

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



June 2023

NEWSLETTER

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all our parents for your support and partnership during the year. Thanks to our PTFA, for their commitment to fundraising which in turn provided valuable and much appreciated resources and treats for the school. **Most of all** I would like to thank our fantastic pupils and staff for all their hard work. The children are a pleasure to have in school and when we take them out, they are super ambassadors for our school! Staff are all now looking forward to a well-earned break. I hope everyone has a lovely and relaxing summer and I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Mrs Macfarlane

Mobile Phones



We appreciate that children may need to bring their mobile phones with them to use after school. All mobile phones, without exception must be handed in to the office on arrival and will be returned as the child leaves. Please do not phone your child's mobile during school.

School App



Our school is now listed in the Schools NI App, which allows you to view school updates and receive messages via your phone or tablet. The App is available on both Apple and Android devices, and will give you access to our school news, calendar, events and newsletters. To install the App, open our school website and click the 'Download App' button that appears at the top of the screen.

Important Notice for Parents/Carers

St Joseph's PS aims to be a Nut-Free school. In order to reduce the risk to those children and adults who may suffer an anaphylactic reaction if exposed to nuts, we no longer allow nuts or nut products in school lunch boxes. Being a 'Nut-Free School' means that the following items should not be brought into school:

- Packets of nuts
- Peanut butter sandwiches/bars
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts
- Nutella spread or Nutella breakfast bars

THIS SCHOOL IS
NUT FREE



THANK YOU
for keeping our school safe!

If you are unsure about an item, please speak to a member of staff. Parents are reminded that they must notify staff of any known or suspected allergy to nuts and provide all necessary information.

Free School Meals

Applications for Free School Meals / Uniform Grants for 2023/24 are available now on the EA Website eani.org.uk

If you feel that your child may be entitled to free school meals regardless of whether they will be taking them or not, please complete the application on the EA website ASAP.

This form must be completed for each child every year.

The Education Authority notifies the school about the entitlement after they notify Parents or Carers.

If you have not received this notification, any meals taken must be paid for.

If you require any assistance, please feel free to contact the school Office.

Child Protection Procedures

St Joseph's safeguarding team are: Designated Teacher: Mrs K Collins.

Deputy Designated Teachers: Mrs C Toner and Mrs F Macfarlane

Chairperson of the Board of Governors: Mr J Kearney. Designated Child Protection Governor: Dr C Magennis

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



Sports Day 2023



Well done to all the girls and boys who took part in this year's Sports Day at St Joseph's. A special thank you to the PTFA for organising the BBQ for everyone. Every child gave it their best effort and had a lot of fun along the way, as you can see by the faces in this girls race pictured above. Fantastic photography again by Mr F Gough. We were very lucky to have the weather on our side this year and we hope this continues in the future.

Primary 6 & 7 Residential



On Monday the 19th of June the boys and girls from Primary 6 & 7 travelled to Ganaway Activity Centre for 2 days of fun and adventure, with activities such as, Zipline, Night Line, Team Games, Wall Climbing and Orienteering it truly was a fantastic few days. It was a first for St Joseph's Primary School at Ganaway but it will certainly not be the last. Mr Rooney and Miss Eppleston even faced their fears and took on the 45-foot tall Zipline!!!

Daisy Dander

On Thursday 8th June, P1-4 along with Killough Community Playgroup completed their annual Daisy Dander in aid of the Cancer Fund for Children. The sun shone and the children were little stars as they dandered around the village shaking their bucket for donations, looking for daisies and having a great time. On return to school everyone was treated to well deserved ice lollies.

The total raised by the Playgroup was £700 and St. Joseph's primary School £1645!!!

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



PTFA

This has been a very productive and successful year for our PTFA who have raised just over £2395 from October to June !!!!!

These funds are absolutely vital to the school and to the children.

They have enabled us to pay for.....

4 new
laptops

Bus costs for
trips to the
Planetarium
and Ark Farm

Sports Day
Barbecue

P7 Leavers
Treats

Fun Day Ice
Cream Man

As well as this much needed boost to our school funds, the PTFA have been fundamental in the organisation of our activities such as the Sports Day Barbecue, School Disco, Christmas Raffle, Bingo Night, Feel Good Friday Free Breakfast and much, much more.

We would like to extend our thanks to Chairperson, Brenda , Vice Chair, Aisling, Secretary Laura and all of the other parents and supporters who work so hard with us to make this school the great little community that it is.

Enjoy your Summer and get ready for another successful year.

Keep an eye out for information regarding the PTFA in September and all new members are very welcome.

THANK YOU!

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club has resumed from 8:15 each morning at the Price of £1 per day to be paid in the morning or on a Monday morning in advance. Any child in school before 8:45am will be presumed to be at Breakfast Club and charged accordingly.

Children have a choice of cereal, toast, yoghurts and fresh fruit as well as juice, milk or water.

Road Safety and Car Parking

Please remind all children that they are to dismount all bikes and scooters at the school gates in the morning and walk their bikes and scooters on school grounds. Similarly all bikes and scooters must be walked to the gates after school.

Please ensure that all cars are parked in the main car park and not up at the school building or on footpaths. This is to ensure access for emergency vehicles when required.

Your child's safety is our priority.

The spaces at the school building are for staff only as their cars are not moved at any time during the school day or when children may be in the car park.

Walking to school

In line with local authority guidelines, children may walk to and from school alone once they reach the age of 8. Before their 8th Birthday children should still be collected from school by an adult or accompanied by an older sibling.

P1 children must be collected by an adult.

Your child's education and wellbeing is our shared number one priority. Should you have any worries or concerns about your child, please get in touch with your child's teacher in the first instance who will try to assist whenever they can.

Dates For Your Diary

Friday 30th June: School finishes at 11:00am for all children.

Wednesday 30th August: School begins for all pupils.

* Please note on Wednesday 30/08/23 and Friday 31/08/23 school will close at 12 noon as there are no school meals available.*

Friday 1st September: Normal school hours will resume.

P1 finish at midday until Thursday 28th September, full day (2pm) from Monday 2nd October 2023.

Friday 29th September: Staff day, school closed for all pupils.

Friday 27th October: School closes at 2pm for Autumn Half Term Break.

Monday 6th November: School Reopens for all pupils.