



St. Joseph's Primary School
42 Castle Street
Lisburn
BT274XE

'Being the best that we can be'

Friday Note

Friday 6th November

No. 10

Dear Parents,

We trust you all had an enjoyable mid-term break but, like us, I'm sure you're glad to be back to routine. We have a really busy half-term ahead of us. Usually at this time of year, we are preparing for Nativity shows and school choirs and sharing some Christmas cheer. While COVID-19 has impacted somewhat on those plans, we are intent on spreading that Christmas cheer throughout the St. Joseph's community and beyond. You will see some of our plans in this week's note.

Value of the Month

Our value for the month of November is Responsibility.

School Dinners

If you are sending your child to dinners, please ensure you book through School Money. This allows the canteen to stick within their fine margins. On occasion, they have had to cook extra food due to the number of children who haven't been booked on.

Hamper Collections

We all know that Christmas this year in St. Joseph's will look a little different than in previous years. However, as a school at the heart of the Lisburn community we do want to continue to think of others at this time of year. This year especially, many families will be in severe need so we will continue our Christmas Hamper tradition. In order to ensure that we have a wide selection of items for our hampers, we have allocated specific items to each year group as follows:

P1	Crisps/Pringles/Twiglets
P2	Biscuits /crackers
P3	Sweets/Chocolates
P4	Mince pies/puddings
P5	Christmas cakes/Christmas logs/ buns/cakes
P6	Tea/Coffee/cranberry sauce/pickles
P7	Bottles of shloer/juice and adult juice

If you feel you can donate an item, please send it into school with your child before **Friday 27 November 2020**. These items will be used to make up Christmas hampers for St. Vincent de Paul, the Simon Community and other needy charities in the Lisburn area. The PTA will also use a small selection of the hampers as prizes in their annual Christmas Ballot which will help to raise money for our own school. Thank you sincerely for your continued generosity.

PTA News:

Christmas Cards: Thank you to everyone who submitted a Christmas Card design. The designs have now been sent away to the Class Fundraising company. In the next few weeks you will receive a sample card and information to let you know how you can make a purchase.

Christmas Ballot: We will be organising our annual Christmas Ballot again this year. If you would be in a position to offer us a prize, please contact the school office or send us a private message on our PTA Facebook page - we would love to hear from you! Ballot books and further details will be sent home within the next few weeks.

PTA Funds Update: We were delighted to be able to use PTA funds to purchase a new CleverTouch Interactive Whiteboard for Ms. Kitt's P5 classroom recently. It was installed over the Halloween holidays. The children were so excited to see it when they returned from their break! Thank you to all our parents, grandparents and wider school community for your continued support with our fundraising efforts - we couldn't do it without you! Have a look at our PTA Facebook page to see a photo of some very excited children with their new board!



**Shared
Education**

Tel: 92674901 Fax: 9262907
www.stjosephsschool.org
Twitter: @stjosephlisburn



Acting Principal: Mr Barry McMahon
Email: bcmahon827@c2kni.net

Vice Principal: Mrs Pauline Fleming
Email: pfleming930@c2kni.net



St. Joseph's Primary School
42 Castle Street
Lisburn
BT274XE

'Being the best that we can be'

Grant Applications: We had some amazing news over the Halloween holidays. We have received funding from Halifax to purchase much needed World Around Us equipment for the school to the value of £1,000. We also applied for an Awards for All Grant from the National Lottery and were so excited to learn that our application was successful! We were awarded an amazing total of £7,155!! The money that we receive will be used by the school to purchase resources to support your child's education. We will keep you posted on how the money has been used over the coming months.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 10th November at 7pm on Zoom. New members are more than welcome! If you would like to join the meeting please contact one of the PTA members or send a private message to the PTA Facebook page to receive the Zoom details.

Crest Awards

Over the next couple of weeks we will be carrying out investigations and activities related to the world Around Us - in particular science. These are practical activities and some will take place outdoors. We can't wait to try out some of the Crest Award activities. Thank you so much to the PTA who have been awarded a grant that will help us purchase science resources for each class.

