

St. Joseph's National School

November

Newsletter

2023



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Parent Teacher Meetings.

Thanks to all Parents who attended for meetings during November and we hope that this earlier communication will enhance the learning of the girls.

Team Hope Shoebox Appeal.



Thank you to all who supported the 'Team Hope Shoebox Appeal' again this year. These boxes were tightly packed and will be so appreciated by many on Christmas morning.

Christmas Jumper Day is Coming!

On Friday 15th of December we will wear our Christmas jumpers and raise funds for a family that is facing heartbreak this Christmas. The sudden departure of Comfert Boahen has left her family bereft and we hope the money raised will ease the financial burden. Her three daughters were past pupils of St. Joseph's and we remember with fondness her kindness, enthusiasm and radiant smile.

You will be able to donate any amount you like through Aladdin epayments.

School Closure.

26th /January/ 2024.

In-service for Staff.

Dates For Diary.

December

Wed. 13th : Dress Rehearsal for all classes. .

Thurs. 14th : Christmas Concerts in the school Hall.

Friday 15th : Christmas Jumper Day.

Mon. 18th: Cinema (1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th)

Tues. 19th : Carol singing in CoAction (Sixth Class)

Wednesday 20th : Carol-Singing:

Bushmount Nursing Home (1st & 2nd)

Bank (3rd & 4th)

Clonakilty Community Hospital (5th)

Date to be confirmed.

Thurs. 21st :Visit to Cork Pantomime. (Classes 5th, 6th)

Friday 22nd. School closes at 12 Noon.

Save the Date :Christmas Concerts.

Our Christmas Concerts will take place on Thursday 14th of December.

Junior Infants: 5pm.

Senior Infants: 5.30pm

First Class: 6pm.

Entry to the concerts is via secondary school entrance (St. Joseph's Statue)

Well- Being Wednesday.

We look forward to the reduction in written homework each Wednesday especially during the busy weeks ahead. This is a brainchild of members of our student council and the feedback has been very positive from all.

Junior Entrepreneur Programme

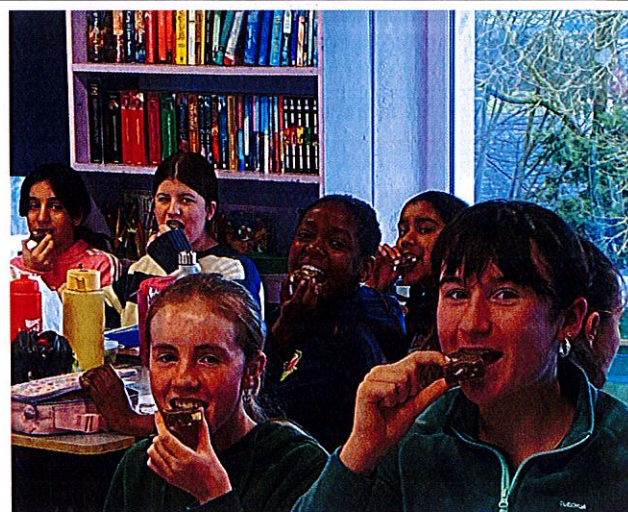
This year Sixth class are taking part in the Junior Entrepreneur Programme. The JEP is an entrepreneurial awareness and skills enhancement programme for primary school children. This programme aims to help children recognise enterprise and entrepreneurship and to foster an awareness and understanding of the entrepreneur's role in the community therefore empowering the child to start to think and act with the initiative, creativity, independence and ideas that are invaluable in the modern world.

Meet the Judges.

During the last few weeks the girls have worked collaboratively in small groups, in order to generate a range of potential entrepreneurship project ideas. In preparation for 'Meet the Judges' the girls used oral, visual and written presentation skills to communicate details of their team projects to the Judges and class. The panel of judges consisted of Mrs. Mary Daly, Rebecca O'Keeffe and Conor Mulcahy. On Friday 1st of Dec, the girls presented their project idea and received feedback from the 'Judges'. Following on from the recommendations from the 'Judges' and in consultation with the class teacher, Múinteoir Anna, the class agreed on 'Memory Lane' the whole class project idea. Well done to all teams who had put great effort into their projects. During the next few weeks the girls will be busy putting their project into action, marketing the project and managing sales.

