



St. Joseph's National School Moneygall Christmas Newsletter 2024

Holidays - Our school term ends tomorrow on a half day. We will finish at 12.30pm and the school will reopen in the New Year on Monday, 06 January 2024.

Clothes Collection - On the 6th of November we had the clothes collection, we collected over 1.4kg of recycled materials which raised €345 for the school.

Templemore Garda College Tour On 12th of November after their final swimming lesson pupils from 4th to 6th Class were given a tour of Templemore Garda College. Garda Orla McDonald kindly met us off the bus and gave us a tour of the gym and a go on the Garda Motorobikes. She also organised some self defence classes with Garda Ken McDonald. We finished up with a hot lunch and ice-cream in the Garda Canteen kindly organised by Henry Healy.

Team Hope Christmas Shoe Box Collection On the 13th of November Team Hope collected over 50 shoeboxes from our pupils. Your outstanding generosity will go to 12 countries across Eastern Europe and Africa as part of the 2024 Christmas Shoebox Appeal. For many of these children, this is the only gift they will have received this Christmas (or in their lives before). Thank you all.

Peace Proms On the 14th of November pupils from 1st to 6th Class travelled to the University of Limerick for a Peace Proms Rehearsal day under the direction of maestro Greg Beardsell participating with over 900 other pupils from Munster Schools. They went through all of their songs and nearly raised the roof singing for Sia's 'I'm unstoppable today.' We look forward to our full performance with the Peace Proms Orchestra on 9th Feb 2025.

Lámh Sign Language On Friday morning the 6th of December Tricia Moore organised for Dee Coleman a Lámh sign language instructor to visit our school. Dee taught us some really useful greetings and songs and sayings in Lámh. The children loved this lesson so much that both groups asked their teachers if they could incorporate their new signs into this years Christmas Play.

Soccer Coaching On Friday the 13th of December the kids from 3rd to 6th Class got the last of their 10 weeks of coaching from Kelvin Coughlan. Thanks to Moneygall Soccer Club.

Nenagh Christmas Tree Festival 5th & 6th Class, our Ukrainian pupils and their English Teacher Ms O'Dowd co-ordinated four entries this year which showcased in St. Mary's Church from the 11th to 17th of December. Molde'c, Molodets, Maith Thú & Well done to All!

Christmas Plays - Most of the month of December was taken up with preparations for our school Nativity Plays. Many Thanks for all your kind donations which went towards making up over 30 hampers. We were very proud of the children and their performances was so heart warming. Hats off to Mr. Egan, Ms Lillis, Ms. Hilmi and Ms. Doughan for their hard work directing the plays. We were thrilled with the support we received from parents at the shows. Sale of raffle tickets and donations raised over €2,000 for the school which we have ear-marked towards our Astro-Pitch

Santa Visit A huge thank you also to our Parents' Association who organised for Santa to visit the school on Thursday the 19th December. Worryingly enough he arrived in a Garda Van but was in jolly form following his escape chatting and carolling all day long!

Some things to look forward to next year:

- Say Yes to Languages German lessons with Martha Larkin continue in January.
- Moneygall GAA Club are organising hurling coaching with Denis Dwyer and Darragh McCarthy.
- Denise Costelloe from our Parents Association has organised a Deposit Return Bin which was delivered last week. Plastic bottles from 150ml-3 litres can be deposited into our orange bin in the bicycle shed. Money raised will go directly to the school.

Thank you - Many Thanks to our Secretary Eileen for our hot lunches all year and for organising all the Christmas Annuals. Thank you also to our transition year students Lisa Nolan, Katelyn Deane, Amy Ryan, Ava Quinlan and Kyla Doyle for all their huge help with the Christmas Plays. Finally, we will be very sorry tomorrow to say good bye to Jack Ryan who has assisted with many school projects on his 4-month work placement in our school. We will miss you 'Mr. Jack' and we wish you all the best in your continued studies.

From all the staff in the school we wish you a very Happy Christmas & New Year.

Nollaig Shona agus athbliain faoi mhaise daoibh go léir.

