

Principal Update 13.6.24



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Dear Parents,

We are fast approaching the end of another very busy and wonderful academic year. In the following news update, we will outline important dates ahead until the end of term, information pertaining to the new academic year and a celebration of some events that have taken place in the last month.

We issued a message to all parents via our school app and we would ask everyone to please update their profiles, ensuring you have access to our school app, so you do not miss important and immediate notifications.

Recent Important Information for all parents issued via our app:

We are aware of local media outlets advertising information regarding a community conversation on future education. Please be advised this is a completely private enterprise, that has been launched without local schools knowing anything about it. It has no bearing on the running of our school, or our future new school build.

We will be continuing our high quality provision, as the local Catholic Primary School in the area.



Whole School Mass:

On **Thursday 20th June**, we will be having our whole school end of year mass where all parents, grandparents and guardians are most welcome. At this mass we will be making particular reference to our **P7 pupils, who are leaving on Friday 21st June.** All P7 pupils will lead this special end of year mass.

Class allocation for the new academic year 2024-25:

P1	Mrs Wadsworth & Mrs Crawley
P2/3	Mrs Sloan
P4	Mrs Mc Cooley
P5/6	Mr O'Hagan
P6/7	Mrs Shortt

**OUTDOOR
LEARNING**
The Extended Classroom



We would like to sincerely thank Mr Robert O'Neill and Mr Martin Johnston who represented Redmond O'Hanlon's, the local G.A.C. The money raised from last years 'Headquarters to Home' awarded to St. Joseph and St. James's enabled us to purchase our very own outdoor classroom. We are simply delighted to have this addition to our outdoor learning, as part of our ongoing high quality provision for all our learners.



We wish to congratulate all our Confirmandi on a beautiful confirmation service and hope you enjoyed viewing the summary on our school Facebook page and website.

We thank Mrs Shortt the class teacher for preparing the pupils so well for this important liturgical event.

In the next week we bid a fond farewell to all our P7 pupils, as they embark on the next phase



of their educational journey. We will be celebrating our P7 leavers on Thursday 20.6.24 and Friday 21.6.24. All P7 parents are invited to school for 1.00p.m for some light refreshments, as we mark our P7 pupils final day with us in St. Joseph and St James's P.S.



Congratulations to P4 on a beautiful Communion service, officiated by Fr. Woods. Sincere thanks to Mrs Mc Coeey for preparing the pupils so diligently for this important milestone in our liturgical calendar.

Liturgical events do not happen without the hard work and support from all staff, in particular Mrs Crawley our accompanist and the members of our school choir, who sang so beautifully at each service.

Celebrate SUCCESS



Rugby

It was wonderful for some of our P6 and 7 pupils to participate in a local Rugby tournament in Banbridge last week with our Shared Education partner school.

We also met the new Education Minister Mr Givan who we look forward to welcoming to our school in the near future.

Agri-Kids

We want to congratulate Jessica who recently won a competition with 'Agri-Kids'. Her wonderful artwork will now be published on all Agri-kids flyers, which is absolutely fantastic.

Sincere thanks to Alma from 'Agri-Kids' who provided brilliant workshops for all pupils in each class. The delivery of such informative workshops were part of the prize awarded to our school on behalf of Jessica.

Jessica is photographed with Alma presenting her with a new art set, which we know she will thoroughly enjoy.

Well done Jessica 🙌🙌🙌



Thank You!

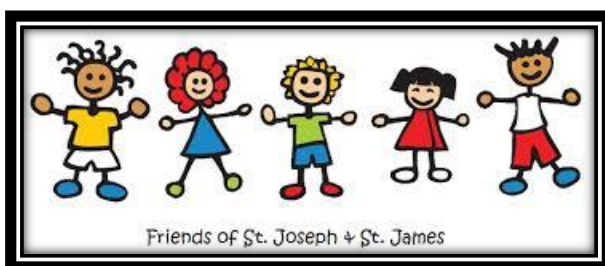
I wish to sincerely thank our entire staff team for their hard work with all the preparations for our hugely successful Spring Recital. It was simply wonderful to have so many of our parents/grandparents/guardians and wider community come together to celebrate with us. Sincere thanks to all our EA Music tutors, with a special mention to Mr Murphy who accompanied our instrumentalists at this event.



See below a snapshot of pupils who attained the Principal award in the last month for overall hard work and endeavour, kindness shown to others and always striving to give of their very best.

Some pupils photographed obtained word millionaire status and some of those for a second time, which is absolutely fantastic.

Well done everyone. 🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌



We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all members from our parent body, who have continued to go the extra mile in raising funds for our school throughout this academic year. A special mention to our Chairperson Mrs Maguire, our secretary Mrs Convery and our Treasurer Mrs Watters. We simply could not do without you, from organising discos, Christmas raffles, quiz evenings and more recently the fabulous provision for both our P4 and P7 pupils following their main Liturgical events: Holy Communion and Confirmation. We are eternally grateful to this hard working body of people whose attention to detail made each event so memorable for all the families.

Reminder:

There are a few remaining places for the Summer Camp in August. Do book in now before school finishes. It promises to be great fun for all our pupils.



We are inviting anyone who has old school uniform to please donate to school. We ask for you to ensure all items are washed and pressed so we can provide a uniform swap shop now at the end of term.

Can we please request all items are submitted by 27.6.24. All pupils will be permitted to wear their own clothes on 28.6.24. when school finished for all at 11.00a.m.

Additional Information:

- We will be issuing your child's end of year academic report before the end of term. In the report you will also receive information about our new St. Joseph and St. James's pencil cases, especially compiled with the necessary resources for each year group for a small fee.
- We hope you have availed of the links provided through our Facebook page, regarding applications for free school meals and uniform grants.
- The new school year will commence on **Friday 30th August for all pupils. P1 will be on a shorter day for the beginning of the new term. Do keep checking our Facebook page and school app for immediate notifications in Mid August.**



Wishing all members of our school community a peaceful and safe Summer break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new academic year.

Yours in continued partnership

C. Wadsworth and staff of St. Joseph and St. James's P.S.