Visitor to St. Joseph's.

On Friday 24th of November, Ms. Niamh Scally spoke to Sixth Class girls informing them of the pathway that led to her successful award-winning gluten free food business, Clonakilty's Gluten Free Kitchen. It was a request from a customer for a gluten-free novelty birthday cake that was the catalyst for the business. The girls engaged very well with this presentation and learned that not only do entrepreneurs create a new product but they also have to market it and sell it. The girls were delighted to sample the gluten free 'Mint Rocky Road'.



*Well Done Múinteoir Anna and
Sixth Class for undertaking
JEP 2023*



Fun Activities in St. Joseph's

Primary School Debating.

On Wednesday 22nd of November our sixth class debating team competed in the second round of the Primary Schools Debating Competition. Our team opposed the motion 'Getting rid of plastic pollution in our ocean is just a dream'. Team members Nabeela Islam, Mimi Ndebele, Thea Bell and Alice Mulligan put great effort into the research and delivery of their speeches. This was a very tight contest between Newcestown N.S. and congratulations to Múinteoir Anna who coached the team and to the girls who represented St. Joseph's.

Student Teacher.

We were delighted to offer a student teacher from Hibernia College an opportunity to complete a five week placement in Fifth Class. Many thanks to Aoife Connor, a past pupil of St. Joseph's for her contribution.

Annie.

Congratulations to the cast and production team of 'Annie' which was recently produced by the Sacred Heart Secondary School. We were delighted to see so many our past pupils who performed with great confidence. Congratulations to Ms. Donna O'Regan who directed the musical. Girls from 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th classes attended the dress rehearsals and enjoyed the outstanding performance.

Christmas Cards Fundraiser.

Each child who completes a drawing will receive a free sample card. This year we hope to send the sample Christmas Cards to residents in the nursing homes in Clonakilty. We hope the residents and staff will enjoy reading the positive messages, little snippets of news and enjoy the vibrant artwork.



Ready For Delivery.

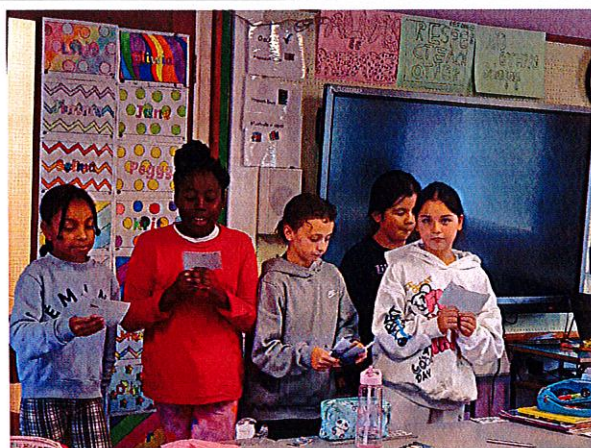
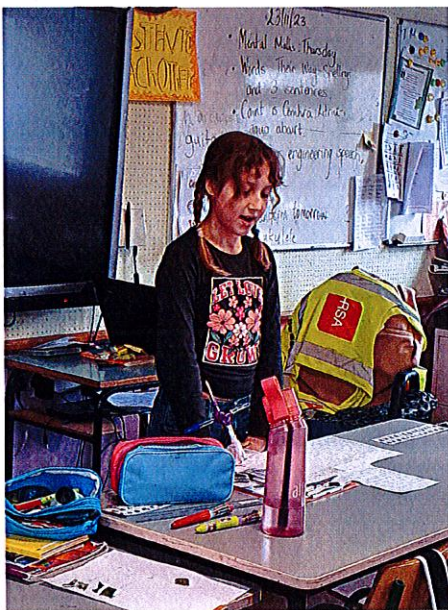
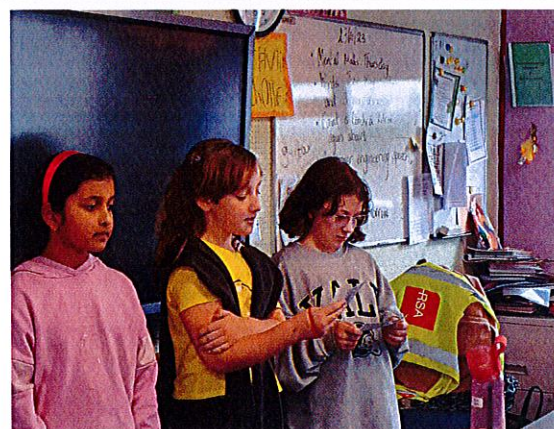


