



Dear Parents, Guardians and friends of St. Joseph's,

We are now all preparing for Christmas and have lots of lovely events planned to help you to celebrate the festive season. Please see the back page for all of the dates and times and we look forward to seeing you then.

### **SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME**

Please find below the dates we have so far for the sacramental programme this year as agreed with the Parish. These will be in every newsletter for your information and any changes will be sent immediately by text.

#### **P3 Sacrament of Penance (First Confession)**



18 Jan 2018 6.30pm Parent meeting in parish centre

21 Jan 2018 11am Enrolment service in church

7 March at 1.30 Sacrament of First Penance. Children will be collected from school at 12.00 and should come to the church with their parents.

#### **P4 Sacrament of First Holy Communion**

25 Jan 2018 6.30pm Parent meeting in Parish Centre



28 Jan 2018 11am Enrolment Service in church

From 18 Feb 2018 onward, Special Sunday masses for First Communion children 11am in the church

19 May 11am First Communion

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 11am Corpus Christi Mass – Children to attend in First Communion outfits

#### **P7 Confirmation**

11 Jan 2018 6.30pm Parent meeting in Parish Centre



14 Jan 2018 11am Commitment Service in Church

5 February 7pm Service of Light in church

Mon 26 February 2018

Confirmation –

Please note: all children will finish at 12.00 to enable staff and siblings to attend, P7 do not come to school that morning unless not attending the ceremony.

Date to be confirmed Pledge Mass in St. Comgall's Church. (Parish have indicated that the date may be changed from May. We will update you as soon as it is confirmed.)

### **WORKING TOGETHER**

Thank you to all of the parents who attended our P.6 Shared Education celebration event- we hope you enjoyed taking part in the experiments! We are looking forward to seeing you at the P.3 shared event- see below for details.

### **WRAPAROUND CARE**

Please contact the school office and book a place if you require it for Christmas. As usual, if there are not enough children to run on any particular day we will not be able to operate.

### **PTA**

The PTA raffle is about to begin! Please support us by buying a ticket and give yourself the chance of winning a set of family tickets to the X Factor Live Show, gift vouchers, chocolate hamper and much more!

You are also invited to attend the Big Breakfast- see the diary dates and the attached PTA Newsletter for details.

### **SHARED EDUCATION**

Primary 3 classes are enjoying their topic- Celebrations. They will be having a session to show off their learning to parents on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December from 1pm to 2pm in Greystone P.S. All parents are very welcome to attend! Please note that children should go home from Greystone on that day. If you are unable to attend, please collect your children from Greystone P.S.

## RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS

The Article 12 Society have had their first meetings and are working hard with Mr McGinley to discuss aspects of the school that affect them including defining bullying and play time equipment- it's good to hear your voice!!

## GOOD NEWS [rtreacy776@c2kni.net](mailto:rtreacy776@c2kni.net)



Well done to Acia and Grace who have performed with the Russian Ballet in the Grand Opera House-

here they are on stage- what an achievement girls!!

Congratulations to Roisin who came second for her singing in the Hollywood Music Festival- well done, we are very proud of you!!



## CHARITY FUNDRAISING

Many thanks to all who contributed to the Paint the Town Pink Collection- we have raised £310!

Reminder: If you have not returned your Lepira sponsor envelopes please do as soon as possible.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please look out for our regular texts for reminders and notifications of new events as the term progresses.

**Tuesday 12 December-** P1 Nativity at 9.30, school hall

P2-P3 show at 11.00, parish centre, raffle on the day!




**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December** – Choir singing at the Council Carol Service in the Antrim Forum 3.30-4.30, choir to arrive at 3pm in FULL school uniform.


**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas dinner for children in school- usual cost £2.60

**Thursday 14 December** –P5-P7 Christmas show, 7pm parish hall. Tickets now on sale- £2 per adult, £1 per child. Includes refreshments. Any donations of festive fayre- mince pies, shortbread, biscuits etc. will be very welcome.

**Friday 15 December** – P3 Shared Education celebration event for Parents in Greystone Primary School- 1pm-2pm with children going home from Greystone.

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December** – 1.30-2.30 Choir singing at Asda, all welcome to support! 

**Tuesday 19 December** – P4 Carol Service 10.30 in St Joseph's Church

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December** – The PTA Big Breakfast in the school canteen. Come along with the family for a Christmas breakfast fry and visit our amazing family photo opportunity- to be unveiled on the day!! Breakfast is £2 per child and £4 per adult. This is also elf day! Children should come to school dressed in their best festive costumes- elves, santas, reindeer and Christmas jumpers are all very welcome! 



**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December-** The choir will be singing at Starbucks- please note: the time is now 11am-12pm to allow time for Breakfast first!

**Friday 22 December** 12.30 finish for Christmas holidays, return on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

**We hope you have a very safe, happy and holy Christmas and a wonderful New Year!**



# St Josephs' Primary School

## Parent Teacher Association

### Newsletter - December 2017



#### **Dear Parents,**

It's hard to believe three months have passed since the school year started. The PTA has had a great start to our fundraising – thanks to all of you who have supported us already! We have already raised enough funds for a new whiteboard. Below you will find updates of our past fundraising events, as well as details about our upcoming Family Christmas Big Breakfast.

#### ***Recent Fundraising***

##### **Halloween Disco**

The first PTA disco of the year was on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October and was a great night! There were some amazingly spooky costumes on display. Thanks to all who attended, all the parents and staff who helped run the disco and the wonderful DJ! The disco raised £364.20 – well done everyone.



##### **ASDA Halloween Bag Pack**

Thanks to all those parents, former pupils and staff who helped at the Annual ASDA Bag Pack, on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October. The bag pack raised a wonderful £776.16 for school funds. Thank you to ASDA, Antrim, who continue to support the school. A special word of thanks goes to Sharon and the youth club, without whom we couldn't run the bag pack.



##### **PTA Starbucks Quiz**

The PTA hosted a table quiz at Starbucks, Junction One, on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November. It was a fantastic night, with a great quiz and lots of wonderful prizes donated for the raffle. Special thanks to Sinead for organising, Starbucks for hosting the evening, as well as all those who kindly donated prizes. £540 pounds were raised – well done to all! Hopefully we can run the quiz again next year – and maybe even beat the teachers!



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**Future events**

**Christmas Big Breakfast**

Following on from the success of last years' Big Breakfast, the PTA will be hosting a Christmas Big Breakfast on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December, from 8-10am**. Have a festive fry up with Santa and the kids and get in the Christmas spirit! Entry is £4 per adult, £2 per child. We will also have our annual Christmas Raffle on the day - with wonderful prizes including X Factor tickets to the live show in Belfast! Donations for the breakfast, as well as raffle prizes would be greatly appreciated – contact us via the school office or our Facebook page if you can help in any way.



**How can you help?**

All parents are very welcome to join the PTA! Meetings are usually once every 6-8 weeks, and last around one hour.

If you cannot join, why not help in the following ways:

- Support our Christmas Big Breakfast
- Donate food for the Christmas Big Breakfast
- Donate prizes for our upcoming Christmas Raffle or for future events
- Like and Suggest ideas via St Joseph's PTA Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/St-Josephs-Primary-School-Antrim-PTA-165483773540718/>)
- Donate your time/skills for future PTA events

The PTA is very grateful for your ongoing support. We wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas and hope to see you at the Christmas Big Breakfast!

Emma Chandranath

