



# St. Josephs Primary School Macrooom

Christmas Newsletter 2016

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 11<sup>th</sup> December at 7 pm in the Parish Church. The girls from Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Classes will be taking part in it.

## Christmas Concert

You are welcome to our school concert on **Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> of December at 11.00am.**

- Ms. Cronin's JUNIOR INFANTS
- Ms. Twomey's JUNIOR INFANTS
- Ms. Kelleher 2nd CLASS
- Mrs O'Callaghan 5<sup>th</sup> CLASS
- Ms Fitzpatrick's 4<sup>th</sup> CLASS
- Ms Cooper's 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 also be on sale in the classrooms from Monday 12<sup>th</sup>.of December.

These raffles were a great success last year, so we are appealing to you to support us again this year. There will be lots of prizes and lots of opportunities to win !!

## Proposed new Car Park

Our new staff car park is nearly finished and will be ready soon for use.

We are very happy that we have reached this stage and hope that there will be more space for you to park and 'pick up' safely outside the school.

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 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 we know families have a lot of demands at this time of year we would prefer that gifts were not given to teachers and staff or other pupils.

## 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 €36,460 so far. Please continue to support our fundraising efforts.

## After school activities

Homework Club take place on Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Power Hour is on Tuesdays with Mrs Dromey and Ms Kelleher. Third and Fourth Classes took part in it for the first six weeks and Fifth and Sixth classes for the following six weeks. Fifth and Sixth Class girls learn tenors and trebles after school on Wednesdays with Ms Kingston.

# School Happenings



Sixth Class went to the **Lifetime Lab** to a Science workshop on Oct 12<sup>th</sup>.

Pupils from Sixth Class also took part in the local **Library Quiz** on the 26<sup>th</sup> of October.

Pupils from Third to Sixth Class attended a workshop on 'Energy Saving' presented by Rebecca Archer from Lifetime Lab, Cork on the 27<sup>th</sup> October here in school.

Fifth class pupils visited an Art exhibition on School Life and took part in a workshop in the Cork County Library on the 21<sup>st</sup> October.

Sixth class pupils attended St. Mary's Secondary School performance of 'West Cork Story' on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December.

We are also joining with St Mary's Secondary School for a Carol Service on the 9<sup>th</sup> December. The school band and choir will visit St Colman's Hospital and Care Choice Nursing Home to provide some Christmas music and carols for the residents on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December.

Congratulations to Clodagh McDonagh, Liam Neville, Ella Fitzgerald and Emma Sweeney who won prizes in the Credit Union Art Competition.

## Sports

Ms Fitzpatrick's class and Mrs O'Callaghan's class went for Swimming Lessons to the Castle Hotel. Ms Cooper's and Ms Kingston's classes will go from March to June.

Well done to all the pupils who took part in **Cross Country Running** in the Town Park on the 5th Oct. Tadhg Sheehan coached pupils from First to Sixth in football skill during September and October. Fourth, Fifth and Sixth classes practiced camogie/hurling skills with Liam Slattery, from Laochra Óg hurling club, during September and October. First and Second Classes were also introduced to hurling/camogie.



## National Children's Choir

Fourth and Fifth classes are taking part in the National Children's Choir. The children learn a

repertoire of songs- lots of different styles.

They will go for practices with other schools involved in the project from the west Cork area.

The final concert will be in Drimoleague. We do not have a date at this stage, but it is something not to be missed. We will let you know as soon as we have the details.

## Shoebox Appeal

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

## Thumb Print Campaign

SMA Fathers, Wilton, Cork, have produced a video on climate justice. This is part of a '**Thumb Print Campaign**', which highlights the effects of climate change and the need for climate justice for the world's poorest countries. Emma Cahill from Sixth Class was chosen for the voice over for the school edition of this video on climate change. This is part of an awareness programme which they deliver in schools around the country. They came to our school on Oct 5<sup>th</sup> to give this programme and also to video the presentation.

<http://www.sma.ie/climate-justice/>

If you would like to make your mark, you are welcome to make your thumbprint on our chart.

## 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**.
- 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 Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> for Christmas holidays and **re-opens on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2016.**

