

St. Joseph's National School

May

Newsletter

2024



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Congratulations.

We were delighted to hear the news recently that St. Joseph's has been awarded an SFI Curious Minds Award. The school has provided evidence of children's engagement with STEM in the following areas: Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths and STEM Showcase. Having evaluated the log of actions this year it is a gold award for St. Joseph's. Well done to everyone and we are looking forward to receiving our award in June.

Mayoral Visit to St. Joseph's.



We were delighted to welcome outgoing Mayor of Clonakilty, Chris Hinchy to St. Joseph's GNS recently. He visited all classes and the girls enjoyed learning all about his role as Mayor. Chris has very kindly volunteered to train our Junior Wardens in September.

Green Schools Award.



Congratulations to Múinteoir Anna, Gillian (SNA), Katelyn and Nikola, Active Schools Committee who attended the awards ceremony recently.

School Reports.

School reports will be released to Parents on Aladdin on Friday 14th of June.

Reminder: School will be closed on Tuesday 11th for girls in Junior and Senior Infants. All other staff will be accompanying other classes on school tours.

Dates For Diary: June.

Mon. 3rd : Bank Holiday.
Tues. 4th : Sports Day.
Wed.: Dress Rehearsal (Sixth Class Show)
Thurs. 6th :Sixth Class Performance .
Thurs. 6th: Official opening of Class Seven by Christopher O'Sullivan TD.
Raising of Green Flag Ceremony.
Fri. 7th : Grandparents' Day (S. Infants)
Mon. 10th : Hockey Blitz in Astro Turf.
Tues. 11th: School Tours.
Wed. 12th: West Cork Sports Day in Ahamilla.
Sat. 15th: Fifth and Sixth Class Performance in Astna Square .
Tues. 18th : Intercultural Day.
Wed. 19th: Sixth Class Graduation.
Fri. 21st: Summer Holidays (12 Noon)

Fun Activities in St. Joseph's

Lúthchleasa Bhunscoil Chorcaí.



Well Done to all the girls who represented St. Joseph's in the Cork City Sports this year. This is a memorable day for the girls. We are all so proud of their achievements.

Cycling with Ulick.



Junior, Senior Infant and First Class Girls enjoyed learning lots of new cycling skills.

Ready and Waiting!!!



Butterfly Garden.

Múinteoir Noemi and First Class girls have had an exciting month with the new visitors to their classroom!! They have witnessed the captivating journey from caterpillar, chrysalis to butterfly. The girls watched the stages of development and invited all the other classes to watch this amazing sight. On Friday 31st of May the butterflies were released to enjoy the warm sunshine.

Going, Going, Gone!!



School Activities in St. Joseph's

Gardening Club.

Well Done to Múinteoir Noemi and fourth class girls who are busy planting the raised bed with fruit and vegetables. Lots of watering during the sunny days and lots of attention from our Junior Infant girls every morning.



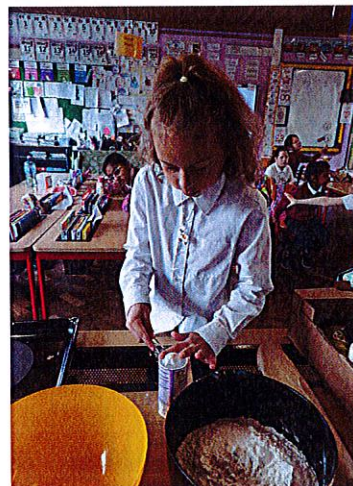
Second class girls were exploring 'Floating and Sinking' this week. They created amazing boats during art lesson and put them to the test!!

Pupil of the Month for May.



This is our last 'Pupil of the Month' award for this year. Very well done to all our winners. These girls have all worked very hard, being a lovely friend in the classroom, enthusiastic and kind every day and being a wonderful role model.

Congratulations to Milena (Third Class) who was came in first place on Sparring Day 2024 with the West Cork Kickboxing Club.



First Class girls working on the Procedural Writing genre. Created a scrumptious gluten free soda bread- Rated 10 out of 10.



West Cork Rapid Response

On Wednesday 15th of May we were delighted to welcome three volunteers from the Rapid Response, complete with a fully kitted out jeep to St. Joseph's. This was a short visit whereby the volunteers, Betty Hennessy, Kate Crowley and Liam Slattery thanked both children and their Parents for their continuous generosity. They explained that their job is to help people and keep them safe. The 'Accident and Emergency' on wheels has to be able to deal with all forms of emergencies and they rely on the public for all the funding. The girls were surprised at all the equipment it could hold and each compartment was so tidy. The volunteers reminded each girl that it is so important that they can either recall their Postcode or are familiar with where it is written in their homes. In times of emergency dial 999 or 112.



