

## Maths Development

### Maths Week 100th Day of School

There were lots of problem solving, number crunching and maths trails happening in St Joseph's during our inaugural Maths Week before mid-term!

Every class had lots of fun with maths and played lots of games both inside and outside the classroom!

Also, we celebrated our 100th Day of School on Friday 10th February. Every class did lots of fun activities relating to the number 100.

P3 made a human number 100 and some of the older classes even met up with their younger buddies to help with Maths tasks!

Have a look at some of the photos on our school website and twitter.

### IZAK9 Problem Solving Cubes

We are very excited with our new purchase of 2 sets of Izak9 Problem Solving Cubes!

The Izak9 Cubes will be used throughout our school to enhance teaching and learning in maths, with a particular emphasis on developing Problem Solving and Mental Maths skills.

Our teachers had a great training session with Ian from Izak9 on Monday 27th February, and now we can't wait to start using them in each class!

Photos of children using the Izak9 Cubes will soon be on our school website and Twitter page.

Congratulations to Hannah Gartland, Moya O'Kane, Enya Daye and Kamile Ramanauskaite who have been selected to represent Lisburn and Castlereagh Borough Council at the forthcoming Regional Indoor Athletics finals in April. Well done ladies, another amazing sporting achievement.

### "Celebration of Sport"

Both P7 classes will be attending a "Celebration of Sport" event on Friday 31st March. This is an annual event which takes place in various locations throughout the province so we are delighted that this year it is taking place in Lisburn at the Leisureplex. The children will participate in a range of fun sporting events from 10.00am and will be returning to school for 3pm. We are very excited as we have always had a very strong sporting tradition at our school and continue to celebrate many achievements in various sports.

### Olympic Handball

Congratulations to our P6 Olympic Handballers who were out in force on Friday 3rd March for the final day of the P6 League. The girls won all their matches, defeating St. Ita's 5-2, Pond Park 3-2 and St. Joseph's Carryduff 1-0. The boys were also most successful, defeating St Ita's 2-0, Pond Park 2-1 and losing to St. Joseph's Carryduff 0-2. Fingers crossed both teams make it to the final this year again.

### P3 First Confession

Our Primary 3 children will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursday 30th March at 10.45am in St Patrick's Church, Lisburn.

In preparation for this special Sacrament, our P3 children will take part in a Service of Commitment on Wednesday 8th March at 11am in the school Assembly Hall.

We would encourage at least one adult to attend for each child, as at the end of the service there will be important information shared with parents about arrangements for the day of First Confession on 30th March.

### Confirmation

Our Primary 7 children will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on **Monday 20th March at 11am** in St Patrick's Church Lisburn.

In preparation for Confirmation, the children took part in a lovely Service of Light on Tuesday 7th February. The pupils sang, prayed and showed great reverence throughout the service.

Thank you to Fr. McCaughan who came and celebrated with the children and to Mrs O'Hare and Mrs McCambridge who prepared the pupils so well.

### Lent

We started our celebration of the Lenten season on Ash Wednesday, 1st March. Sr Mary came to join us and distributed ashes to all our P4-7 pupils.

During Lent each class will have a Trocaire Box in their classroom and there will also be a variety of fundraising activities taking place for Trocaire.

Details of Fundraising events will be sent out closer to the time.

This year Trocaire's Lenten Campaign is: Climate Change, Climate Justice, and Climate Action

Each class will learn about this in their class throughout the season of Lent.

### PTA

At the Annual General Meeting of the PTA on Tuesday 21st February, the Committee for the year was elected as follows:

Chairperson	-Frances Jennings
Vice Chairperson	-Martin Duffy
Treasurer	-Siobhan Quinn
Vice Treasurer	-Carrie Ann Rafferty
Secretary	-Ciara Lagan
Vice Secretary	-Roisin Spence
Teacher Rep	-Sinead Clarke
Committee Members	-Alison Muir, Justin Tohill, Debbie McLorinan, Emmy Lou Breslin, Carolyn Schuman

Our PTA have been very busy organising lots of Fundraising Events to raise money to support the school. Future Fundraising Events include:

#### ➤ Mothers' Day Raffle:

A lovely Mothers' Day Basket will be raffled in each class week beginning Monday 20th March.

Tickets are £1 and can be bought from your child's teacher beginning on 20th March.

➤ **Easter Bonnet Day:**

On Thursday 13th April (Holy Thursday) all children are invited to bring an Easter Bonnet into school.

➤ **Easter Egg Hunt:**

The PTA will organise an Easter Egg Hunt in each class. The cost will be £2 per child.

➤ **Small Change 4 a Big Difference:**

Once again each class will collect small change over a period of 2 weeks, week beginning 2nd May. The winning class will be provided with a lovely Pizza Party with the pizzas provided by Pizza Base in Castle Street.

➤ **Lisburn Fun Run:**

Our PTA are entering a team into the Lisburn Fun Run on Wednesday 21st June.

If your family would like to join us, please leave your name into the school office, email [stjosephsptaandfriends@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephsptaandfriends@gmail.com) <<mailto:stjosephsptaandfriends@gmail.com>> or leave us a message on our Facebook page.

It will be a really fun event, with a warm up before hand with Brian Magee. Face paint will also be provided for each child and/or adult taking part!!

➤ **Summer Fun Day:**

Saturday 10th June - details to follow closer to the time.

**Whole School Art Exhibition**

Next week we are holding a whole school art exhibition in the assembly hall. Each child will have a piece of art exhibited. This connects very nicely with Reporting to Parents Week.

Come along and have a browse – you can purchase your child's piece as well. All money will be going to charity. Looking forward to seeing you there.

