



St. Joseph's Mercy P.S. Christmas Newsletter 2023

The Board of Management would like to thank all of the pupils and parents of St. Joseph's Mercy Primary School for their support of all school events throughout the last year. We thank the staff of St. Joseph's for their hard work and dedication during the year. We wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and we look forward to working with you in 2024. We hope you and your family keep well over the holidays and that 2024 will be a great year for us all.

Mrs. Kilcoyne

It was with great sadness that we received the news of the death of Mrs. Denise Kilcoyne on Saturday, 18th November. May she rest in peace.

Mrs. Kilcoyne was a greatly loved and very dedicated member of the teaching staff of St. Joseph's Mercy Primary School until her retirement in June 2021. Her love of teaching was always evident in her work with the children in her care and her great kindness to everyone she met will always be remembered. Mrs. Kilcoyne will be greatly missed by every member of our school community. We pray especially for her husband, Pádraic, and her family and friends at this very sad time.

New Board of Management

The new Board of Management came into place on 1st December. The new Board of Management will serve from now until 30th November 2027 and we look forward to working with them. The names of the members of the new Board will be published on the school website in January. We thank the members of the last Board for their invaluable work for the school community over the last four years.

Cumann na mBunscoil

Huge congratulations to our boys' football team and their coach, Mr. Paul Brennan, on their wonderful win on Sunday, 12th November. The boys played a great game against Ashbourne Educate Together in the Cumann na mBunscoil Final in Páirc Tailteann. We were so proud of the team and the boys were thrilled with their win. They enjoyed a well-deserved treat in Supermacs afterwards! We thank Mr. Brennan for coaching the team and we thank all of the teachers who are involved in the coaching of teams in the school. We thank the many pupils, parents and staff who came to support the team on the day. They were presented with their medals on 13th December in O' Mahony's by past and present members of the Meath county team.

Erasmus Visitors

We were delighted to welcome Maria Stathaki and Marina Darrosa from the École Européenne de Luxembourg to St. Joseph's on 12th November. During their stay, our visitors enjoyed the boys' match in Páirc Tailteann as well as visits to Trim Castle and the Hill of Tara. They were delighted to meet staff members and children in many of our classes during their visit and they thank everyone for the great welcome they received in St. Joseph's.

Christmas Raffle

The Christmas raffle is being organised by the Parents' Association. The prizes for our Christmas raffle are beautiful Christmas hampers sponsored by Glanmore Foods as well as lots of other prizes provided by the Parents' Association. Tickets (€1 per strip or €2 for 3 strips) can be bought in classrooms or in the yard before school and before home-time. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Christmas Cards

Well done to all the children who designed their own Christmas cards this year. The children produced beautiful Christmas scenes for their cards which were purchased by their parents.

Christmas Display

Thank you to our secretary, Irene Brady, for the beautiful Christmas display of lights, trees, snowmen and more on the bottom corridor of the school. The children love it.





Concert with the Navan Silver Band

On 10th December children from our school choir sang with the Navan Silver Band and St. Oliver's P.S in the Newgrange Hotel. It was a beautiful concert with a finale of Christmas carols to get us ready for the Christmas season.

Building Project

The Construction Phase of our Building Project is progressing very well. We thank all of the families of the school for their continued support with the arrangements in place during this phase of the project. Access for parents and visitors to the school is via Leighsbrook Lane during the school day.

Science Week

Many of our classes took part in activities to mark Science Week. The children had a great time investigating, predicting, exploring and recording. We thank Ms. Beatty, Ms. Comaskey and Ms. Regan for their organisation of Science for Fun. We also thank the parents who assisted with experiments in First Classes and the pupils from Fourth Class who helped with experiments in junior classes. It was a really enjoyable event for everyone involved and a great way for the children to build on their knowledge of science. Well done, everybody!

Religion

- On Saturday, 11th November, Fr. Noel celebrated Mass in St. Mary's Church for those belonging to our school community who have died. Children from each class presented the List of the Dead at the beginning of the Mass.
- December the 8th was the feast of The Immaculate Conception. Children from 3rd to 6th class attended Mass in St. Mary's Church to mark this feast day.
- We reflected on the meaning of **Advent** during our December religion lessons. We await the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

Sport

- **GAA training** continued this term for classes from Junior Infants to 2nd class.
- 5th and 6th classes finished their block of **swimming lessons** in Aura Navan. The children really enjoyed the lessons and we thank all of the staff in Navan Aura. We also thank the Parents' Association who funded the cost of transport to and from the lessons. 3rd and 4th classes will have their swimming lessons after Christmas.
- Children from 3rd to 6th represented the school in Fairyhouse in November at the **Meath Cross Country Championship**. They did brilliantly. Well done to Aimilios in 5th class who came 2nd in his category.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Our school's Parent Teacher Meetings took place on Tuesday, 21st and Thursday, 23rd November. We thank all parents for their attendance. Our school welcomes parental involvement in our pupils' education. If you ever need to discuss any issue or concern with your child's class teacher, it is best to contact the school office to make an appointment with the teacher.

Have a look at our website www.stjosephsmercypsnavan.ie to see all the activities the children have been doing this term.

School re-opens on Thursday, 8th January 2024.

We wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas and every blessing in the New Year.