Fun Activities in St. Joseph's

Science Blast.

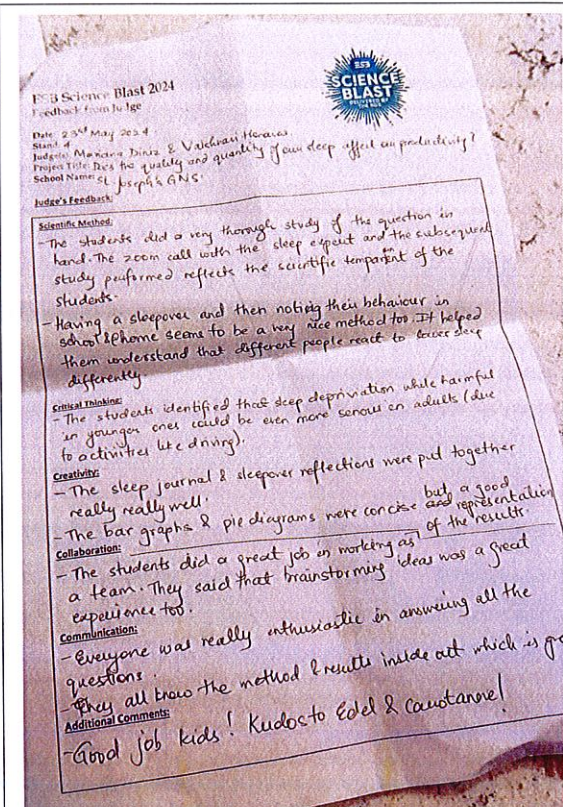
Fifth Class girls were delighted to participate in ESB Science Blast this year. This is a STEM education programme, designed and delivered by the RDS, to inspire primary school children and is one of the largest science education programmes for primary schools of its kind anywhere. The programme's key goals are to encourage students to engage with STEM learning experiences, to develop critical 21st century skills and to explore a plethora of cross-curricular benefits. The girls had to investigate a question they are curious about and present their findings at the showcase day which was held on Friday May 24th. The girls investigated 'Does the quality and quantity of our sleep affect our productivity?'

The learning journey is the most important part of the programme and the girls received very positive feedback and encouragement from an expert judge. The girl also attend fun-filled science shows on the day. Many thanks to Múinteoirí, CarolAnne, Edel and Gillian (SNA) who accompanied the girls to UL.

Feedback from the Judge.

The girls were judged under the following categories: Scientific Method, Critical Thinking, Creativity, Collaboration and Communication.

Congratulations to Fifth Class Girls and their teachers as they showcase their Project.



Fun Activities in St. Joseph's.

Congratulations to Nikola Baraniewska (Sixth Class) who recently competed in a Slow Dance competition held in Little Island Sports Complex. Nikola is a member of Razzle Dazzle and the dance included lots of back bends and flips. Very Well Done Nikola.



Sciath na Scol.

Our 5th and 6th class Sciath na Scol football team played their qualifier games in Ahamilla today on Friday 17th of May. They had a great win over Presentation Primary Bandon by just two points in what was a very exciting game. Unfortunately, the girls were beaten by Scoil Naomh Abán, Baile Bhuirne and Newcestown NS. Well done to everyone who demonstrated great team spirit and represented our school so well!



Athletics Blitz.



