



St. Joseph's Newsletter

November 2020



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Parent/Teacher Meetings

Parent/Teacher meetings will happen a little differently this year. We are hoping they will take place during the week of 22nd November over Zoom. Your child's teacher will be in touch over the coming weeks.

School Library

We still have over 150 books outstanding from the school library, last year. Please have a look at home for any school library books. If you find any, send them in.

Competition

Ms Grogan's Class and Ms McGraths 4th Class were nominated in Rye River Café's recent competition. They won a class set of Halloween treats delivered to their



Principal's Note

Dear parent/guardian,

I hope you had a lovely Hallowe'en and remained healthy throughout. Personally, I was delighted to get the break. Since September we had six and a half weeks of fairly normal school life, until COVID-19 reached St. Joseph's. Then we had a very surreal lead in to the Halloween break.

This was undoubtedly my most challenging ten days since I became a Principal teacher, some 20 years ago. We peaked with six cases of COVID over the 10 days, within the school, between children and staff. We had, at varying times, up to 10 staff out, over different days, between *having COVID 19, self-isolating and restricting movements*. Day to day, staff and subs were constantly being juggled. Additional measures were taken to keep the school open and everyone within it safe.

By Thursday 22 October, our class returned and all was well again in St. Joseph's. We got through this and everyone recovered. Those who tested positive for Covid-19 had few, if any, symptoms. Times like these force us to re-prioritise, re-evaluate and focus on what is most important in life – our health.

We are now back to "normal" in the school. The country is at Level 5 and we are working every day to make sure the school is as safe as possible for children and staff.

Take care and stay apart,
Ann McQuillan
School Principal

3rd Class

3rd Class have been learning about letter writing. The children decided to write letters to the residents in local nursing homes. Here are Ms Scanlon's and Ms O'Neill's classes with their letters.



Remember An Post are delivering letters and cards for FREE to nursing homes. Maybe this is something you and your child could do at home. Just write FREEPOST where the stamp usually goes and post as normal.