Christmas Cards For school.

Thanks to the Parents Association' who have organised this fundraiser in St. Joseph's this year. It doubles as an art lesson as the girls put huge effort into their creations. All the orders have been processed and we await the packs of Christmas cards. This initiative funds tennis lessons for the girls in the next term. Thanks to all Parents who have supported this initiative.

STEPS Young Engineers Award Competition

The STEPS Young Engineers Award competition encourages third and fourth class pupils and their teachers to explore the world of engineering by developing an engineering project that would help improve their local community. Fourth Class were fortunate to have a visit from engineer, David O'Brien recently who gave the girls an insight into the important role of engineering in our everyday lives. He also spoke to them about his work involving solar energy. The girls also got an opportunity to present their group projects to David and receive feedback from him.



Science Week

Science week is an annual event that celebrates the fascinating worlds of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). Girls in all classes really enjoyed science week which took place between 13th – 17th of November. This Science week, we are asking people to consider what it means to be human in today's world and how the decisions we make today will impact humans of the future.



Tasting Plate Experiment.



Self-Inflating Balloon.



Raincloud in a jar Experiment



Walking On Air.



Many thanks to Múinteoir Orlaith and Múinteoir Sarah who set up the experiments in the hall. Each station was manned by girls in Fifth/ Sixth Classes. The girls impressed us all with their knowledge and enthusiasm.

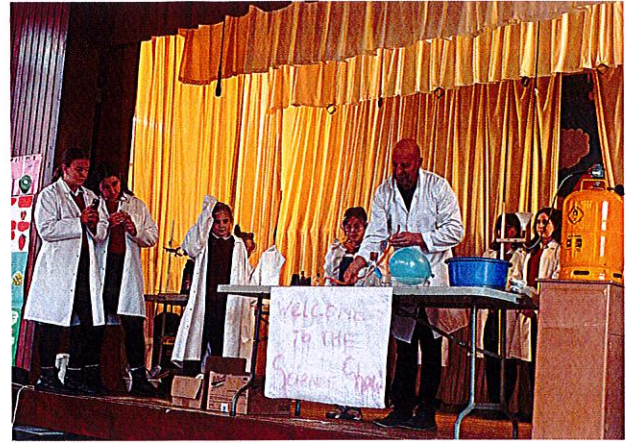
Visitor to St. Joseph's

Heritage Presentation.

On Monday 13th of November, we were delighted to welcome Niamh O'Flynn from 'Heritage Ireland For Schools'. Niamh spoke to the girls in Third, Fourth and Fifth Classes about biodiversity with a focus on Hedgerows. The girls learnt about the function and importance of hedgerows. The girls went on a walk around the school grounds, exploring the hedgerows and identifying plants and mini creatures.



Science Showcase 2023



On Friday 17th of November, we were delighted to welcome Dave Peglar, Science teacher in the SHSS, to St. Joseph's to entertain us with the Science Show 2023. Transition year students from SHSS and some willing students from St. Joseph's entertained us all with a vast array of fun, educational and interactive activities. It was a wonderful opportunity for the girls to observe the experiments and learn the scientific reason behind them.



Fun Activities in St. Joseph's

French in St. Joseph's.



