



# St. Joseph's Newsletter



## April 2022

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### Seachtain na Gaeilge



During Seachtain na Gaeilge, 1<sup>st</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> March, the children embraced our Irish language and culture. They spoke more Irish every day, had a Ceolchoirm (concert), Céilí (dancing), Tráth na gCeist (Quiz), Tóraíocht Taisce (Scavenger Hunt) and Lá Glas (Green Day). Check out our songs, dancing and more on our twitter page [@sjnskilcock](https://twitter.com/sjnskilcock).



### St Patrick's Day Parade



Congratulations to the Parent's Council and all those who worked on and took part in the St Patrick's Day Parade for our school. We won the Best Non-Commercial Float. The Trophy is now in the school and as a result the Parent's Council delivered a little treat to every child in the school.

### School Library

The school library is in search of any Soccer Annuals in good condition from 2020 onwards. Please contact Martina.

### Attendance

Please try to have your child in school every day and on time, start time is **8:50am for all**. Gates Open at 8:40am.

We know there is still quite a bit of anxiety around due to COVID and we very much appreciate your support in keeping unwell children at home. We love to see them even if they are a bit late as this can happen to anyone. Similarly, should they need to go to appointments please send them in either side of the appointment.

We have to record each absence for TUSLA should they request the information on attendance for each child. Please let your child's teacher know the specific reason for the absence so we can record it. Should your child miss 20 days then we can easily explain to TUSLA why they were absent. Thank you.

### In-School Therapy Project

Our school is delighted to be taking part in the In-School Therapy Project. The project involves school staff, Speech and Language Therapists (SLTs), Occupational Therapists (OTs) and families working together to support the learning of all students, including students with additional learning needs. The SLTs and OTs will work with school staff so that all students, can benefit from this great resource in school. Please ask your child's teacher for more information.



### Confirmation



Both 6th Classes celebrated their confirmation in St Cúca's Church, on Saturday 5th March. The boys had a wonderful day marking their sacrament. Well done to Mr Higgins, Mr Forde and Geraldine Gibbons for all their hard work in preparing the boys. This is a special moment for our school as these are the last all boy classes to make their Confirmation. Next year, we will have boys and girls for the first time.



### Easter



The school will close at **11:50am for all** on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April and re-open on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April.

We hope you all have a lovely and safe Easter break. Don't forget the school calendar is available on our website <https://www.stjosephskilcock.com/>



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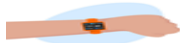


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### Smart Devices

We are aware a number of children have smart watches and phones, etc. These are expensive items and we would hate to see them lost or damaged. For this reason, we are asking that the children leave these at home unless absolutely necessary.

Thank you.

### Planting



4<sup>th</sup> class had a visit from Kildare Beekeepers Club and planted



three trees on our school grounds, two Rowan trees and a Lime tree. These are trees of choice for bees, so should help to sustain the bee population around our school. This is our first step of many towards looking after our native wildlife and the creation of a school garden.

### Cumann na



### mBunscoil

Cumann na mBunscoil is returning for senior boys & girls in the weeks ahead, after two long years of absence from competitions, with a blitz taking place for Ladies Football, Camogie, Football, Hurling & Cross Country.

### Astro Turf

After many, many years of waiting, we finally have our Astro-Turf. It is an excellent resource and facility for our school to have. The children are hugely enjoying the space. Thank you again for all your support in bringing this wonderful space to fruition. You'll see some wonderful photos of the children using the Astro on our Twitter page.

<https://twitter.com/sjnskilcock?lang=en>



### Cross Country

Cross Country trials took place in school for boys and girls in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class. The standard was particularly high this year, with a large number of pupils competing for a limited number of places. The Cross Country team will represent our school on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April in Hawkfield, at the Cumann na mBunscoil Cross Country competition. Best of Luck boys and girls!



The Parent's Council held a Table Quiz on 16<sup>th</sup> March, to raise money for the school, with 16 tables taking part and a hugely successful raffle. We would like to thank all involved who made this night a great success and especially our local businesses and sponsors for their generous support.

*If you are interested in joining the parents Council please contact us at [stjosephsnspc@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephsnspc@gmail.com).*



### Sport for All



4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Class are taking part in a new initiative called Sports for All. Every Thursday for 40 minutes, the classes practice various skills and play games in small groups. For the first 6 weeks the focus is on football, hurling and camogie. This is a great opportunity for every child to become involved in sport.