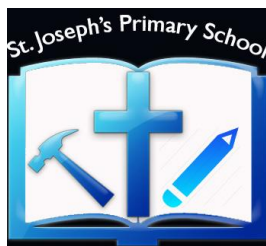


St. Joseph's Primary School

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*'Let Your Light Shine'*

Principal: Mr Gary Trainor BEd (Hons) PQH NI

19<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

We will soon be coming to the end of another very busy first term. Over the past few weeks of Advent our pupils have been enjoying the excitement and countdown to Christmas in the many extraordinary special ways our wonderful school prepares for this special occasion.

- ✚ From the beautiful decorations and Christmas trees that adorn our classrooms and corridors;
- ✚ The gorgeous crib and advent wreath in our entrance area;
- ✚ The festive post box for posting Christmas cards;
- ✚ The mischievous and creative school Elf on the Shelf keeping us guessing every morning.
- ✚ Our delicious Christmas dinner prepared by our brilliant School Meals Team.
- ✚ Primary 7 pupils selling their Christmas crafts at the Quays Shopping Centre.
- ✚ Our amazing Primary 1 pupils who performed their fabulous play, 'Whoops-A-Daisy-Angel.'
- ✚ Our equally amazing Primary 2 pupils who performed their fabulous play, 'Little Angel Gets Her Wings.'
- ✚ And not to forget every one of our pupils getting to see Santa in his magical grotto (and a sneaky visit by the Grinch) followed by a wonderful magic show.

All of this has happened in tandem with our dedicated and committed staff continuing to deliver a curriculum that aims to allow every child to reach their full potential.

**To bring our Advent and Christmas preparation to a conclusion we will be hosting our Whole School Carol Service on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 1pm where all classes from P1 to P7 will participate in a Nativity Tableau and Carol Service at St. Joseph's Church. This is always a lovely occasion and really sets the atmosphere in preparation for the true meaning of Christmas. Everyone is very welcome, so please come join us, you will not be disappointed.**



## Christmas Holidays

School will close for the Christmas Holidays for all children staggered from 11.15 - 11.30am on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December. We will re-open on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January (including Breakfast & After-School Care). All pupils will attend 10am mass on that day to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany (6<sup>th</sup> Jan). This Holy day concludes the twelve days of Christmastide and is the traditional end of the Christmas season. In the Latin Rite of the Catholic Church, Epiphany celebrates the revelation to the Three Wise Men (Kings/Magi) that Jesus was the Son of God.



On behalf of the Board of Governors and Staff of St. Joseph's Primary School, Meigh, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and may the blessings of the season come to each of you and your families.

Yours sincerely

*G. Trainer*

Principal