The girls enjoy learning new vocabulary, songs with Deirdre each week.

Co-operative Play, Quiz and Song-Singing.



Caint Agus Comhrá.



Girls in First, Second and Third class team up with an older girls each Wednesday and converse and complete an activity. The girls are developing a lovely rapport and becoming more confident at speaking Irish.



On Wednesday 29th of November, we were delighted to welcome First Class and their teachers from Scoil na mBuachaillí to St. Joseph's. This is a wonderful opportunity whereby the class are visiting Parents in their workplace. Not only did the boys visit Regina's office but they also performed on the stage, participated in a joint Christmas quiz. This was a very enjoyable activity and First Class from St. Joseph's will visit Scoil na mBuachaillí in the next term.

Play ball with Lorna: Co-operative Play.

Girls in First and Second Classes have enjoyed a six week block of playball with Lorna O'Regan from Feel Good Health & Fitness. There has been a focus on the fundamental movement skills and fun games and the girls thoroughly enjoyed the variety.

Olympic Movement Break.

All classes in St. Joseph's are participating in a four week initiative called 'Olympic Movement Breaks'. We view a video of an Olympian each day and participate in a movement break that is linked to the particular sport. So far we have done a speed reaction break, break dancing, boxing, an Olympic circuit and some rugby exercises. The girls enjoy the activities and love marking off the activities on the grid. We are looking forward to meeting more Olympians over the next few weeks.

Senior Infants



First Class.



Wake Up, Shake Up.



Well Done to Múinteoir Marian and members of the Active Schools Committee who lead us in the 'Wake Up, Shake Up' every Wednesday morning.



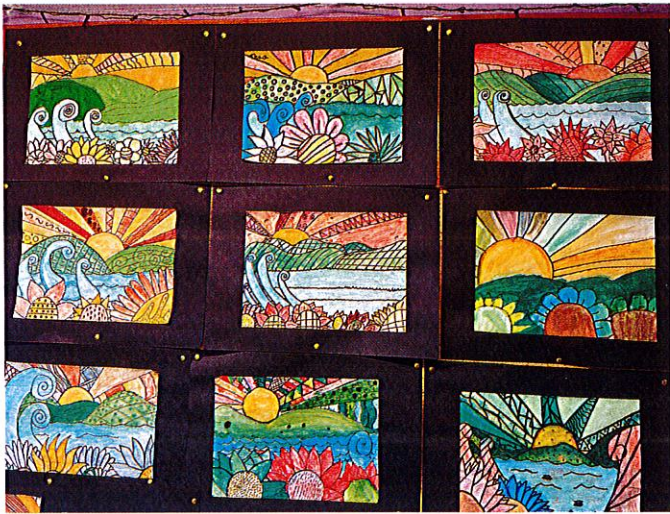
A very enjoyable activity for all.

Second Class.



Art Exhibition in St. Joseph's

Sixth Class



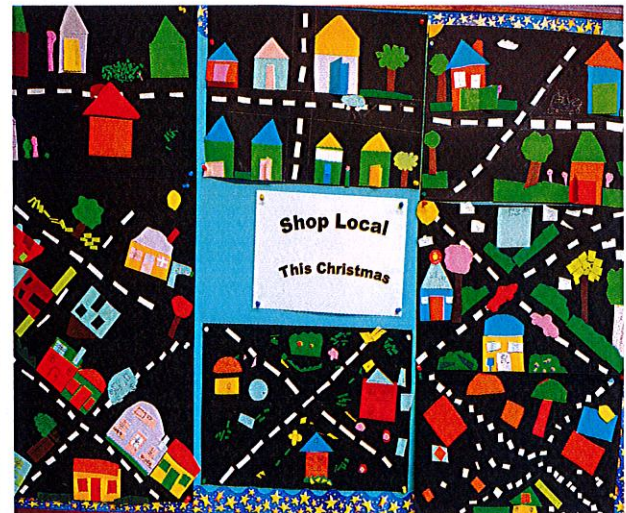
Fourth Class.



