

December NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Christmas Season is well and truly upon us. There is no better place to be than St. Cronan's Junior National School in December. The corridors are filled with bright, sparkly, beautiful artwork that the children can't wait to bring home. Music fills the school as the choir practiced for their successful Dublin Airport appearance last week and all the classes are preparing the most wonderful pieces for our annual school concert on Wednesday.

I feel so lucky that we have extra assemblies during December. Last week I read the children the beautiful book Dasher by Matt Tavares and I have another lovely story for this week's assembly. We will of course be having Christmas Music in the yard every morning and we are hoping to have a special request played for us on Christmas FM.

As the calendar year comes to an end it is important that we reflect on all the wonderful things that have happened in our happy little school. There are so many highlights I am not going to single anyone out but I do want to say that I feel so blessed to work with this school community. Every time I speak to other school Principals I boast about how wonderful the whole community is from staff to parents and Guardians to our neighbours and most of all our amazing children. No matter what happens they are always our focus.

Thank you to everyone of you for your support. I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year. I look forward to welcoming everyone back for another fun filled term where we will learn, play and laugh together.

Best Wishes
Edel Blake



Enrolment

We have had a really successful enrolment for Junior Infants this year. We have had a record number of applications for Junior Infants starting in 2024. It is so wonderful to see that St. Cronan's Junior National School is the school of choice for Early Years Education in the area. We take this responsibility very seriously. From January we will begin preparations for our incoming Junior Infants.

Panto

Well done to all our 2nd Class children who attended the Panto Treasure Island in The Helix. I heard very good reports about your behaviour and a good time was had by all.

Parental Complaints Procedure

Stakeholders representing everyone in education including parents have approved a new set of procedures for Parental Complaints. I will attach a copy of these procedures to this email. As a school we have the best interest of every child at the core of everything we do and will always work with parents/guardians.

Anti-bullying Policy Review

During the Anti-bullying Policy review I noticed that some parent's were unaware of our Code of Behaviour. Every family agrees to adhere to our code of behaviour when they accept a place in St. Cronan's JNS. This code of behaviour was reviewed with input from parents in 2023. It can be viewed on our website at www.stcronansjns.ie

Dates to Remember

Monday 18th December:

Santa is coming on a 1 horse Open Sleigh

Wednesday 20th December:

School Concert:

9:30 - Junior Infants

10:20 - Senior Infants

11:30 - 1st Class

12:30 - 2nd Class

Friday 22nd December:

Junior & Senior Infants home at

11:45

1st & 2nd class home at 11:55



Staff Meeting Closure

Please note on Wednesday 24th January we will be closing the school at 1:40. This means all classes will go home at 1:40. This is to facilitate staff training. I do apologise for any inconvenience caused - this training is essential and can't be done at any other time.

Hot Meals Update

I have a small update. They are hoping to start the Hot Meals in ST. Cronan's Junior School in April 2024. I have to go through procurement with at least 3 companies. These companies will be issuing samples. I would be keen to get Parent's input on these samples. I will be doing this through the Parent's Association. Please come along to the meetings and help with this important decision. Depending on the company selected Parent's order the food from a menu on an app. There is a wide variety of food on the menu and they do cater for all dietary needs. Please, please come and be a part of this important decision - we all want to make sure our children are getting the best of the best!

School Concert Donation

We will be collecting donations at the door of our Christmas Concert. We will be collecting cash only. Any money collected will go towards our I.T. fund. In the school year 2022 - 2023 The Department of Education gave no grant for IT to any school. We want our children to have access to current technology which means we must upgrade our IT equipment, ensure that our current IT equipment is maintained and invest in new technology. Any donation no matter how small would be really appreciated and put to very good use.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!