



## October Newsletter

Dear Parents/Guardians,

### Dates for your Diary

- **Internet Safety Talk:** Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October @ 7PM in the school.
- **Girls football blitz (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> class):** Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October
- **Coffee Morning: Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October from 10:30AM-12:00PM.** €3 per child, any additional contributions appreciated. **All proceeds go directly to the Milford Hospice.** If parents can make/bake and donate it would be much appreciated. All parents, family and friends and members of the community are welcome to attend.
- **Boys Football blitz (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> class):** Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October in Corofin (if parents are able to give lifts please let the school know).
- **Spooky Stroll:** Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October (this is just for fun...no donations needed!)
- School closes for Hallowe'en break on **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October**, reopening **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November**

### Communication With School

Phone Number: 065-7084414

E-mail: [stjosephsmm1@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephsmm1@gmail.com)

Website: [www.stjosephsmm.ie](http://www.stjosephsmm.ie)

Please ensure that Trish in the school office has up to date contact details on file for all parents of our students.

### Aladdin

Aladdin is the best way to keep informed of what's happening in the school. Please pay attention to all notices issued on Aladdin.

### New Website/Email addresses

We are pleased to announce that our new and improved website has been launched. We have updated the website to make it more user friendly. The website is now designed to be compatible with smart phones and smart devices, and information is presented in a clear and accessible manner. We are still in the process of fine tuning features on the website and training ourselves. If parents have any suggestions for content on the website please let us know.

In the coming months we will be updating our email system in the school. Teachers will have their own email which they will use to communicate with parents if needs be. As always if parents need to speak with a teacher the best way is to email the school to request an appointment at our main email address;

[stjosephsmm1@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephsmm1@gmail.com)

### Traditional Music Classes

Music classes for 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> classes with Bríd O Donoghue have commenced. Children are incredibly lucky to have a teacher of Bríd's calibre delivering Music classes, which provides all children with an opportunity to learn and perform together to a high standard. The cost of these lessons is €30 per child (due now) which will cover lesson up until the Christmas break and represents excellent value for money.

### Arts and Crafts

The school collects a contribution for Arts and Crafts supplies.

The cost is:

€30 for one child

€55 for two siblings

€70 for three or more siblings.

If parents have not yet paid their contribution can you do so now.

### **Morning Routine**

School starts at 9:20AM. Children should be dropped to school no earlier than 9:10AM.

With the exception of Junior Infant Parents for the first week or two, no parents are permitted to enter the school yard in the morning, unless in case of an emergency or for a scheduled meeting with a teacher. If a parent wishes to make an appointment to see a teacher they should phone or email the school.

The MUGA sports field is not to be used before 9.20AM in the morning. Children are to remain on yard as per last year.

Once the bell has been rung, children are to enter via the doors as outlined below;

<b>Class</b>	<b>Door to Enter</b>
Juniors and Seniors	Back yard door
1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Front right hand door
3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup>	Back MUGA side door
5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup>	Front left hand door

At 3pm children are to leave the school yard promptly.

### **Fun Run**

Our Annual School Fun Run took place on Thursday 18th September and was a great success. We had a great turn out of runners and walkers and what a pleasure it was to be back doing our Fun Run. Many thanks to our Sponsors: Supervalu, Londis, and Clare Bar Supplies. As always James and Sally Sexton made sure the event ran off without a hitch. Thank you to all our stewards who ensured our safety on the road. Of course the Fun Run would not have taken place without the great work of all our boys and girls who filled their sponsorship cards and also walked, ran or cycled in the Run.

Finally, a big thank you to everyone who filled a Fun Run Card. All funds raised through the Fun Run go towards our Multi Use Games Area (M.U.G.A.) project and other supplies and resources for the school.

### **Allianz Pupil Accident Insurance**

- Allianz Insurance offers an incredible policy for parents of pupils in the school. For **€6.40** per pupil are offered 24 hour personal injury insurance for accidents that occur both inside and outside of school, 24 hours a day 365 days a year.
- Hospital visits and stays as well as dental costs arising from accidents either at school or at home are covered by this policy which has no excess.
- The policy details and benefits are available in the school or on request.

- Parents are asked to send in **€6.40 per pupil** as soon as possible to include their child on the policy.

### Code of Behaviour/Anti-Bullying

#### **Creating a Positive Learning Environment for All Pupils**

At St. Joseph's National School, we are committed to providing a nurturing and positive learning environment for all our pupils. In line with the Wellbeing Framework for Irish Primary Schools, we expect all children to treat each other with kindness and respect, contributing to a safe and supportive school community. As part of our commitment, children receive regular anti-bullying lessons, and we maintain a strict policy where bullying of any kind is not tolerated. We appreciate your support in reinforcing these values at home, helping us ensure a positive experience for every child at our school.

#### Smart phones

No phones of any kind are permitted at school. Any child found with a phone will have their phone confiscated.

#### Communion/Confirmation

Dates have been published on the website under the Calendar section.

#### Pedestrian Crossing

##### **Our Pedestrian Crossing - Keep our Children Safe**

- ✓ Parents should not park on or near the pedestrian crossing when dropping off or picking up their children.
- ✓ Parents should park on the road to the e-town to drop off and pick up.
- ✓ Parents may walk to the pedestrian crossing with their children and walk across the crossing with them if they wish.
- ✓ Dropping children at the crossing or parking on/near the crossing is an accident waiting to happen.

Please keep your children safe on the road.

#### School Attendance

Under the Education Welfare Act 2000 you must make sure that your child attends school regularly. If your child is absent from school for any reason you must send in a note of absence to the school. There is a legal obligation on schools to report absences of 20 days or more to TÚSLA (Child and Family Agency).

#### Christmas Shoebox Appeal

We are delighted to announce that once again our school is the local drop off centre for the Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal. **The 10th of November is the cutoff date**, all shoeboxes should be dropped to St. Joseph's N.S. on or before that date. For further information on this very worthy, seasonal Appeal please log on to [www.teamhope.ie](http://www.teamhope.ie) Information leaflets are available in school and all our eldest of families will be receiving one of these. We hope that each of our students will be able to donate at least one shoebox this year. A €4 donation is given with each shoebox to cover the cost of promotion, transport and delivering of the shoeboxes. For any further information please contact Trish in the school office 065-7084414.

Yours Sincerely,

Joe O Reilly.  
Principal.