Engage Programme

This week, Mrs Craig started planning for our Engage Programme, targeting specific areas in Literacy and Numeracy for selected pupils. She is looking forward to getting started with the various groups next week.

Digital Book Fair.....Coming Soon!

We are very excited to be hosting our first 'Digital Book Fair' (24th November- 1st December). Due to Covid restrictions, our usual Book Fair will be held differently this year. You will be able to browse the catalogue on our website and simply order by phone from the comfort of your home! More information regarding the payment process and delivery of books will follow! Thank you in advance for your support!

St. Joseph's has the Christmas Sparkle...

This year we will not be able to put on our Christmas show or the P5 Nativity in the Island Centre, so we thought we would try to put together a virtual production. We cannot mix the 'class bubbles' so our choir are unable to rehearse.

We would like to invite children from P5 – P7 to take part in our talent competition with a Christmas theme. If your child sings, dances, does gymnastics, tells jokes, recites poetry or does a magic trick we would love to see them perform. Children can also work in small groups within their bubble. After watching some acts, we may group children to perform together to avoid repetition. The winners will star in our virtual concert with some acts going on social media and the website. It is important to note that children unable to go on the website will not be in our final recording. Our show will also be shared with other interested parties such as Thompson House.

More details will follow but for now, if your child would like to enter, he/she can start practising at home. Entry forms will go home next week.

Tin Whistle

We are starting tin whistle in P5. We would like to keep up the musical skills our children have and enable them to access as full a curriculum as possible. Miss Martha Grant will teach tin whistle in the hall to allow for social distancing.

Wednesday - Mrs Kitt from 1 - 1:30pm

Friday Mrs Smyth from 1 – 1:30pm



**Shared
Education**

Tel: 92674901 Fax: 9262907
www.stjosephsschool.org
Twitter: @stjosephlisburn



Acting Principal: Mr Barry McMahon
Email: bcmahon827@c2kni.net

Vice Principal: Mrs Pauline Fleming
Email: pfleming930@c2kni.net



St. Joseph's Primary School
42 Castle Street
Lisburn
BT274XE

'Being the best that we can be'

Lessons will start the week beginning Monday 16th and will run until Christmas. Whistles can be purchased from the school for £4 and lessons will cost £1 a week. The total cost from now until Christmas will be £10 (if you wish your child to take part). This will run for the school year and children who enjoy the lessons can progress into the folk group.

Folk Group

P6 and P7 - If your child plays an instrument we are starting folk group again. This will be for children who have been playing for at least a year (beginners will need a little more time to learn their instrument). Folk Group will be on Monday after school from 2:20 – 3:15pm. P7 will join at 2:30pm. The folk group will play together which is an important skill for any musician. Clarinets, flutes and violins from P6 & P7 are welcome to attend.

The week ahead – 9/11/20

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
IFA coaching P5-7 Engage Programme begins	Art/Creative Voices – P7PF	GAA Coaching (Paul Law) – P2, P3 & P4	Art/Creative Voices – P7NOH P5 and P6 – Basketball @ Racquets Club	

Open Night

COVID-19 has impacted on so many facets of school life. Unfortunately, we will be unable to run our regular Open Night this year. As an alternative, we are currently working on a promotional video which we can use to showcase the school and our pupils. In addition to this, we will also look to distribute flyers and posters in the local area to welcome potential new parents.

New parents can also call the school and make an appointment to visit the school and meet the Principal. If you are aware of any potential new parents, feel free to share this information with them.

Barry McMahon

Acting Principal

'Mistakes are always forgivable if one has the courage to admit them.'

Bruce Lee



Shared Education

Tel: 92674901 Fax: 9262907
www.stjosephsschool.org
Twitter: @stjosephlisburn



Acting Principal: Mr Barry McMahon
Email: bcmahon827@c2kni.net

Vice Principal: Mrs Pauline Fleming
Email: pfleming930@c2kni.net