



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

'Being the best that we can be'

Friday Note

Friday 13th November

No. 11

Dear Parents,
It's a packed newsletter so jump right in!!

Digital Book Fair - Going Live!

Tomorrow you will receive a link to the brochure on the website where there is a great selection of books! An order form with instructions on payment will also be sent home with your child. Books are available to order straight away, right up until Friday 27th November. You can return the order form to your child's teacher as soon as you have made your purchase. Thank you so much in advance for your support of the Book Fair!

Open Night/Promotional Video

As alluded to last week, we will be unable to hold our usual Open Night this year. As an alternative, we are busy planning our own promotional video and filming will start tomorrow. The main filming will take place this Wednesday (18th) and we can't wait to show off our wonderful school and pupils. A few points to note;

- All* pupils should wear full school uniform even if they have PE or coaching on Wednesday.
- * PE uniform should be worn by the P5 year group and P4MC.
- Consent forms have been collected at this stage and we will make sure only those pupils who have permission will be filmed.

Nursery pupils

If you have a child due to start P1 in September 2021, we would appreciate if you could let us know by email. Further details of the application process will follow in due course.

Also, a reminder that new parents to the school, or first time parents, may make an appointment to visit and speak to the Principal or Vice-Principal.

School holidays

Due to COVID-19, we had to make a slight revision to the holiday list. This is available on our website – <https://www.stjosephsschool.org/cmsfiles/items/securedocs/RevisedSchoolHolidays20202021.pdf>

Anti-Bullying Week

The theme of anti-bullying week this year is United Against Bullying.

"We're all a piece in the puzzle and together, we're united against bullying."

During this week we will be exploring anti-bullying in school and on a global scale. We will be focusing on care and respect for others. Please take time to talk to your child about the issues they will be exploring in anti-bullying week. St. Joseph's Care and Respect booklet will be available on the school website. This details how we address incidents of bullying in school and highlights the importance we place on care and respect for others. If you need to talk to a teacher at any time regarding the well-being of your child, please do not hesitate to contact their class teacher. The designated safeguarding teachers are Mrs Connolly and deputy designated is Mrs Fleming. It is of the utmost importance to us that your child feels safe and happy in school.

Odd Socks Day

To kick Anti-Bullying Week off, we will have an Odd Socks Day. The idea behind this is to celebrate what makes each of us unique. Pupils (and staff!!) are invited to wear odd socks on this day!

Christmas Jumpers and Party Day – 17th December

As you know, our canteen supplies the meals for five different schools. In discussions around COVID, we have agreed to do something a little different this year. Due to the size of our canteen and the high numbers, it would be extremely



**Shared
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difficult to manage Christmas dinners so, instead, the canteen will provide Christmas Party Boxes with buffet style food and Christmas treats. This will be delivered to classrooms so that the children can all eat together, listen to Christmas music and watch a Christmas movie.

In St Joseph's, we will also wear our Christmas jumpers on this day.

St. Joseph's has the Christmas Sparkle

Preparations are under way for our virtual concert. Entry forms for the talent competition will go out on Monday with a closing date of Friday 20th November. Heats will take place in the following weeks. Our folk group, instrumental groups and groups of choir members will also perform. We are looking forward to seeing all the acts.

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.

Creative Voices

In the half-term ahead, we will be offering wellbeing sessions for all our pupils, not just a targeted few. These sessions will be held in class half a day a week and led by our Creative Voices Tutor. The use of art to express emotion will be a key part of these sessions alongside opportunities to express ourselves during class discussions.

World Around Us

Crest Awards are well under way... the children are enjoying investigating, designing fair tests, recording results and making conclusions. The children are using a variety of materials and resources.

P2 investigated 'Which material makes the best hospital bed for teddy?' and the best hand washing agent to take germs and dirt away.

P4 created 'Journey Stick' showing special journeys.

P5 collected materials in Castle Gardens and made bird nests for our science garden

Some of our photos are included below;



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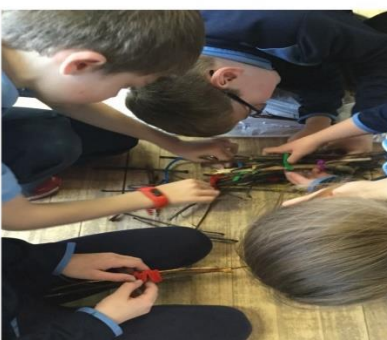
**Gathering resources for
bird's nests**



PIC•COLLAGE



Making our nests



PIC•COLLAGE



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The week ahead – 16/11/20

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|--|--|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Odd Socks Day and start of Anti-Bullying Week IFA coaching P5-7 Engage Programme (Mon-Thurs) | Art/Creative Voices – P7PF Digital Book Fair begins | GAA Coaching (Paul Law) – P2, P3 & P4 P5 and P6 – Basketball @ Racquets Club Promotional video shoot P5Ck – tin whistle | Art/Creative Voices – P7NOH | P5ES – tin whistle |

Barry McMahon
Acting Principal

I'll leave our words of wisdom with P1 this week.
They produced this masterpiece with the help of Mrs Gorman.
'The sight of stars makes me dream!'



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