



St. Joseph's Newsletter January 2023



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Dear parent/guardian,

I am very happy to welcome you to our first newsletter of 2023. Last Saturday 21st January, Bishop Denis celebrated a lovely Do This in Memory Mass for our 2nd class pupils in St. Coca's church in Kilcock. Three people from the community were honoured after the mass including our very own retired principal Ann Mc Quillan. A presentation was made to Ann in appreciation of her 23 years of service to St. Joseph's.

This week is **Catholic Schools Week: Walking Together in Faith and Love**. Grandparents Day is a wonderful part of Catholic Schools Week; we have decided to hold Grandparents Day in our school later on in the year when the winter viruses are not as prevalent.

Kind regards, *Ciara Mc Nickle, Acting School Principal*

Junior Infant Enrolments

If you have a child to enrol for Junior Infants in September 2023 please complete the Shared Admissions Form on our website and bring it to Shirley in the office along with an original birth cert before the 26th January. Due to the demand for places in our school, we may not be able to guarantee all children places in our school next year. Unfortunately, we will be unable to offer places for applications received after this date.

Zumba and the National Children's Choir in 4th Class

4th class are starting Zumba lessons this week. The children are looking forward to learning some cool new dance moves over the course of the lessons!

4th class are also enjoying learning new songs from the National Children's Choir Repertoire ahead of round two rehearsals that will take place in February. Special thanks to Ms. Shiel Nolan and the two class teachers Ms. Mc Grath and Ms. Lynch for all the work they are doing to prepare the children for this concert. We got a sneak peak of some of the songs during a school assembly and they sound beautiful.

Attendance

We would love to see your child in school every day as every minute counts! We understand however, that there may be occasions when your child needs to miss school. For these days, we would really appreciate if you could give us an absence reason. We are legally obligated to report all absences over 20 days to TUSLA so **it is important that we record all absence reasons** on our roll system. Aladdin connect is the easiest way to do this, or alternatively you can contact your child's class teacher.

To help you to keep track of your child's absences we will send an email if they miss 10 days of school, and a text if they miss 15 days of school. If you have any queries please feel free to contact Ms. Cafferkey on lcafferkey@stjosephskilcock.com

Peace Proms in 5th Class

5th class are busy preparing for their Peace Proms concert which is taking place on the 4th February. Huge thanks to Ms. Divilly and their class teachers Ms. Murray and Ms. Gorry who have been preparing them for the concert. Thanks also to Ger Ryan who will be accompanying the children to the Peace Proms concert along with Ms. Divilly, Ms. Murray and Ms. Gorry on the night.

Learning about China in 2nd Class

Second class have been learning about China. They built their very own Wall of China using lollipop sticks and empty toilet rolls in the classroom!



Learning about Science and Forces in 6th Class

Mr Higgins' 6th class had lots of fun recently learning about different forces in Science and how they impact our lives. They conducted some experiments testing the effect of air resistance on falling objects. They did this by making paper spinners as well as parachutes. This reminded everybody of Power Speed Parachute soccer players and athletes use in training.



Dates for your Diary - *full calendar on website*

- **February Bank Holiday:** School closed Monday, 6th February
- **February Mid-term:** School Closed Monday 13th – Friday 17th February 2023

Success for all, a happy school - Learning and growing together