

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



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

Newsletter December 2010

Dear Parents,

Christmas Market Competition: Well done to all of the pupils of our school who participated in the Art Competition. The adjudicators made particular reference to the very high standard from Scoil Iosaif Naofa.
Congratulations to all the winners.

Christmas Cards: It is wonderful to get positive feedback from parents and other outside agencies. We are very pleased with the Christmas card art project.
All of the pupils in the school participated in the project.
Sincere thanks to Helen Gunning, Mark Dwyer and Hilary Sexton for putting in so much effort. All of the cards are truly magnificent.

School Concert/Wriggly nativity: Congratulations to all of the pupils who participated in the Wriggly Nativity and the school concert.

The Wriggly Nativity was once again a huge success. As I stated on both performances' the talents of young children never ceases to amaze.

I hope you all enjoyed the shows as much as we did.

I thank Ms Murray, Ms Ryan, Ms Smith & Mrs Murphy for all of the work carried out in preparing pupils to get a huge standard.

I also thank Majella, Sarah and Bernie for all the extra help in the production. A special thanks to Bernie McCormack for arranging the purchase of materials and sewing costumes for the show.

School Concert: I congratulate all the pupils from first class to sixth class for their very huge standard of entertainment produced in the concert on Monday last. School concerts such as these provide a wonderful opportunity for children to perform on stage. It also instills the role of team playing amongst pupils and assists in boosting school morale. We are all very proud of our pupils and the staff gain a great sense of achievement from such performances.

A huge amount of effort goes into preparing pupils for the night. I sincerely thank all of the teachers for their Trojan effort over the past few weeks. I like to thank the teachers for braving the elements, sometimes travelling long distances at night to be there to assist and direct the pupils. We are blessed to have such committed staff.

The orchestra was once again fantastic led by Ms O'Keeffe and Ms McGrath playing a medley of Christmas carols.

I was also delighted to see so many new members of the junior members join in to play two extra pieces-Hydom and Dec the Halls.

First and second classes performed a medley of carols from "All over the World". The singing, dancing and colour led to magnificent performances.

Thanks to Ms. Lahart, Mrs Whelan & Ms Kilkelly.

Thanks to Ms O'Keeffe for all the accompaniment.

Third & Fourth Classes produced a very enjoyable Dick Whittington. Once again a wonderful performance that was most entertaining. Thanks to Ms O'Keeffe & Mr Tierney.

The concert closed with the "Wizard of Oz", yet again the talents of all of the pupils was of the highest standards. The songs, choreography and acting was once again very entertaining. Thanks to Ms McGrath and to Mr Nolan. A special thanks to Ms Lahart for the art work. I thank Ailish Kavanagh and Ms Smith for make up and Mrs Murphy & Mrs Davoren for supervision and assisting productions.

The costs of producing concerts of these huge standards can be significant hence the €5 charge for admission. €720 was collected at the door.

The break down of costs are:

Sound	€400
Lighting	€100
Hire of Hall	€200
Batteries	€ 60
Make up	€ 25
Costumes & Materials	€ 85
Paint (spray)	€20

We hope you all enjoyed the performances as much as we did.

School Closures: The last day of term for Christmas will be the **23rd of December**. The school will close at **12.00 Noon** for the Christmas holidays. The school will re-open on Monday **the 10th of January 2011**.

Christmas Day Swim: This will take place at 12 noon at Traught Beach. Sponsorships card are in the Local Shops, Pubs & Credit Union. All monies raised will go to the Galway Hospice.

Hampers: Sincere thanks to all who sent in items for Christmas Hampers. Thanks to the Parents Association who will distribute the goods to the local St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Christmas Cards: We ask that Christmas cards would not be given out in school.

Santa Claus: Thanks to the Parents Association who managed to get Santa Claus to take time out of his very busy schedule and come and visit the pupils of our school. I know that this is a very busy time for him but with the help of the Parents Association it made his task less onerous.

Congratulations to: Siobhan Purcell and her husband John on the birth of their baby boy-Liam.

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 November 21st, December 12th, February 13th and March 27th.

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

As you can see from the Newsletter December is one of the busiest and most exciting months of the school year. I would like to thank parents, teachers and children who give their time generously in support of activities arranged within and outside the school in preparation for Christmas.

I hope that you all enjoy a Happy, Holy and Peaceful Christmas and a Prosperous 2011.

Beannachtaí na Nollag oraibh go léir.

Is mise,

Dominic Ó Gallacháir (Principal)