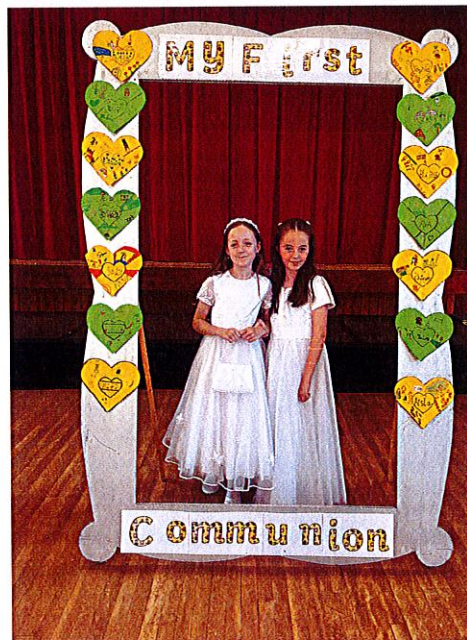
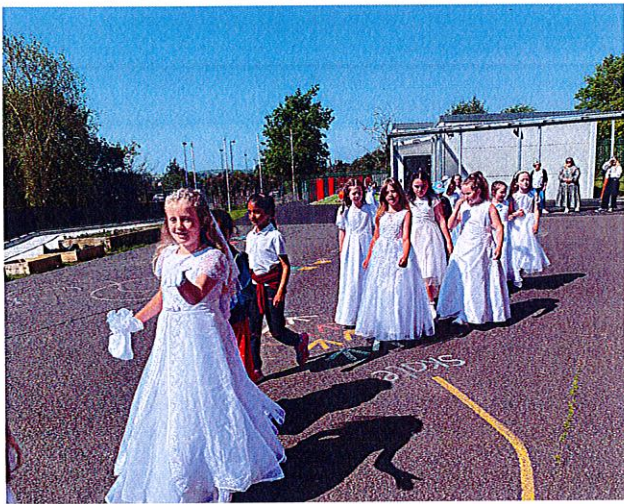
Third Class girls enjoyed a fun packed day participating in the Athletics Blitz which was held in Rosscarbery on Thursday 16th. Many thanks to by Craig Harrington and Lorna Collins who organised this event.

Hockey Coaching.



Hockey Coaching takes place on Tuesday afternoons. Many thanks to Múinteoir Orlaith Transition year students from Sacred Heart Secondary School and players from Clonakilty Hockey Club. A Hockey Blitz with Knockskeagh NS will take place on June 10th.

First Holy Communion.

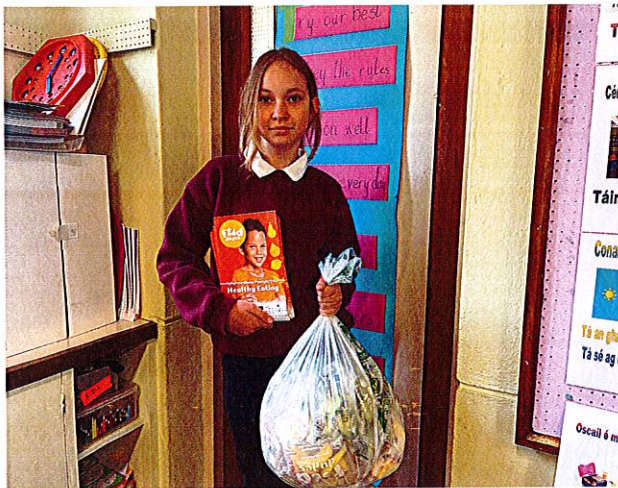


Many thanks to Orla Gallagher (Chairperson of Parents' Association) and her team members who organised the First Holy Communion Party . A joint venture with Scoil na mBuachaillí this year and it was held in the Parish Centre. It was a great opportunity for the girls and boys to meet each other and have great fun.

Congratulations to the girls in Second Class who celebrated their First Holy Communion on Saturday 18th of May 2024

Arrival of Hot Lunches!!

A wonderful aroma wafted around the hall in St. Joseph's on Tuesday 14th of May due to the arrival of the 'Hot Lunches'. We are all very impressed with the delicious ingredients used and the variety of products. The food is delivered to the classroom at 12.30 daily in compostable containers. The girls use their plastic containers to bring these home at the end of the day. The girls need to bring these to school every day.



Food Dudes is an award winning curriculum-linked evidence-based healthy eating programme, developed to encourage children to eat more fresh fruit and vegetables. It is based on repeated tastings of fresh fruit and vegetables, rewards and positive role models. This is the last round of a four year cycle in S. Joseph's. The new programme included new varieties of fruits and vegetables. The girls tasted the new foods each day while watching short videos on suggestions for healthy snacks. Many thanks to Múinteoir Sarah and members of our student council for organising this initiative in St. Joseph's.



Active School Week 2024

Perfecting dance steps in the Astro Turf.



Well Done Fourth Class.

