

Saint Joseph's Primary School
&
Ederney Community Nursery

Newsletter

Principal: Mrs. A. Hagan (Acting)

12, Ardvarney Rd.,

Ederney,

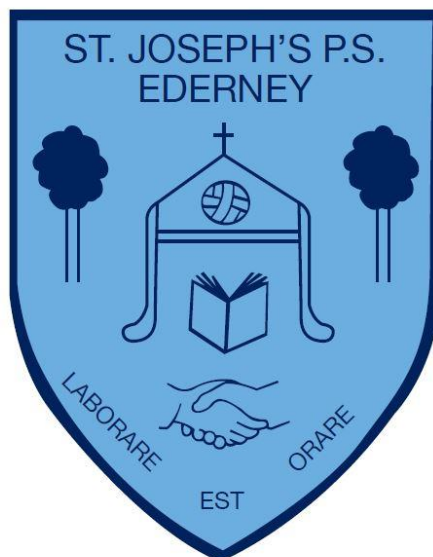
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1st December 2020

Leave of Absence

Mr Monaghan is currently on leave, awaiting surgery. In his absence, Mrs Hagan will be Acting Principal. We will keep Mr Monaghan in our thoughts and prayers in the coming weeks.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Nursery & P1 Applications (September 2021)

Please note that all Nursery and P1 applications **must be made online, via the Education Authority's portal** from **noon on 7th January 2021. The application process will close at 12 noon on Friday 29th January 2021.** Only in exceptional circumstances, can a paper application be made. Please ensure that you share this information with anyone who may be considering making an application for September 2021. Further information will be available on the EA website under the Admissions section at - <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions> or the Education Authority's Facebook page @educationauthorityni from 18th December 2020.

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions we can't offer an opening morning at this stage. However, you are welcome to view our prospectus on our school website www.stjosephspsederney.com

Covid-19 Protocols

Please ensure that you contact the school immediately, if you, or any member of your household, develops symptoms of Covid-19. If you develop symptoms, you must arrange to be tested as soon as possible. You must also inform either Mrs Hagan (Acting Principal) or Mrs Karen McLaren (Secretary), once you receive your result. **Where an individual has had a negative result and everyone with symptoms who was tested in their household receive a negative result, your child can return to school, providing they are well enough and have not had a fever for 48 hours.** School contact details are on the front of this newsletter and on our school website. A phone number has also been shared via the text service but it is **ONLY** to be used if you are reporting a **POSITIVE** case **after school** or at the **weekend**.

Allergies

Please note due to nut allergies, birthday cakes cannot be distributed in the classrooms.

Eco and School Council

Congratulations to our newly elected Eco team and School Councillors.

Our Eco team members are Conall McGrath, James Coyle, Eva Donnelly, Charlie Daly, Blaithin McElhill, Harry Maguire, Tori Brosnan, Joey Preshaw, Freddie Irvine, Kayden Moss and Brian Gallagher.

Our School Councillors are Annabel Stewart, Darragh McNabb, Emmett McGrath, Callum McNabb, Caitlin Monaghan, Davin McGrath, Fainne Brown, Mia Aiken, Finn McMahon and Brenna McGrath. Well done to all the children for taking part.

School Nurse

The school nurse will return on Monday 7th December to complete the administration of the Flu vaccine.

Christmas Dinner

The school canteen will be serving Christmas Dinner on **Thursday 10th December**. Everyone is welcome to take dinner on this day. It is always a delicious meal! The cost is £2.60, could this please be paid on Monday 7th December.

Children can wear a Christmas jumper, t-shirt or an accessory to school that day.

Christmas Holidays

School will close on **Monday 21st December, at 12.00 noon**.

Nursery will close **Friday 18th December at 11:30am**

Dinner will be served early. Please note that buses will not collect children from school on this day. All pupils travelling by car should be collected promptly. Parents of children who attend Glendurragh Childcare should arrange to have their child collected at this time. School re-opens on **Wednesday 6th January 2021**.

St. Vincent de Paul

The local St. Vincent de Paul Society has asked us not to put hampers together this year, to avoid any issues in relation to bringing items into school from home. Obviously the need to support St. Vincent de Paul has never been greater and it is vital that we continue to do all that we can to support their annual Christmas Appeal. Local members of St. Vincent de Paul conduct their weekly collection at the steps of St. Joseph's Church, every Sunday morning, before 11.00am Mass, so rather than sending items into school this year, we urge you to drop your contribution off with them at this time.

Alternatively, you can donate online at : <https://www.svp.ie/get-involved/donate/single-donation.aspx>

Parent NI App

We have now developed the private messaging facility via the Parent NI App. 97% of parents have downloaded the app and verified their account. We ask those who have not yet verified their account to do so urgently. You will have received either a text message, or e-mail, with regard to this. All numbers/emails registered with the school need to verify. All further school communications will be issued either via the app, or by the school text messaging service, so it is vital to do so. Please note that it is also essential to inform us throughout the year, should you change your mobile phone number, or registered e-mail. Instructions on how to download the app are available from our school website www.stjosephspsederney.com , in the Parents/Newsletters section.

Parenting NI courses

Parenting NI, in conjunction with the Public Health Agency (PHA), are providing free online workshops on the following topics:

- Children's emotional health;
- Parenting in the pandemic;
- Helping children to manage change during the pandemic.

To register click on:

www.parentingni.org/programme-calendar

New emotional wellbeing service – See, Hear, Respond

This service will work with children and young people in Northern Ireland who might need additional support to cope with the Covid-19 pandemic, offering practical and therapeutic support. It will also offer advice and guidance to any adults who are concerned about a child's mental health and wellbeing. The aim of this service is to provide the immediate support that children and young people need, to help them overcome their challenges and prevent problems escalating to crisis level.

The types of issues children and young people may need support for include:

- Anxiety around Covid restrictions and lockdown
- Being back at school
- Concerns for health of parents/ grandparents/ family members
- Help with isolation
- Relationships with parents & family
- Dealing with bereavement

Families in Northern Ireland can now self-refer for See, Hear, Respond online at <https://www.barnardos.org.uk/northern-ireland-see-hear-respond> or call 0800 157 7015 available from noon until 7pm, Monday to Friday.

Diary Dates

Confirmation

The Clogher Diocese has allocated **Friday, 12th of March, at 6.00pm, in St. Joseph's Church, Ederney**, as the date for the sacrament of Confirmation. **Please note that this date is provisional and will be subject to change, if current arrangements in relation to the Covid-19, remain in place.**

First Holy Communion

The sacrament of First Holy Communion will be celebrated on **Saturday 22nd May, at 11.00am**, in St. Joseph's Church, Ederney. **Please note that this date is provisional and will be subject to change, if current arrangements in relation to the Covid-19, remain in place.**