

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

We have settled in well after the Christmas break and most of the building work has been completed. We are in the final stages of finishing off the windows and getting the internal decoration completed. Thank you all for your support during our inspection which went very well. The report will be published in about 6 weeks time and we will send you details of the website so you can look it up!

Sacramental Programme

Please find below the dates we have so far for the sacramental programme this year. We will continue to send updates by text.

P3 Sacrament of Penance (First Confession)

08 March Time 4pm Sacrament of First Penance

P4 Sacrament of First Holy Communion

28 Jan 6pm Parent meeting in Parish Centre

31 Jan 11am Enrolment Service in church

From 22 Feb onward, Special Sunday masses for First Communion children 11am in the church

04 June 11am First Communion

05 June 11am Children attending Sunday Mass may wish to wear Communion outfits again.

P7 Confirmation

8th Feb. 7pm Service of Light in St. Joseph's Church

23 Feb 1pm Confirmation in St. Joseph's Church

12 May 7pm Pledge Mass in St. Joseph's Church

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Catholic Schools Week runs this year from Sunday 31st January to Sat 6th February and the theme is '**Catholic Schools: Challenged to Proclaim God's Mercy**'

We will also host our annual Grandparents Day to give our grandparents a chance to come together for a cuppa and to celebrate with their grandchildren. This year we invite you all to attend mass with us in

St. Joseph's Church and we will then go to the parish centre for tea/coffee before the children re-join us at 10.30 for a special presentation.

As usual we keep in our thoughts and prayers any grandparents who are unable to join us. If anyone would like to bring flowers or a flower to represent them we will make sure they are included on the day.

PTA

Thank you to all of our parents who attended the last meeting and continue to support additional activities for the children. The Inspectors commented on the vibrant PTA who provide enrichment opportunities for our children and we are very grateful for the hard work that they do.

The PTA will again be hosting a movie night to coincide with World Book day on the 3rd March. We will notify you of arrangements and movies closer to the time.

The PTA are also planning to host a school talent show in May. Children can begin thinking about their acts and Mrs McCoy will run an after schools club to help children to practice. We hope as many children as possible will be able to participate as St. Joseph's does indeed have talent! Categories and arrangements will be sent out when confirmed. The next meeting of the PTA is on Tuesday 1st March at 6pm in school. All parents are welcome to attend.

NI CANCER FUND FOR CHILDREN



Two of our past pupils Kevin McCusker and Kieran McAllister are trekking the Rockies for the Northern Ireland Cancer Fund for Children. Our Canteen will be doing a special Valentine's meal on 12th February and we are inviting all children to wear red that day and bring £1 to support Kevin and Ciaran's fundraising. We will be also holding a brown coin collection that week and any donations will be very gratefully received.

WEBSITE

Reminder- our website contains details of our school menus and current newsletters. Please help us by letting us know if there is anything else we could add for your information. www.stjosephsps.org

GOOD NEWS



P4 had a very successful trip to the Planetarium in Armagh as part of their topic.

P2 had a very exciting visit from the firemen! They are learning about people who help us.



P3 have posted Flat Stanleys out and are getting replies from all parts of the country and as far away as Australia and New York! Check out our pictures from a sunny Sydney Harbour, Big Ben in London and a concert at Carnegie Hall in New York! Stanley even worked at the Major League Baseball TV Network in Secaucus, New Jersey! Thank you to all the friends and relatives that have hosted Flat Stanley all over the world!



RETIREMENTS

We will be having a special assembly to say goodbye to Rosaleen Coyle, a dinner lady here for 43 years, and to Colette O'Hara, a cleaner a supervisor for and to celebrate their retirements. The date will be confirmed by text and if any parents would like to join us they are more than welcome.

If you have any good news items or anything you would like to share in the next newsletter, please email us- rtreacy776@c2kni.net

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

See Sacramental Dates on Page 1.

Monday and Tuesday 1st/2nd February -Transfer Meetings for P7 Parents

Wed. 3rd Feb- 9.30 Mass for Grandparents/Tea and Coffee in the parish centre

Wed. 3rd Feb 12.30 Choir to Belfast for Peace Proms Rehearsal

Fri 12 Feb- Special Valentine's dinner- wear red and bring £1 to support the NI Cancer Fund for Children

February mid term will be from Mon 15th-Fri 19th

Tuesday 23rd February Confirmation at 1pm. All children P1-P6 will be finishing early at 12.30 after dinner.

Sun 28th Feb- Choir singing at Peace Proms in the Odyssey – tickets available from Ticket master.