



Sacred Heart of Jesus National School

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School Newsletter November 2020





Dear Parents/Guardians,




Please see below a number of items for your attention. Thank you for your continued support of our school.





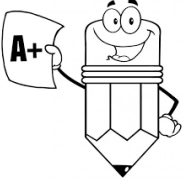

Yours Sincerely,

Kieran Lyons

Principal

<u>Face Coverings</u> 	All adults entering the school grounds should wear a face covering unless an exception applies. We would greatly appreciate your co-operation in this matter for the safety of our school community
<u>Extra layers</u> 	As the school and classrooms have windows open to ensure good ventilation, pupils should wear a base layer under their uniform and may also bring an appropriate fleece top to wear in class if required.
<u>Christmas Cards</u> 	Well done to all the children on their hard work designing their Christmas cards! The sample cards have now gone to print and will arrive to the school shortly. Packs of 12 cards costing €10 will then be available to purchase for parents/guardians. Thank you to our Parents' Association for organising the children's Christmas Cards and your support of this initiative is greatly appreciated.
<u>Christmas Panto</u> 	To celebrate our first term back to school and to congratulate the children on their great work, we have arranged for a special viewing of the Helix Christmas Panto, 'The Sword in the Stone.' The panto will be shown online in classrooms on Friday, December 19 th and our Parents' Association will provide some treats for the children to enjoy during the show. There will be no charge for this event.

<p><u>Christmas Raffle</u></p> 	<p>Our annual Christmas raffle organised by our Parents' Association will take place again this year. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the raffle will take place virtually and tickets will be available for purchase online through Aladdin e-payments. The Christmas Raffle is our school's main fundraiser each year and we would very much appreciate your support this year, so be sure to get your tickets to be in with a chance to win some amazing prizes! If any of our parents or guardians have any business connections and could secure donations of prizes for the raffle, we would be delighted to hear from you via phone or e-mail.</p>
<p><u>Team Hope Fundraiser – 27th November</u> <u>Christmas Jumper Day</u></p> 	<p>Every year our school supports the Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal. However this year, due to Covid-19, it is not possible for pre-filled shoeboxes to be made, sorted through and distributed. This obviously presents as a huge challenge to the Team Hope charity as the poorest of communities need our support now, more than ever. Team Hope have launched their 2020 campaign, encouraging us to fill virtual shoeboxes online at a cost of €20 each. We are asking families for their support to enable us to fill virtual shoeboxes and we will hold a Team Hope fundraiser on Friday, 27th November (Late Late Toy Show day!). The children will be permitted to wear a Christmas jumper (or Christmas-themed/Christmas colours clothing if the children do not have a Christmas jumper) on the day and will be asked to make a donation of €2 to Team Hope. More information can be found at https://www.teamhope.ie/christmas-shoebox-appeal/.</p>
<p><u>No Homework Day – 26th November</u></p> 	<p>Minister for Education, Norma Foley, has requested that all schools would give children a Homework Pass on one evening in the run up to Christmas to say well done on how brilliantly the children are doing on their return to school. We have decided to celebrate this day on Thursday, November 26th and so there will be no homework assigned on this day! Perhaps the children could use this opportunity to get their Christmas-themed clothing ready for our Team Hope fundraiser on the following day, Friday the 27th November!!!</p>

<p><u>No Dogs Allowed on School Grounds</u></p> 	<p>Dogs are not allowed on the school grounds with the exception of assistance dogs.</p>
<p><u>Bicycles, Scooters, Flickers</u></p> 	<p>Adults and children entering the school grounds on bicycles/scooters/flickers etc. should dismount at the school gate and walk through the school grounds to ensure the safety of all.</p>
<p><u>Punctuality</u></p> 	<p>School gates open at 8.30am each morning. Please ensure your child arrives to their classroom no later than 8:50am each day. 4th, 5th and 6th class children must leave the school grounds at their dismissal time at 2.20pm, unless they are collecting a younger sibling at 2.30pm</p>
<p><u>Safety at Assembly and Dismissal Times</u></p> 	<p>Please ensure that all children travel safely to school and home. We ask parents/guardians to exercise extreme caution if parking in the vicinity of the school at assembly and dismissal times and to adhere to applicable laws and guidelines.</p>
<p><u>Parent-Teacher Meetings</u></p> 	<p>We traditionally host our face-to-face Parent-Teacher meetings in the school at the end of November/start of December. Given current restrictions we will be unable to host face-to-face meetings, so instead we will issue written mid-year Pupil Progress Reports to parents/guardians early in the second term.</p>
<p><u>Deputy Principal Appointment</u></p> 	<p>Congratulations to Ms. Clara Donohoe on her recent appointment as Deputy Principal of our school and we wish her well for the future in her new role. Beir bua!</p>