

St. Louis G.N.S.



November 2017 Vol 4

Website

To stay in touch with our news, events and activities, log onto the **school's website at**

www.stlouisgns.ie

There are great
Educational and
Fun Resources
in our Learning Zone



Parent Teacher Meetings

Our Parent Teacher Meetings are taking place **tomorrow from 2.30 to 6 pm** and on **Thursday from 2.30 to 5pm**. We look forward to meeting you all and updating you on your daughter's progress.

Christmas Shows

We are delighted to announce that we will have a full programme of Christmas entertainment for you this year. There will be three separate shows: one for the 2nd classes, one for 3rd & 4th and one for the 5th & 6th classes. Our 5th class choir will also be taking part in a special Inter-Schools Carol Service in St. Joseph's church with the choirs of St. Mary's Boys' N.S. and St. Louis Infant School. Finally, our choir will also be carol singing in Flemings in aid of St. Vincent de Paul. See the **Dates for your diary** column (below left) for details of these events. Reminder invitations will be sent out closer to the time.

Parents' Association News

The Parents' Association held a meeting on Wednesday 8th November and elected new officers for this year: Claire Sheridan, Chairperson, Carmel Duffy, Assistant Chair, Nora Devine, Secretary, Sabrina Mc Cooley, Assistant Secretary, Dermot Coyle, Treasurer, Patricia McElwain, Freda Connolly and Karen Prunty. The members are organising a Flag Day in Monaghan town this Saturday, 2nd December, to raise funds for school resources. Many thanks to those of you who have already volunteered to help on Saturday. **If anyone else is available to help for even one hour, please call Tracey in the school office to let us know.**

Dates for your diary:

Wed. 29th & Thursday 30th November:

Parent/Teacher meetings

Saturday 2nd December:

Parents' Association Flag Day

Thursday 14th Dec:

3rd & 4th Class Christmas Show at 11.30 am

Inter-Schools Carol Service in St. Joseph's Church at 7pm

Monday 18th Dec:

2nd Class Christmas Show at 1.30pm

Wednesday 20th Dec:

5th & 6th class Show at 7.30pm

Thursday 21st Dec:

5th Class Choir Carol Singing in Flemings.

Christmas Holidays:

Closing: Friday December 22nd at 12.25 pm

Re-Opening:

Monday January 8th 2018

The Big Switch On

The rain on Sunday last did little to dampen the spirits of those who had gathered in the centre of Monaghan Town for the annual Switch On of the Christmas Lights. Well done to our 5th class choir who did a marvellous job of entertaining the crowd to a medley of Christmas carols and songs and thanks to Mrs Gallagher for all her hard work in preparing the girls. Congratulations also to our energetic team of staff members who ran a successful Hot Chocolate Stall on the day. Sincere thanks to those who gave donations and to those who helped assemble the raffle hampers. A special word of thanks to Ms. Mullen for all her advance planning and preparation for this fund-raising event. We are deeply indebted also to our Family-School Liaison Officer, David Mc Cague, who worked with us for the entire day. We are very grateful to all the parents and members of the public who purchased hot beverages and raffle tickets to support us.



We are continuing to sell Raffle Tickets in the school this week. Tickets for the Adult Hampers cost €2 per strip or 3 for €5. Tickets for the Children's Draw are 50c per strip or 3 for €1.

Competition Winners

Monaghan Mental Health Essay and Poetry Competition



Congratulations to all our girls who won prizes in this year's Poetry and Essay Competition on the theme "Keep calm and hug a tree." The girls and their parents attended an Awards Ceremony in the Westenra Hotel on Wednesday last, 22nd November, where they were photographed for the Northern Standard. Very well done to Keira McCabe, 6th class, who was one of a group of ten children to be selected as overall winners. Keira received a lovely green t-shirt with the theme of this year's competition printed on it. Our winners were: **Merit:** Manisha Manohran, Melisa Rutkauskas, Indre Nazarova, Eveline Jermacane & Kiera Mc Cabe.

Highly Commended: Emma Mc Cann, Nan Cawley, Judyta Zwiekwa, Kornelia Pakalniskye and Teresa Mc Enaney.

Credit Union Art Competition



Well done to Fausta Lekniute, 6th class, who won 1st prize in the Credit Union Art Competition with the theme "Set your imagination free....." Fausta attended a special award ceremony in the Credit Union offices on Friday 11th November. Her entry will now go through to the next round of the competition.

Socks for the Homeless Appeal

We are supporting the Charity "A lending Hand, Monday Nights" who are currently running a Christmas sock appeal for the homeless. We are encouraging the pupils to bring in **new** socks for either men, women or children. A box is provided in the front hall for this collection. The last day for bringing in socks is 14th December.