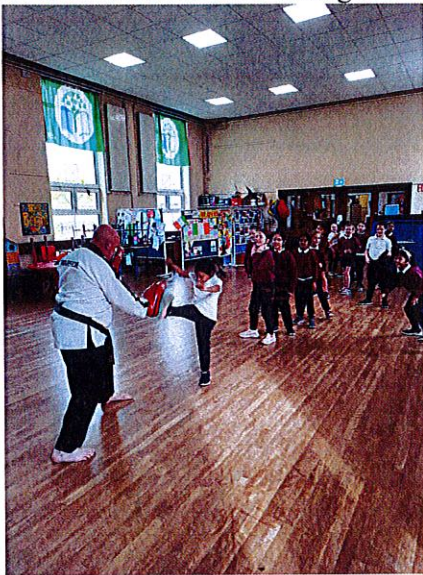
Teddy Bear's Picnic.



First Class girls enjoying a teddy bear's picnic.

Tae Kwon Do with Dan O'Mahony.

First Class Girls had great fun learning new skills. Lots of work on core strength and co-ordination.



A walk to the Greenway.



All classes enjoyed a walk to the Greenway during Active Week. A chance to admire the fabulous views.

Athletics with Martin White.



Girls in all classes have enjoyed four coaching sessions in the Astro Turf.

Gymnastics with Aoife : Creating Bunkbeds.

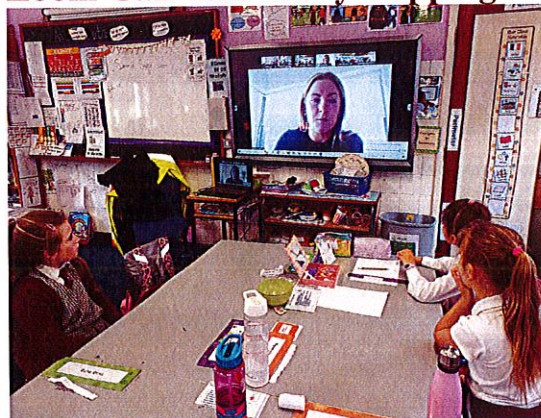


Junior, Senior Infants, First and Second class girls enjoying gymnastics with Aoife.

Active Week in St. Joseph's

Active School Week in St. Joseph's took place during the 7th - 10th of May. The Department of Education and Skills and Healthy Ireland encourage all schools to organise an Active School Week as part of their annual school calendar. The active School Week is about providing fun and inclusive physical activity opportunities to all members of the school community. Beginning with Wake, Up Shake Up, Active Line activities every morning, the girls in St. Joseph's enjoyed a fun packed week of activities. The girls were encouraged to walk, jog or run one km daily. The weekly activities ie Gymnastics, Athletics with Martin and Lorna also continued. The girls participated in ten minutes of active homework daily, Infant Classes, First and Second participated in an Art Competition, Third and Fourth class took part in a photography competition and fifth and sixth classes undertook a profile/report on a sports person of their choice. The senior classes also participated in a Sports Table Quiz. Packed in to the tight schedule were the invited guests, Tae Kwon Do with Dan O'Mahony and Virtual visit from Libby Coppinger, Fiona Everard who each brought their own nuggets of wisdom. Overall, Active Week was a tremendous success and enjoyed by all. Many thanks to Múinteoirí, Marian, Claire and CarolAnne and members of the Active Flag Committee Murphy who organised the week's events.

Zoom Call with Libby Coppinger.



Libby Coppinger, Cork senior camogie and football player joined us for a Zoom Call on Wednesday 8th of May. Libby spoke about how she became involved in sports, the influence of her parents, siblings and extended family, the enjoyment and the social side of sport. Thank you so much Libby for giving your time to us. We all really enjoyed it.

Zoom Call with Fiona Everard.

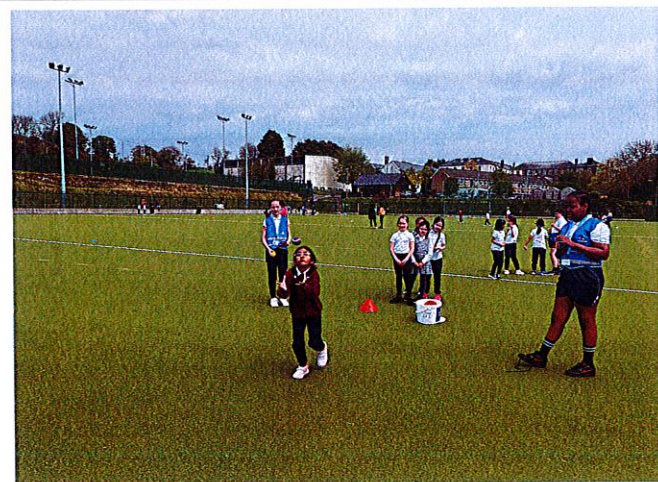


On Friday 10th of May, Cross Country Runner, Fiona Everard joined us on a zoom call. Fiona hails from Enniskeane and is a member of Bandon Athletic Club. Fiona spoke about her interest in Athletics, training that is required on a weekly basis and her interest in both cross country and also shorter distances. In March 2024 she was selected for the 2024 World Athletics Cross Country Championships in Serbia. The girls really enjoyed the zoom call and welcomed the valuable tips ahead of the Cork City Sports.

