

22nd November 2017**Choir**

Our school choir will perform at the Parish Carol Service on **December 3rd**, in the church. They will sing two songs- "Caribbean Christmas" and "Mary, did you know ?" Tickets for the concert are €10 and you can pay at the door on the night. The concert starts at 7.30pm and features choirs from local schools and the parish choirs.

Parent teacher meetings:

Meetings will take place over the next few weeks. Class teachers will be in contact with you regarding dates and times. We try to meet with all parents during the first term and if the scheduled day does not suit we will make every effort to find a suitable time.

Science Week :

Science Week got off to a flying start as our second classes designed and constructed their own kites during a workshop with tutor, George, from Go Fly Your Kite. Thanks to Midlands Science and Lucy Maunsell's Mum, Gillian, for organising a very special day for us. It was magical to see the kites take off in the yard and to see science in action. All classes are having fun with science this week and classes will share some of the experiments at a science fair in the hall next Friday.

Trip to Charleville:

Our Junior and Senior Infant classes enjoyed a nature walk to Charleville. It was a beautiful sunny morning and all the boys and girls loved walking in the squishy leaves and getting their wellies mucky. Most of the leaves have fallen to the ground and the trees are getting bare. Some children found some acorns and others spotted places that might be good places for squirrels and hedgehogs to sleep for the winter.

Special Olympics.

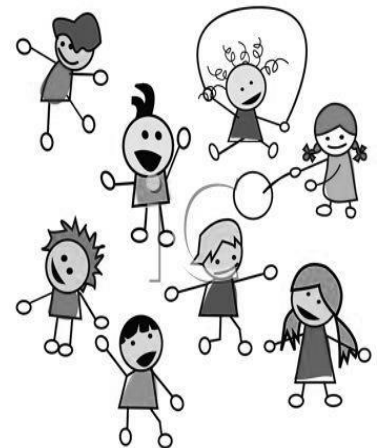
We are very proud of our athletes who have progressed to the finals of Special Olympics Ireland . Alex, Oliwia, Becky and Moira will compete at the national



games in Saggart next June and they are training every week with their coach, Helen and the Special Olympics Team. Another past pupil, Chris, will represent Leinster in swimming and we wish him well in his training programme. Thanks to everyone who helped out at the bag packing at the weekend and many thanks also for the tremendous support shown by parents and the community. The money raised will help to cover the cost of sending the team to the finals.

Activities:

- Swimming lessons are continuing for second classes.
- Our GAA coach, Kevin, will take first and second classes for skills training over the next five weeks.
- Homework Club takes place on Mondays and Thursdays for second class children
- Breakfast Club is open from 8.45 am every day and all children are welcome to drop in at any time before 9.10 am.



After Schools activities:

- Drama
- Karate
- Pipe Band



HSCL News:

Our HSCL teacher, Ms Leonie O'Brien will continue to visit homes throughout the year. She will leave her card if there is no one at home and you can contact her at the phone number listed or through making an appointment through our secretary, Helen. There are a number of supports available in the school and in the community. Our play therapist, Ms Madeleine Kelly is here every Wednesday and Thursday and classes and talks for parents will run throughout the year.

Student Council.

Liam Nolan, Kai Owens, Leah Kavanagh, Edward Comerford, Sophia Kearns, Eoghan O Connor, Tommy Fullam, Alex Bermingham, Alec Mooney, Natalia Hejanoska, Cordelia Joyce, Jeff Nolan, Gustavas Kerbedis.

All the pupils in St Joseph's play an important role in helping our school to organise fun learning activities and games. Our Student Council works hard to spread the good news of what is happening in each class to the whole school and they have lots of ideas to help make learning fun for all children. In October the Student Council members organised the welcoming committee for the Rose of Tralee and they had lots of questions to ask Jennifer about her role.



Health Promoting Schools Committee:

Patryk Kapczynske, Cillian Quigley, Josh Doyle, Aidan Rattigan, Nicole Wynne, Bronagh Dunne, Juliet Clear, Sacha Donoghue, Madison Rickard, Brynn Mulhall, Kate Galvin, Holly Spain, Evelyn Varghese, Alanna Brickley, Alicia Kelly, Ms. Lambe, Mrs. O'Brien, Celine McDonagh, Sarah Roe, Abbie McNamee.

Our HPS team met last week and have lots of ideas to promote healthy lifestyles. "Me Time" will be introduced to all classes and will teach the children to relax and feel calm after exercise and yard breaks so that they can concentrate better on learning activities.

Green School Committee:

Izzy Galvin, Matia Toselli, Noah Kennedy, Jasmine Paige Matsushita, Sadhbh Delaney, Tommy Fullam, Wyatt Winston, Charlie O'Gorman, Clodagh Rigney, Ben McGlinchey, Ruairi Keary, Nicole Wynne, Abbie McNamee.

We are working on Global Citizenship this year. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the recent shoebox collection. We sent 61 shoeboxes to children in need.



Lunches:

Menus are available from the office at any time and you also have the option of changing menus online. We have a healthy lunch policy in place and children who bring lunch from home must bring healthy foods. Water and milk are the only drinks that are permitted and you are reminded that fruit juices are not considered healthy as they contain sugars. Thanks to the ACE programme who supplied every pupil with a water bottle to encourage children to drink more water daily.

Whole School Inspection (WSE)

As part of a Whole School Inspection some families will receive a questionnaire. Please complete the form and return in confidence to the school

School Photos

Proofs will be collected on **Friday 24th November**.

Best Wishes

Best wishes to Ms Angie Gorman who has retired from our staff. Angie has kept our school spick and span over the last twelve years and we will miss her smile, her great sense of humour and the kind words she had for everyone she met. We wish her a speedy recovery to good health and every happiness in the future. We are also saying a fond farewell to Mr Fahy. He will be leaving St Joseph's at the end of the month to take up a new position as principal of a school in Portarlinton. Darren will be missed by everyone but he has promised to keep in touch and we all wish him every success and happiness in his new role.

Check website and twitter for school news

www.stjosephstullamore.ie

@StJosephsArden