

St. Philip the Apostle Junior School



December Newsletter 2023

Dear Children and Parents,

As we approach the end of our First term, and indeed the end of 2023 we would like to thank you all for your continued support and wish you all a happy, safe and healthy Christmas.



Christmas Plays & Assembly

Over the last few days, each class has performed a Christmas play. The performances have been outstanding and the children's talents in acting, singing, poetry and dance have been a joy to behold. Congratulations to all the children and the teachers & SNA's for all their hard work. Many thanks to parents, grandparents, and family members for coming to support the children; your presence makes each event special and it is a delight to have the families back in the school.

On Tuesday First Class treated the school and 1st class parents & families to a very festive assembly to be proud of. This filled the whole school with more Christmas cheer

Christmas Raffles

A sincere thanks to parents for taking part in the school raffle at each play. Your generosity has meant that once again this year we were able to donate to Sally Burke who provides hampers at Christmas Time for the elderly in our parish. Such a fantastic and worthy cause.

Thank you so much.



Parents Association

The reindeers will be well fed again this Christmas by continuing the much-loved fundraising initiative of our Magic Reindeer Food. A sachet of Magic Reindeer food presented in a festive card is available for purchase at €1 in the Junior & Senior schools. The Reindeer food is proving very popular with our students! A big thank you to the Parents Association for organising this much-loved event. The Christmas Decoration Craft morning organised by the PA was amazing. The decorations made, were on a par with anything from Newbridge!! So sparkly. Well done to all involved.



Christmas Festivities!

This week we have had a run of fun activities in school to keep the Christmas spirit alive and well.

On Friday the whole school took part in Christmas & Winter Jumper Day. So many wonderful Christmas & Winter jumpers brought great colour and fun to the school. And also, on Friday all of the children received a visit from the Big Man himself. He flew in with all the reindeers while Mrs. Claus was shopping in the Blanchardstown Centre. He got the elves to get selection boxes ready for everyone and he apologises if any of them got into mischief in your homes this Christmas. He promises to have a word with them all !!!!!

Senior School Christmas Nativity

A big thank you to Mr. Reilly and all the staff of the Senior School for inviting 2nd class over to the 3rd class nativity and Carol Singing. It was a great performance and such wonderful singing. The 2nd class children are excited to know they will be performing next year.



Happy Retirement to Carol

Our wonderful lollipop lady Carol is retiring and moving on to new adventures. Carol has guided the children across the Shelerin Road for many years now and it is with a heavy heart that we say farewell. The staff & children all wish Carol and her husband many happy adventures in the future and a happy Christmas & a peaceful New Year. Thank you Carol.



Attendance

It is extremely important that your child attends school every day that he/she is well. However, if your son/daughter has been sick during the night, please do not send him/her to school next day. It is essential to notify the school if your child is ill or absent from school for any period of time. Please log absence on Aladdin.



Fundraising

In the New Year one of our very own SNA's will be fundraising for the school to help us bring back to life the area between 1st & 2nd classes. Sharon will be completing a Sponsored Parachute Jump with the Irish Parachute Club in the Springtime of next year. If you would like to sponsor Sharon, there is a sponsorship card in the office. Any donation, no matter the size is greatly appreciated.

Draiocht

The children in Senior infants and 1st class all had a fabulous time at Draiocht this month. They went to see The Polar Bear & The Penguin. Great fun was had by all. They all enjoyed the walk up and back!



1st & 2nd Class Christmas Quiz

A big thank you to Mr. Conneely and all the staff for organising a new tradition for St. Philips JNS. The Christmas Quiz was great fun and the children had a fantastic time. Plenty of spot prizes for all involved.



Enrolments

Please do not forget to enrol incoming junior infants for 2024/2025. You can enrol online at <https://www.stphilipsjns.ie/news/admissions-2024-2025/> or by calling into Caroline in the office for an enrolment form.



Christmas Holidays

The school will close on Friday 22nd December at 12 noon for the Christmas Holidays. The school will reopen on Monday 8th of January 2023 at 9am

On behalf of myself, Mrs O' Sullivan, our Acting Deputy Principal and all the staff at St. Philip of the Apostle JNS, I wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a wonderful year ahead in 2024.

Yours sincerely,

Ruth Molloy & the staff of St Philip the Apostle JNS.