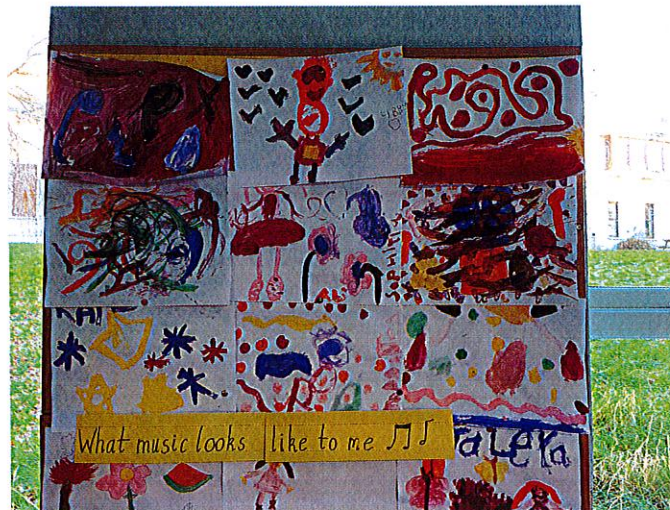
Third Class.



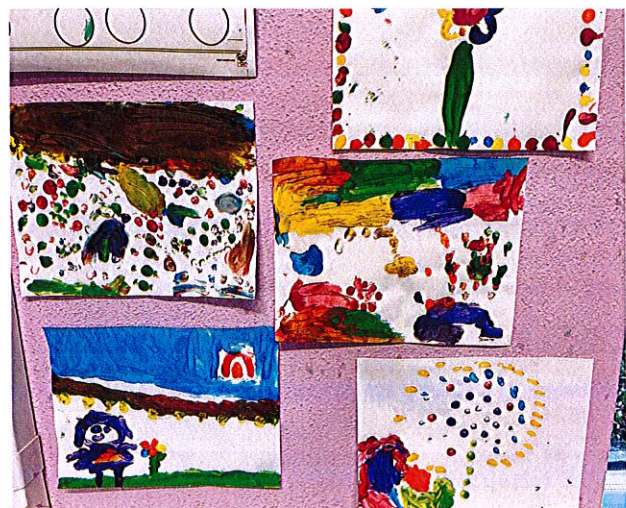
Second Class.



Senior Infants



Junior Infants



6th CLASS News Letter!

By Nabeela and
Sophie-Rose

Monday 20th November

We were all practicing for the debate and we sent our Christmas Cards to the Nursing Home!

Tuesday 21st November

5th and 6th Class went to see Annie the Musical in Sacred Heart Secondary School. The plot was amazing and so were lights and music. We definitely recommend it the 3rd and 4th Class

Wednesday 22nd November

We had our debate on Wednesday. The motion was 'Getting rid of plastic pollution in our oceans is just a dream.' We were opposing the motion and we won!

Friday 24th November

It was no uniform day so everyone was wearing their own clothes. Lots of people were looking forward to the Late Late Toy Show!

Thank you for reading
Our Newsletter!

Cycle Training in St. Joseph's

Cycle Skills Training.

St. Joseph's are staging a course in cycling skills training during the month of November. This course is aligned to Sprocket Rocket, Cycling Ireland's fun skills cycling programme. We are delighted to welcome back trainer Ulick O'Beirne. This year the cycle training is timetabled to girls in First, Second and Third Classes. The programme is aimed at teaching children the four fundamental cycling skills of Balance, Pedalling, Braking and Cornering. Providing a strong cycling skill foundation for young cyclists. Skill development, including general cycling skills which will lay the foundation for more advanced learning of specific cycling skills in the future. Fostering enjoyment and 'want' of participation. Teaching cyclist's fair-play and rules at their level, rather than promoting a win at all cost attitude. The programme will consist of 5 sessions with each session lasting 40 minutes in length. At the end of the course, each trainee will receive a certificate of completion. However the cycle skills training is weather dependent so we hope for dry days.

