

St. Joseph's Primary School/

It is hard to believe that we are at the end of another school year and that we will be getting our Summer holidays next Friday 30th June.

This year has been a very successful, busy, rewarding year for the pupils, and staff of St. Joseph's. Our academic results are excellent and the children have had wonderful opportunities throughout the year such as visits to cultural events and participation in various sports .

Sports.

We in St. Joseph's are very conscious that children love exercise. The following are some of the activities enjoyed by your children this year in school

- Athletics Cross country running
- Swimming
- 1. 2nd /3rd in the Castle Hotel
- 2. 4th /5th/6th in Bishopstown
- Irish dancing
- Soccer
- Tennis
- Activity day
- "Fun day"
- Cork City sports

Cork City Sports:

Congratulations to all the boys and girls from 1st to 6th who had an amazing day of success at the Cork City Sports.

We won a cup for the junior relay and a plaque for our overall performance.

Quiz Competitions:

We entered and did really well in the following quizzes.

- Library quiz
- Credit union quiz
- Cadbury's quiz.

Outings:

These were many and varied:

- Heritage week.
5th /6th went on a heritage walk with Ted Cooke in the Castle grounds 7th Sept
- Millstreet country Park
3rd class Nov 22nd.
2nd 3rd 4th June 28th
- Recital by the Woodland string band, March 16th
- Cinema visit, March of the Penguins
- The three little pigs live performance
- Bi-lingual puppet show.
- Kennedy's Pet farm
- Muckross House
- Crag caves
- Library visits
- Riverwalk Project work
- Town playground
- Nature walks

Many of these outings and activities were sponsored by the Parents' Association and the A.I.B. Better Ireland fund.

Our Annual Sponsored Walk:

Thanks to everyone who took part in our annual Sponsored Walk on Sunday May 13th around the Weirs. We raised €4,600.

This money will be used to replace our photocopier and to fund other school activities.

The First Holy Communion:

2nd class girls received their First Holy Communion on May 20th. Ms. Cronin, Deirdre and Fr. Coleman helped the girls to prepare for this special day.

3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th sang beautifully at the Mass under the guidance of Mrs. O'Brien and Mary Mc Sweeney.

The Sixth Class Graduation:

On June 22nd 6th girls came together with their teachers and parents to celebrate the end of their primary school education. Fr. Coleman celebrated a Mass where the girls participated fully and afterwards they shared some of their "school memories" with us!!!!!!

We're saying "goodbye" to the girls. We will miss their smiling faces every-morning. Girls, remember " the world is waiting for you, you are talented capable and confident. Go, grasp all the opportunities but remember, there will always be a welcome for you here in St. Joseph's"

Junior infant welcome evening

June 16th saw the new Junior infants visit the school for the first time, a very important day in their young lives. They got the opportunity to meet their teachers for next year and familiarise themselves with the school. It is wonderful to see all the new faces arriving This, very often of course means that we get to meet new parents as well. We met these parents at a talk for parents of incoming juniors on Wed 14th June. We extend a very warm welcome to our first-time parents. We look forward to many years working together for the benefit of our children.

The Parents' Association:

Thank you to the Parents' Association who organized many activities and fund-raising events this year including.

- Personal accident insurance
- Christmas party
- Santa's visit
- Church gate collection
- Easter raffle
- Bag packing
- Sponsored walk
- "cuppa" at 1st Communion
- End of year party.

Confirmation:

The Sixth Class were confirmed on March 8th by Bishop John Magee. As usual this was a beautiful ceremony with pupils from 3rd, 4th and 5th helping to make the day such a special one for our 6th class.

St. Joseph's recorder band

The girls in 5th and 6th played beautifully at the Confirmation and at the 1st Communion this year.

We were honoured with a visit recently from Sr. Rose (founder of the band). She was thrilled with their recital, and with the fantastic high standard of music which the girls have. Well done Mrs. O'Brien !!!!

I take this opportunity to thank

- You parents for your continuing support throughout the year.
- The teachers, classroom assistants, secretary, receptionist cleaner caretaker and pupils for their dedication, enthusiasm, co-operation and willingness to be part of the team of St. Joseph's Primary School.
- I hope you all have a great holiday
- Sr. Brigid has extended her career break. We wish her well and I look forward to working with you all again in September. **School re-opens on Friday Sept 1st**

Yours sincerely,

Kathleen O'Driscoll