St. John Bosco Junior Boys' School, Navan Road, Dublin 7. Newsletter December 2015



Dear Parents/Guardians

December has arrived and Christmas is almost upon us. The boys and teachers have been very busy practising for the carol service, decorating the school with their beautiful artwork and working hard to get all their work done before the holidays. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our boys, parents, guardians, staff and Board members a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

Carol Service

Our Christmas Carol Service will take place in the Church on Friday 18th December at 12.30pm. All parents and family members are invited to come along. The service will last approximately 45 minutes and the boys may go home afterwards if you wish. We do ask however that you allow them to return to their classroom with their teachers and collect them from there.

Parents' Committee Raffle

The Parents' Committee Annual Raffle will take place on Wednesday December 16th. Books of raffle tickets went home in the school bags last week. More tickets are available through the office. The money raised in the raffle will go towards educational resources and activities for the boys. If you (or your place of work) would like to donate a prize for the raffle please contact the office. All help is gratefully appreciated! Please note that the City Cycles voucher prize is for 150 and not €100 as listed on the tickets.

Friendship Fortnight

All classes are currently taking part in Friendship Fortnight. This aims to encourage the boys to think about how they treat their friends and classmates, how they can make friends, how they can manage friendships and how they can deal with conflict. All classes are using the Zippy's Friends programme alongside other activities and songs. The boys all have a 'Mystery Friend' that they are being nice to this week. Encourage your son to talk about the ways in which he can be nice to a friend and discuss friendships with him.

Opinion Poll

Thank you to everyone who took part in our recent Opinion Poll on co-education. The result has shown that over 75% of our parents would be in favour of our school becoming co-educational in the future. This will be recorded in the Board of

Management Report. We will also inform the Patron and the other two schools on campus of this.

Copper Hunt

In light of the recent government to do away with the use of 1c and 2c coins, the Parents' Committee are having a Copper Hunt. If you have any unwanted coppers, the boys can bring them in and put them into the jar in Marie's office. All proceeds will go towards paying for workshops for the boys.

Junior Infants September 2016

We are now accepting applications for Junior Infants 2016. Application forms are available from the office or on our website. The closing date for applications is 31^{st} January 2016.

Book Fair

The Celtic Travelling Book Fair visited our school in November and over €1700 was collected on book sales. We get 60% of this back in books for our library and to use as Supplementary Readers so a big thank you to everyone who bought books. I hope all the boys are enjoying reading them!

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St Vincent de Paul

Christmas can be a very difficult time of year for some families. In order to do our little bit to help out we will be collecting for Food Hampers for the St Vincent de Paul. If you would like to donate any <u>non-perishable</u> items for these please send them into the school before Thursday December 17th.

Special Visitor

I have it on good authority that we will have a very special visitor wearing a red suit on Thursday 17th December.

Emergency Contact Details

If you have changed your telephone number or moved house please remember to let us know as it is vital we have emergency contact details for all boys. Also, if you are not receiving text messages please contact myself or Marie so we can rectify this.

Dates for your Diary

Friday 18th December - Carol Service Tuesday 22nd December - School closes at 12.00pm - Christmas Holidays

Clodagh Farrell Principal