

St. Joseph's Mercy P.S. Easter Newsletter 2021



Dear Parents,

I hope that this newsletter finds you and your families well. We have come to the end of a most challenging term for children, parents and teachers. We are all delighted to have the children back to school after a very long period of school closure and online learning. Well done to you all for the great learning that took place at home. I would like to thank the staff of St. Joseph's for the learning opportunities that they provided for your children via Seesaw and for their great efforts in keeping in touch with families during this very challenging time. I would like to thank you all for your co-operation with the measures we have in place to keep St. Joseph's a safe and healthy environment for everyone in our school community. I wish you all a happy and safe Easter and we look forward to seeing the children back in school on Monday, 12th April.

In keeping with our COVID-19 School Response Plan, the Board of Management of the school requires you to:

- ***wear masks at all times on the school premises and at the school gates***
- ***exercise physical distancing at all times on the schools premises***
- ***not to send your child to school if he / she is unwell.***

Please read our revised COVID-19 School Response Plan on the school website. Thank you for your co-operation.

Kind regards,

Corona McDermott, Chairperson, Board of Management

Look at our website stjosephsmercypsnavan.ie for more information and pictures of school events.



Seesaw: We thank everyone for their response on Seesaw for the period after Christmas. We know at times that online learning was very difficult for families. One child from every class was chosen as “Pupil of the Week” during this time and received the Principal’s Award in the post. These children were also put into a raffle to win the Family Feast Competition (a Supermac’s voucher worth €25 given by Navan School Completion Programme) to reward them for their wonderful work. Thanks to NSCP for this prize. **We ask that children continue to do the homework tasks that teachers are setting on Seesaw.**

Re-opening of our school: Our school re-opened for Junior Infants to 2nd class on March 1st and for 3rd to 6th class on March 15th. We are delighted to see all of the children back with smiles on their faces. We thank all parents for their co-operation in returning books and adhering to all of the protocols we have to follow when coming and going from the school. The return to school has been a great success.

Ireland Reads on Thursday, 25th February, was a national day to celebrate reading. Many children from our school took time on the day to ‘Squeeze in a read’ and many continued to do some extra reading on a daily basis. Well done.

World Book Day was on Thursday, 4th March. The children completed many activities such as book reviews, bookmarks, book covers to mark the day. Many children also entered the **Meath Library and School Service Competition to create a Library Mascot**. Some of the entries can be seen on our website.

Sacraments: Well done to all the Confirmation candidates who had their preliminary meeting with the priests of the parish where they presented the name they have chosen for Confirmation and their sponsor’s name. They continue with their preparation for Confirmation. Well done also to the children from second class who are preparing for First Penance and First Holy Communion. We do not have dates for the sacraments yet but we will communicate with you as soon as we have information.

Lá Glas agus Seachtain na Gaeilge. Tuesday, 16th March was Lá Glas. All of the children wore green to celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge and St. Patrick’s Day. One child from each class was also awarded a prize for making a great effort at speaking Irish. Maith sibh go léir, a pháistí, agus lean oraibh ag labhairt na Gaeilge!

The Feast of St. Joseph, the patron saint of our school, was on the 19th March. On that day we said a prayer to St. Joseph and asked him to look after us all during these difficult times.

Easter Egg Raffle: An Easter Egg raffle will take place on Friday, 26th March. Tickets are on sale in classrooms at one strip for €1 or three strips for €2. The proceeds of the raffle will go towards the licence fees for online resources and we will also make a donation to the Zambian Mission.

Easter Cards: Garda Stacey Looby asked the children in our school if we would take part in making Easter cards for elderly people in homes or those living alone in the community. We were delighted to be asked and many of the children’s cards will be distributed in the coming week. This was a huge success at Christmas and some of the children’s Christmas cards were even spotted on RTE news.

GAA Training: GAA Training with Noreen Sheridan will continue for Junior Infants – 2nd classes when Level 5 Restrictions are relaxed.

School closes on Friday, 26th March and re-opens on Monday, 12th April (see the Letter for Parents on the school website for dismissal times on Friday).

