



St. Josephs Primary School Macroom

Christmas Newsletter 2015

Dear Parents

Wishing you a happy Christmas and every good wish for the coming year.

Carol Service



We have started the Advent season and we are looking forward to Christmas. We have our Parish Carol Service on Sunday 13th December at 7 pm in the Parish Church. The girls from Second, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Classes will be taking part in it.

New Board of Management

Our new Board of Management has been formed. We welcome Mr. Stephen O'Connor as Chairperson of the Board.

We thank Mr Pat Halloran the outgoing Chairperson for his service to the school.

We also thank Vincent Kingston, Eoin McCarthy and Cornelia Cronin for their service on the Board.

The Parent nominees on the new Board are Mr Jack Purcell and Mrs. Sylvia Sexton.

The community nominees are Mrs Margaret O'Riordan and Mr Martin Neville.

The teacher nominee is Mrs Helena O'Callaghan. Thanks to the parents who let their names go forward for election to the Board.

New Classrooms

We are very happy with our new classrooms. Thanks to everyone for your good wishes for the opening of our new classrooms. It was a wonderful occasion and we look forward to many happy years in these new classrooms.

The CraftEd project which Ms Kelleher completed last year is on display now on the corridor in the hall of new classrooms.

You are welcome to our school concert on **FRIDAY the 18th of December at 11.00am.**

- Ms. Cronin's JUNIOR INFANTS
- Ms. Twomey's JUNIOR INFANTS
- Mrs Creedon's JUN & SEN INFANTS
- Ms. Kelleher 2nd CLASS
- Mrs O'Callaghan 4th & 5th CLASS
- Ms Cooper's 5th & 6th CLASS

The school band will open the show with some Christmas tunes. The rest of the classes will have their Concert around St Patrick's Day. Santa will also be visiting us before the holidays.

We will be selling raffle tickets at the Concert €2 a strip, €5 for 3 strips. These tickets will be on sale in the classrooms from Thursday 10th of December.

Proposed new Car Park

We received Planning permission for our new car park on the 20th of October. However an objection to this development has been lodged with an Bord Pleanála on the 12th of November, which means the project cannot go ahead as planned. P.A Reg No 15/5903 if you wish to look up the details of the case. We await the decision of an Bord Pleanála on this objection, before any further decision can be made.

Thanks for your co-operation with our new traffic management system. It is working well. However when one car parks on the new roundabout, this causes major congestion for everyone else, please do not park on the roundabout. We look forward to your continued co-operation in the interests of the safety of all our pupils.

Gift Giving

We appreciate the gifts you have given to teachers and staff over the years. However with so many families have a lot of demands at this time we would prefer that gifts were not given to teachers and staff or other pupils as it can put pressure on families.

Parents' Association



Many thanks to the Parents Association for their fundraising for the school and for their ongoing support. Thanks for organising the production of the children's Christmas cards and calendars. All money raised will go to our Building Fund. We have raised €25700 so far. Please continue to support our fundraising efforts.

Lift-off to Literacy

We are continuing Lift-off to Literacy in our school in First Class, Second Class and Senior Infants.

The aim of Literacy Lift-off is to enable pupils to read and progress at their own level and pace. You can read more about it in our School Blog. <http://stjosephsprimarymacroom.scoilnet.ie/blog/?p=6038#more-6038>

Super Troopers

Our school was featured at the launch of 'SUPER TROOPERS' a programme that has been created by Laya Healthcare. The aim of the programme is to encourage children to learn about a healthy lifestyle and increase their physical activity levels. The children in 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th classes have received their 'SUPER TROOPERS' Activity Journal. It is full of fun activities to do at home daily.

School Happenings



The **Woodpeckers Recorder Quarter** came and performed in our school hall on the 7th of October for classes from Second to Sixth. It was a wonderful performance. Second Class went to the Town

Library to hear

Ann Dalton talk about her radio drama 'The Lonely Flower'. The girls recorded their own ending to the drama.

Senior Infants, First and Second 'Pitchie the Cat' on the 23rd of October in the Briery Gap.

Sixth Class went to the **Lifetime Lab** to a Science workshop on Nov 27th.

Pupils from Fourth Class also took part in the local **Library Quiz** on the 25th of November.

Fourth and Sixth class pupils will attend St. Mary's Secondary School performance of 'Conflict in the Convent' on the 26th of November.

Pupils in the school band will visit St Colman's Hospital and Care Choice Nursing Home to provide some Christmas music and carols for the residents on the 14th of December.

Ms Cooper's 6th Class were highly commended for their entry 'The Interview' in the National Fís Film Project awards. It can be seen on their website <http://www.fisfilmproject.ie/film-archive/2015-films/>

Sports

Ms Fitzpatrick's class and Mrs O'Callaghan's class went for Swimming Lessons to the Castle Hotel. Ms Cooper's class will go in April and May.



Well done to all the pupils who took part in **Cross Country Running** in the Town Park on the 6th Oct. Tadhg Sheehan coached pupils from First to Sixth in football skill during September and October. First class practiced camogie/hurling skills with Liam Slattery, from Laochra Óg hurling club, during September and October.

The girls from Fourth to Sixth Class do a Power hour training every Tuesday after school in St Mary's Secondary School Sports Complex.

Shoebox Appeal

Thank you for your support of the Shoebox appeal in the classes from Third to Sixth. These boxes will go to children in poor countries.

Reminder

- Our school uniform is grey pinafore, blue blouse, royal blue cardigan/jumper, navy tie/white/grey/ navy stockings or tights, school jacket and **black shoes only** and school jacket.
- School tracksuit and runners to be worn for P.E., Drama and Sport activities and when advised by the Class Teacher.
- No jewellery allowed except watches and stud earrings.
- Please do not to give party invitations to your child to distribute in school, as children who are not invited are put in an embarrassing position. Your co-operation on this issue would be greatly appreciated.



School closes on Tuesday 22nd for Christmas holidays and **re-opens on Wednesday 6th** January 2016.

