



Newsletter

Monday 4th December



St. Joseph's Primary School

Follow-up Inspection

The ETI's Follow-Up Inspection of St Joseph's has now been published and can be found at <https://www.etini.gov.uk/publications/type/inspectionreports>

Enrolment for Primary One, September 2018

Application forms for enrolment to St Joseph's are now available from the office. For those parents/guardians applying for a place for their child in Primary 1, the application must be received by St Joseph's no later than 12:00 on Wednesday 10th January 2018.

PTA news

Raffle tickets have been issued for the St. Joseph's PTA Christmas raffle. Tickets are £1 each or 6 tickets for £5. We would be grateful if you would return tickets and money to school by Friday 15th December at the latest. Unused tickets should be returned to the school as soon as possible. The draw will take place during the school assembly on Tuesday 19th December with prizes sent home with children. Some additional tickets may be available from the school office; alternatively, you can also buy tickets online via the PTA website <http://www.stjosephsps.co.uk/parent-teachers-association.html>. This year there is a great range of prizes on offer, all kindly donated by parents and local businesses. The PTA are also going to put together some Christmas hampers, so if you would still like to donate something for these, please bring it in to school by Friday 15th December.

Prize List:

- Ulster Rugby Family ticket (4 people) for Ulster vs La Rochelle European Cup match
- £100 Smyths Voucher
- Andrew Mulvena Gift Pack - Luxury Hair mask, blow dry and hair care pack
- Luxury Christmas Hamper (including half case of wine)
- Boots Hamper for Men
- Boots Hamper for Women
- One month free group training membership and 2 classes a week
- 3 course meal for 2 including drinks at Pizza Express
- £50 voucher for Gilnahirk Tyres
- £50 voucher for Neill's Hill
- Three course Sunday Lunch for two at Marco Pierre White Steakhouse
- Christmas arrangement from Beautiful Flower Company
- £30 Gift Voucher for The Muddlers Club
- Four cinema tickets for The Strand Cinema
- 45 min head, neck and shoulder massage from Norah McNally
- Blow Dry at Urban Roots
- £10 voucher for We are Vertigo

Citizen of the Month

Every month the achievements and efforts of individual children in each class are recognised in Assembly with our special Citizen of the Month presentation. Congratulations to all our current winners for November - Anna(P1A), Julia(P1B), Weronika(P2A), David(P2B), Sophea-Mai(P3A), Ben(P3B), Mayah(P4A), Colm(P4B), Cara(P5A), Rory(P5B), Aoife(P6A), Cliona(P6B), Muzamil(P7A) and Ken(P7B).

Choir

Congratulations to the choir for their fabulous performance at Priory Integrated College's on the 28th November.

The choir will be performing at three other events over the next few weeks:

- The NSPCC's Carols by Candlelight concert at St Anne's Cathedral on Tuesday 5th December at 1930;
- The Parish Advent Service in St Colmcille's on 11th December; and
- Carol Singing in George Best City Airport on Wednesday 20th December from 10:00 - 12:00.

Your support for the choir at any of these events would be greatly appreciated.

St Colmcille's Carol Service

Get into the Christmas spirit and join our Carol Service. It will be held on Sunday 17th December from 17:00 - 18:00 in the Church. Choirs from St Joseph's, Our Lady & St Patrick's College and the Parish Choir will be taking part, and light refreshments will be served afterwards in the hall - everyone welcome.

School Improvement

Miss McCullough attended the latest day of SOLAS training on Reading Recovery on 28th November.

Mr Wright attended a UICT cluster on 28th November.

Mrs McAlister attended a numeracy cluster meeting on 28th November.

Lesson observations for the Performance Review and Staff Development scheme (PRSD) were undertaken by the principal and numeracy coordinator.

Mr Donaldson met a CCMS representative and two members of the Board of Governors to agree his PRSD objectives for the year.

Christmas dinner

Christmas dinner will be served for children on Tuesday 12th December.

Parent Club

There is a 2-3 club running every day in the Parochial Hall. The main purpose of the club is to make available somewhere for parents and carers to go if they have a school pick up at 2pm and 3pm, or anyone, who wants to 'fill in an hour' after school. All children must be accompanied by an adult and this is on a trial period until Christmas.

To allow the club to be a successful and valuable asset to the school, help is needed to ensure responsibility for opening/locking the hall, set up and putting away of tables and chairs. If this responsibility can be shared by many, we can surely all enjoy an additional asset to the school and wider community.

Non-Uniform Day

We are delighted to report that Friday's non-uniform day raised £421 for the Cancer Fund for Children.

Parking in the carpark

Unfortunately, due to the limited space available in the school carpark, it is not possible for cars to remain parked for the duration of the day. We would appreciate your cooperation on this matter as congestion is an ongoing problem in the carpark.

For your information

Please note that the Designated Teacher and Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection in St Joseph's are Mr Donaldson and Mrs Tully respectively.

Music fees

The 1st term music fees for the pupils receiving weekly tuition from the School of Music tutors are now due. The cost this year is £50 per term or £150 per annum. Many thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

Now here's an answer

In the last newsletter we asked:

*Pete, Sarah, Matt, Nina and Arthur are all friends.
Each of them sends one text message to each other person.
How many text messages will be sent in total?*

The answer is:

*Pete will send four text messages: one to Sarah, one to Matt, one to Nina and one to Arthur.
Sarah, who has already received a text message from Pete, still needs to send four messages - one to each person.
This is the same for Matt, Nina and Arthur meaning that a total of 20 text messages will be sent.*

Now here's a problem

At the Russian World Cup in 2018 there are 6 teams in a group. Each team plays every other team twice. How many games are there in total in each group?

Dates for Your Diary

Friday 8th December	Staff training day (school closed for pupils)
Sunday 10th December	'Do This in Memory Of Me' at 09:30 in St Colmcille's
Wednesday 13th December	Christmas Carol Service at 11:00 for P1-P3 parents
Thursday 14th December	Christmas Carol Service at 11:00 for P4-P7 parents
Friday 22nd December	School closed at 12:00 for Christmas Holidays
Monday 25th December - Tuesday 2nd January	Christmas Holidays (school closed)
Wednesday 3rd January - Friday 5th January	Staff training days (school closed for pupils)
Monday 8th January	School re-opens - start of Term 2
Wednesday 21st February	First Reconciliation Parents' Meeting at 19:00 in the Parochial Hall
Sunday 28th January	'Do This in Memory Of Me' at 09:30 in St Colmcille's
Sunday 25th March	'Do This in Memory Of Me' at 09:30 in St Colmcille's
Wednesday 18th April	First Communion Parents' Meeting at 19:00 in the Parochial Hall
Sunday 22nd April	'Do This in Memory Of Me' at 09:30 in St Colmcille's
Sunday 13th May	First Holy Communion for P4A at 11:30 in St Colmcille's
Sunday 20th May	First Holy Communion for P4B at 11:30 in St Colmcille's