Active Schools

Fun Stations.

We had a great start to our Active week on Tuesday 7th of May. Sixth Class and our Active Schools Committee organised fun stations for the girls in First and Second Class. On Thursday 9th of May, Junior and Senior infants enjoyed the variety of activities. Many thanks to Múinteoir Marian and the Active School Committee for planning these activities.



Fun Activities in St. Joseph's

Soccer Tournament.

Fifth and Sixth class played a soccer tournament in the Clonakilty Astro Turf on Friday 3rd of May. Huge thank you to Alan Bennett, FAI, who came to run this tournament. Also, thanks to 5th year girls from Sacred Heart who refereed and helped out on the day. Great skills, effort and determination were on view. Congrats to the winning team, Cork City, who ran out winners. This team included Emer, Tara, Muireann, Laura, Julia and Katelyn. Well done everyone!



Table Quiz



Take on the Teachers!



Victory for the staff this year in the annual competitive game of dodgeball with Sixth class. Very tight margin!!

Basketball Coaching.



Girls in Fourth, Fifth and Sixth classes enjoyed Basketball coaching with Múinteoir CarolAnne.

All Hands on Deck!!!



Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth classes rounded off a very enjoyable Active Week with a sports quiz in the hall. Congratulations to Willow, Méabh, Evelyn and Nicola who came in second place. Very well done to Emma Walsh, Ire, Éala and Alia who came in first place.

Congratulations to all our Winners

On Wednesday 15th of May, a prizegiving ceremony was held in the school hall. Múinteoir Marian and Múinteoir Claire thanked the Active Schools Committee and Sixth Class girls for their huge contribution to the successful Active Schools Week. Prizes were presented and we had lots of proud girls going home

Prizewinners: Table Quiz.



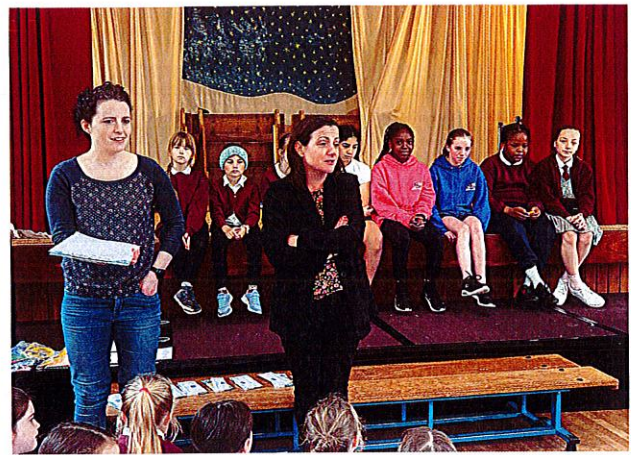
Congratulations Alia, Emma, Ire and Eala who came in first place.



Active Flag Committee.



Active School Committee.



Prizewinners; Art Competition.



Table Quiz: Prizewinners: Second Place.



Outdoor Pursuits in St. Joseph's

Well Done to the fifth and sixth class girls who represented St. Joseph's in the South West Rowing Schools regatta at the lagoon in Rosscarbery recently. The Southern Star-sponsored schools' regatta is a great introduction to coastal rowing for primary school children. Many thanks to the local clubs, Ring Rowing Club, Galleyflash Rowing Club, Rosscarbery Rowing Clubs for training the girls ahead of the event and to South West Rowing for organising an excellent event. It was a great opportunity for the girls to test their newly-acquired skills against the opposing teams.



Congratulations.



Well done sixth class girls who competed with Ring Rowing Club and came in second place.



Well done Múinteoir Claire and Fourth Class who led the Cotton-Eye Line Dance.

Congratulations.



Congratulations to fifth class girls who came in first place and competed with GalleyFlash.



An array of colourful Jerseys.