliant "**Halloween Show**". They will return to sing **Christmas Carols** later in December .
The classes took part in Roddy Doyle's "**Fighting Words**" "**Write-a-Book** workshop in Dublin and produced some fantastic stories. Irish stories were also submitted and published in a book by Ms Gobl, Scoil Mhuire. Comhgairdeas!

5th Class: Mr Kiernan, Ms Leen.

Both classes have been engaged in an integrated **Art & Literary Project** mentored by Chris Thompson and Kevin Flood- "**BACK TO THE FUTURE -LONGFORD**" So far pupils have done a walking tour of Longford Town-observing historical changes . They composed "Memory " poems and also recorded Family members' "Memory " stories. They will also base work on present Longford and Longford in the future.

5th/6th Class: Ms Gilmartin.

6th Class : Ms Dolan.

National Children's Choir: The girls have been practising their repertoire since September and would like to express their gratitude to their teachers and especially Mrs Patsy Fitzmaurice for her commitment to the choir. They travelled to Edgeworthstown on 21st Nov. for the first major rehearsal involving almost 400 children from other schools in Longford and Leitrim. The NCC will perform in St Mel's Cathedral in April 2019.

Basketball –Supermacs Primary School League

Well done to the girls in 5th and 6th for winning their match against St Patrick's NS recently. The League games continue after Christmas. Thanks to coaches Ms Gilmartin, Ms Leen and Ms O'Connor.

Football-Allianz Cumann na mBunscoil

Longfort. Several matches have already been played by the 5th/6th class team and the girls are doing very well. Their coaches Mr Bannon, Ms Butler and Mr McWeeney are very proud !!!

Swimming: Lessons are organised throughout the year for classes from infants to fourth. A number of classes have already completed their sessions. Lessons for Ms Donlon's and Mrs Kilbane's girls will begin on **Thursday 10th January 2019.**



Maths Week -all classes participated in various activities and made "Maths Fun" for the week. Thanks to Mrs O'Brien who co-ordinated this and displayed photographs on the Numeracy Board.

Green Schools. – Ms Kearney and the Green School's Committee are working very hard on this project. The theme for the project this year is **Global Citizenship- Litter & Waste.**

Congratulations to the following staff who welcomed new babies into their families:

Ms Louise Kearney-	Helena
Ms Louise Ellis-	Séimi
Ms Angela Hughes -	Bella
Ms Maria Phillips -	Ava
Mr Alan Kiernan-	Miles
Ms Aisling Gartlan-	Amelie Elise
Ms Anita Dolan -	Ella Rose
Ms Eilish Healy-	JJ(John Joseph)
Ms Michelle Fox-	Jake
Ms Karen McGarry -	Sophie



Congratulations to Ms Kathleen Maher and Mr David Trappe who got married in June. Congratulations to Ms Carmel Maguire and Mr Niall Farrell who got married in October. Best wishes go to Ms Barbara Donlon and Mr Paul McGee on their recent engagement..

Hospice Morning- Thank you to everyone who supported our Annual Coffee Morning in aid of Longford Hospice. This year we collected €2714. Sincere gratitude goes to all involved in organising this successful event especially Mrs Mary Brennan.

3rd Anniversary –Maureen Courtney RIP.

We remember in our thoughts and prayers Maureen's family and all those in our community who are missing loved ones at this time



Sacraments Calendar 2019

- *Confirmation Commitment Ceremony- -7:30 pm Fri 15th February .
- *First Confession TBC
- *First Holy Communion 2 pm Sat 11th May.
- *Confirmation - 2 pm Sat 18th May .

Christmas Holidays

School closes half day Fri 21st December.
School re-opens on Monday 7th January 2019.

*Nollaig Shona daoibh go léir.
Wishing you all a very
Happy Christmas.*