St. Vincent de Paul Food Appeal

We are holding our annual food appeal for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul during the month of December. From next Monday onwards the children are encouraged to bring in non-perishable food items or items with a long shelf-life e.g. tinned foods, pasta, rice, cereals etc These will be presented to the Society in time for the distribution of their Christmas Parcels. We are grateful to Mrs Gallagher for co-ordinating this charity event in our school.

Committee News

Green Schools

The members of the committee have done an audit of all our water points and have shown these on a plan of the school which is on display on the Green Schools' Noticeboard. The first step towards our water flag is to ascertain exactly how we use water in the school. The committee will have their 2nd meeting with Nial O' Connor, Environmental Officer with Monaghan County Council, in December.

Active Committee News

Our new Handball Wall is currently under construction and will be officially launched in the New Year. The members of the Active committee, guided by Mrs Hannon, are planning to organise a handball league after the Christmas holidays.

Action Team Partnership

The adult committee met on Tuesday November 21st and completed its goals for the year. We hope to do an inter-generational project in the New Year which will involve linking with senior citizens in our local community. Miss Holland and Mrs Healy are currently working with the children's committee members, teaching them play-ground games which they in turn are teaching to the classes in the junior yard. David Mc Cague, our Family School Liaison Officer, will run a series of Motivation Mondays in the month of December aimed at improving the punctuality of our pupils.

Student Council News

The council members are currently running a 3-D art competition as part of the construction strand of the art curriculum, They meet with Mrs Farrell at lunchtime and will judge the work of the classes. The winners will be announced when all classes have completed their construction lessons and all have been judged.

The girls are also preparing an Advent Assembly which they will present to the whole school tomorrow. They will explain all about the Advent Wreath and how Advent is a time when we prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.



Charity Dress-up Day

On Friday 27th October, we had a Halloween Dress-up Day in aid of the National Council for the Blind, Ireland. The girls dressed up in all sorts of colourful costumes and raised the grand total of €450 which was presented to Collette McEntee, past-pupil and Fund-raising Executive for the NCBI. Many thanks to you all for sending in your €2 to support this worthy cause.



Debating

Our 6th Class girls are taking part in the Concern Primary Debating Competition. This involves 3 debates in the first round. The girls won their first debate against a team from Rackwallace on Friday 17th November when they proposed the difficult motion that "To tackle climate change all people should be vegetarian." Congratulations to speakers Rhiain Ronaghan, Hannah Pourani and Tammy Mc Elwain and to researchers Neeha Vivkanandan, Georgina McKenna and Aoife O'Gara, who also acted as Chairperson on the day. Sincere thanks to Miss Deery for preparing the girls so well for this event.

Peace Proms Concert

Our 6th classes are busily practising for the Annual Peace Proms Concert which takes place in Dublin on Sunday 4th February at 2pm. Tickets for the concert are available online at peaceproms.com. Use the code **dubsun2** to get a reduced price. 6th class parents will get a chance to hear some of the wonderful music involved at our senior Christmas Concert.



Science Week

Science Week ran from November 13th to 17th this year. All our classes took part in experiments and workshops which were organised by the Cavan/Monaghan Science Fest Committee and which took place in the library, museum and Garage Theatre. Many classes also undertook their own classroom experiments to mark this special week.



SPORT

Be Active

The Be Active Club for second class girls has run very successfully since the beginning of October. It will conclude for Christmas on Monday, December 11th and will resume on the second Monday back after the Christmas holidays, January 15th.

Basketball

Basketball for 5th & 6th classes finished up for this term last Thursday, 22nd November. It will resume again after the Christmas holidays.

Futsal

Twelve of our 4th class girls took part in a soccer Futsal Blitz in Colaiste Oiriall on Wednesday 8th November. The girls lost their first match against Threemilehouse, but beat a team from Gaelscoil Ultain in their 2nd game. They thoroughly enjoyed the blitz and were awarded with a certificate each and two footballs for the school. Many thanks to Miss McNally who coached the Futsal team and accompanied them on the day. Team members are: Alexandra Karlaite, Elizabete Sermolite, Natalie Connolly, Jessie Cleary-Keenan, Madeleine Mc Connell, Ernesta. & Gloria Marut, Kaitlyn Dearden, Lauren & Leah Ward, Emma Mc Cann and Rhianna Bell. Well done girls!

Swimming

Very well done to all our girls who took part in the Schools' Swimming Gala in Monaghan Leisure Centre on Sunday 26th November where a number of them won medals. The squad included: Emilia Zadlo, Emily Kirklauskaite, Kaitlyn Dearden, Emma Sou, Ava Murphy, Ava Hall, Cairenn Mc Cooley & Daisy Walker.

