

*Scoil Iosaif Naofa
Bothair an Chlochair
Cinn Mhara
Co. na Gailimhe*



*St. Joseph's N.S
Convent Road
Kinvara
Co. Galway*

Newsletter January 2011

Dear Parents,

Cuirim failte mór roimh gach duine ar ais ar scoil tar éis saoire na Nollag.
I hope you all enjoyed the Christmas break and wish you well for the coming year.

Collection of Infants: Teachers are permitted to release children in Infant classes into the custody of a child's parent/guardians or an adult appointed by them. Parents are required to inform teachers about any changes in relation to who is collecting their children from class at 1.50pm. Children due to be collected from school should not leave the grounds if they fail to meet the person appointed to collect them. They should always return to the school office where they may remain until the situation is resolved.

Newsletter Correspondences:

We are still awaiting email addresses from parents who have not yet supplied them to us. We hope to communicate all our correspondences by email which is very cost effective and also fosters productive communication patterns between school, students and parents.

Through the development of IT planning in school, we hope to advance and develop our communication strategies. Email is fast and is delivered instantly, compared to telephone calls and text messages. Email is also less expensive.

If you wish information to be communicated to the parent body, we will only do so by email (provided content is suitable). The level of security in transmitting email messages is very high. Email is private.

Please refer to our school's website for updates and information pertaining to our school. [St Joseph's National School Kinvara.](#)

Text Message Service: Please insure that the school has accurate and up to date details of mobile numbers of parents/guardians so that messages can be sent and received promptly. It is also important that the designated phone is enabled to receive these messages. In order to minimise costs and administration only one number per child will be listed on the service.

Dates to remember: Confirmation will take place on **Tuesday April 5th 2011** and First Holy Communion will take place in St. Joseph's Church on **Saturday May 14th 2011**.

Also the First Holy Communion Sunday Celebrations will take place on Sunday, February 13th and March 27th. There will be a mass for the First Communion Do This in Memory of me this Sunday at 11 am. The school choir is asked to attend.

Punctuality: It is important that we develop, promote and maintain the habit of being punctual for school, events and appointments. I would ask everyone to make a special effort to be in time for school for 2011. Teachers are required to keep punctuality records in relation to children who are frequently late for school.

Congratulations to: Maireád Harrison & her husband Mark on birth of their baby girl Bébhinn.

Tax Returns CHY2: Some families have received a CHY2 form recently. Your co-operation in this matter is greatly appreciated. We ask that when forms are signed that they could be returned to the school as soon as possible.

Quiz: Well done to the pupils of Scoil Iosaif Naofa who participated in the local Credit Union Quiz. Congratulations to the U11 Team, Darren Kilkelly, Ronan Gaughan, Caoimhe Kelly & Jack Burke who came 3rd in their section.

Building & Development: Our playing & Sports facilities were recently officially opened by Tánaiste & Minister for Education & Skills Mary Coughlan TD. We presented our plans for further developments to the Tánaiste during the visit. We are pleased to announce that further grant aid was sanctioned to build a school hall, three new classrooms, library and staffroom.

The Tánaiste complement the pupils and Board of Management on the excellent facilities that we have already in the school and was delighted to provide further funding to complete our necessary and overdue requirements.

School Musicians Take Part in Coole Music Orchestra Day

On Sunday the 6th March the children who play music with the school orchestra will participate in an orchestra day organised by Coole Music. It will be held in the Lady Gregory Hotel in Gort and will feature four junior orchestras. The school musicians were invited to attend by Katherina Baker, director of Coole Music, after she had attended the performance in the community centre last June by St. Joseph's musicians along with their musical peers from St. Ultan's National School in Cherry Orchard, Dublin when they visited Kinvara for a concert. Katherina was most impressed with the performance and issued the invitation immediately. St. Joseph's School orchestra now has children from 1st class to 6th class playing with the group. The young musicians are busy learning a beautiful piece of music - 'The Sky Lantern' - composed by Katherina Baker. This will be performed by all the orchestras playing together in the finale of the concert and so is a major challenge. Already, though, St. Joseph's musicians are sounding really good.

The Joseph Browne Spring School of Traditional Music 2011 Moves to Kinvara!

The Joseph Browne Spring School of Traditional Music, which has taken place for the past four years in Gort, is relocating to Kinvara where it will take place in St. Joseph's National School from Thursday 24th February to Sat 26th February. Classes will take place from 10am to 1pm each morning and 'Bearer's of the Tradition' workshops where students are given the opportunity to chat with and play with more senior members of the traditional music community will take place Thurs and Fri afternoons from 2pm to 3pm. This is an excellent opportunity for any children who are already playing an instrument as it allows them to spend three continuous days playing and learning music with some of the best teachers and performers of traditional music in Ireland as well as meeting other young musicians from all over Ireland. Classes are offered in fiddle, tin whistle, accordion, concertina, flute, pipes, guitar, keyboard and bodhrán. A singing class will be held on Sat am only. The tutors for the 2011 Spring School include Eileen O'Brien, Áine McGrath, Denis Liddy, Cath Taylor, (fiddle) Dermot Byrne (accordion), Edel Fox (Concertina), Lara De Brún (Flute), Marion McCarthy, (tin whistle), Eugene Lambe (Pipes), Garry ó Briain (Guitar), Geraldine Cotter (Keyboard), Karen Browne (Bodhrán) and Edel Vaughan (Singing). Application forms are available from Ms O'Keeffe. A benefit concert to help towards the cost of running the spring school will be held in Johnston's Hall on Fri night 25th Feb where many of the tutors will perform.

Frawley Family: Michael & Fiona Frawley have asked me to extend their heartfelt thanks to the many people who helped or offered support to their family during Keelin's illness and her time of death. The Frawley family really appreciates your kindness & prayers.

School Closures: The school will be closed on Thurs 24th Feb & Fri 25th Feb for Spring Mid-Term Break. Also please note that the school will be closing at **12 Noon** for a staff meeting on **March 11th**. The school is also closed March 17th, March 18th & March 21st.

School email address: Please note that we have changed the school email address. It is now: info@kinvarans.ie.

Is mise,

Dominic Ó Gallacháir (Principal)