**Value of the Month: Honesty**

P1	Orlaith Doherty Cillian Oakes-Campbell
P2	Sarah Abraham Tony Kelly
P3	Isaac Lagan Jack McCann
P4	Naomi Cairns Anna Newnham
P5	Lily Rose McPolin Matthew Sloane
P6	Cillian Quinn Kaelan Smyth
P7	Shannon Johnson Amelia Cunningham

**Pope Francis Award**

P1	Francesca McConville Emma Rogers
P2	Charlie Skates Georgia Rooney-Reid
P3	Olivia O'Neill

	Oisin Holmann
P4	Sabrina Brown Ruby Grimley
P5	Sofia Enrique Gascon Joseph Jeanes
P6	Alannah Harris Matthew McGuinness
P7	Emily Dunlop Luke Montgomery

**Writer of the Month**

P1	Matthew Coulter Jamie Spence
P2	Klara Heyes Laurita Kuzmaite
P3	Charlie Craig Charlie Carleton
P4	Joseph McMahan Jessica Kopec
P5	Dheekshaa Vivekananth Kiera McLorinan
P6	Shannon Lavery Aoife Moran
P7	Flynn Thompson Conall Gorman

**ICT Whizzkid of the Month**

P1	Ryan O'Hanlon Patrick Feeney
P2	Johnny Tohill Rose Magee
P3	Frazer Rogan James Curtis
P4	Oran Lynch Dylan O'Hare Barra Noble
P5	Daire KIELTY Joshua Wilson
P6	Grace Mulholland Shay McClure
P7	Chano McClure Rihanna Lawlor

**Mathlete of the Month**

P1	Dylan Johnston Nicholas Badoi
P2	Caleb English Ethan McKeown
P3	Nara Beggs McCormick Kaitlin Stewart
P4	Imogen Murray Finn Lappin
P5	Rebecca English Yzabele Pacia
P6	Felix Jose Ella Maloret
P7	Matthew Browne Jake Brady

**Post-Inspection Update**

As you know we set success criteria for Literacy, Numeracy and ICT at the start of September. These were taken directly from the ETI Inspection Report and identified the areas for improvement within the school. Having had lots of curriculum development

this year so far and, as a result of the monitoring and evaluating, we have made some adjustments to the Success Criteria for Terms 2 and 3. These are the new success criteria:

### Literacy

- The children will experience a **wide range of high quality** writing experiences, including **'free writing'** across the curriculum.
- The children will use shared texts **effectively** to explore and understand grammar and punctuation well.
- Medium term planning in Literacy is detailed and includes differentiation as well as opportunities for assessment.

### ICT

- Teachers will plan to include a wider range of **high quality ICT experiences** across the curriculum.
- Children will **use ICT effectively** and when appropriate, **independently** across the curriculum.
- The children's achievements in ICT will be **tracked effectively** in order to identify progression and **analysed to impact improvement**.

### Mathematics

- The children will engage in a wider range of **independent and directed high quality** problem solving and investigative activities.
- Teachers will **use and share success criteria** with children effectively for **differentiation**.
- The children's practical maths experiences will be **consistently of high quality and frequent** across all year groups and **recorded effectively**.

Teachers will use these to ensure improvement in learning and teaching in these 3 learning areas. Coordinators will use these to monitor and evaluate improvements made in the months ahead. These help us all to focus clearly on the improvements needed.

#### **Sainsbury Active School Vouchers**

Please collect Sainsbury' Active School Vouchers and deposit in the Sainsbury's token box in the foyer. Remember, we are able to get lots of playground equipment with these vouchers so please help us to collect as many as possible.

#### **Value of the Month Resilience**

*"Don't leave home without it...you were born with  
Bounce-Back Ability"*

**Ty Howard**

Resilient children usually become resilient adults. Resilience is critical for individuals to adapt to life's challenges. Here are some tips for developing resilience in your child:

1. Give your child independence to try new things even if you think it might be too hard for them

2. Do not give your child every single physical thing they want - toys, food, clothes even if 'everyone else has it'
3. Enable your child to give toys and clothes away to charity regularly and teach them that material things are not answers to happiness
4. Encourage your child to have a positive attitude about chores or homework
5. Remind children to be patient, especially with younger siblings
6. Help your child to develop self-control with devices such as ipads, laptops etc.

#### **Exciting News**

Our Primary Seven Musical 'Joseph' will be in the Island Centre this year on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May. Tickets will go on sale on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 9am from Island Arts Centre

**Painters, Joiners, General Helpers!**  
We are 'freshening up' our school grounds and have lots of odd jobs to do:

- Repainting the Cool Kids House
- Repainting the fence at the back of the school
- Spraying tyres.
- Planting/helping in the Green House (your child can do this with you)

If you can help us contact Mrs O'Hare at the school on 92674901 or email her at nohare525@c2kni.net



#### **Celebrating Writing**

Each month we would like to celebrate the achievements of pupils in writing. This month we would like to share a poem with you, written by one of our Primary 7 pupils, Conall Gorman. Primary 7 have been studying the very relevant theme of 'Conflict' and this poem was written as a response to this theme. I am sure you will agree that this is a very heartfelt piece. Well done Conall!

#### **No-Man's Land Nightmare**

Marching into No-Man's Land,  
Half-hearted and frozen.

As our team expand,

Some are run-around into the morose, misty  
French Morning.

Howling screams coming from ahead hitting our  
ears like a hammer,

Fear reeks around our troop like a 'Toxic Fume'.  
The rattling of machine gun bullets banging off the

hidden barbed wire,

Half hidden beneath the rotted and poisonous  
sand.

We all duck down for cover as one of our men cry  
out in pain.

Our surprise attack has been lost so we all start to  
flee,

Back at camp we're all thinking, back at the No-  
Man's Land Nightmare,

And that our survival was glee!

**By Conal Gorman**