



NEWS-UPDATE - MAY 2009



We welcome Ms. Ann Quill, our new Resource Teacher to the school. Ms. Quill started with us on 27th April but unfortunately due to the education cut-backs will leave us at the end of June. We wish her well.

School Referendum on Opening/Closing Times: The recent referendum on opening and closing times mirrored the results of the Divorce/Pro-Life Referenda of recent years with 52% of parents voting no to changing the hours and 48% voting yes to the changing times. Up on 98% of families participated in the ballot which is a staggering turnout. Our thanks to all for your participation.

Condolences: Our school community expresses deepest sympathy with Ms. Rachel Moloney, (Speech and Drama Teacher) and family on the recent death of her father. Mr. David Moloney was a former pupil of St. Joseph's who died unexpectedly on 7th May. We extend our sincerest sympathies to all his family and friends. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

First Holy Communion: A special congratulations to the boys of 2nd Class who made their Holy Communion on Saturday 9th May. It is great to be able to say that weather changed its mind from murky, heavy morning showers to a bright sunny and breezy day. Our thanks to Ms. Durkan and Mr. Reale who prepared them so well for the great occasion. A special thanks to Ms. Maher, Ms. O'Riordan and the boys of Mr. O'Malley and Ms. McCabe/Ms. Bleahene's who provided the choir for the day. Our thanks also to the members of our Parents' Executive who provided much needed refreshments for the boys and their families. A great day was enjoyed by everyone.

Swimming: There will be **no** swimming on **Saturday 30th May** and **Saturday 6th June**. The junior gala will be held on **13th June** and the senior gala takes place on **Saturday June 20th**. The final swimming session this term will take place on **Saturday 27th June**.

Senior Hurling: The senior hurlers have blitz their way unbeaten through the Corn Marino with outstanding wins over Bishop Galvin, Ballyroan, Scoil Lorcaín and many others. They remain unbeaten in challenge and cup games this season. They now top their group and await their opponents for the semi-final. Watch this space!!

Junior Hurling: The junior hurling teams are having a hugely successful season so far. One of our teams is one game away from reaching the Corn Oideachais semi final while the other is in the semi final of the Corn Uí Néill having won all their matches to date. We wish all the boys involved the best of luck and hope to see them in the green and black in Croke Park in June for the Cumann na mBunscoil finals.

Drama: The play "A Shopping Experience" was a great success when performed by the boys from 6th Class, Room 10. Many thanks to the parents, pupils and teachers for the great support. Almost €900 was raised for the Smile Train for cleft palate reconstruction of children in the developing countries.

Credit Union Quiz: Our junior team (Conor Evans, Sam O'Leary, Brian Moran and Ciarán Dunne) reached the All Ireland Final which was held recently in the RDS. They performed well against 50 teams from all over the country finishing just outside the top ten.

Tennis: St. Joseph's have two teams representing the school in the Leinster Primary Schools Tennis. Both teams are doing extremely well. Our First Division Team have reached the 2nd stage and the Second Team are on course to do the same.

Golf: Golf for 6th Class commenced in January with a lesson from one of the golf professionals in Spawell, David Lavell. This was followed by a number of sessions at the driving range and three outings to the Par 3 at Spawell. The team was selected by David and will represent the school on 25th May.

Speech and Drama: Well done to all the boys who participated in the Irish Board of Speech and Drama exams. The marks were extremely high and congratulations to the gold medal winners - Sean Heeran, Paul Ryan, Dylan McDonald and Rory Keogh.

NEWS FROM THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Firstly I would like to thank you once again for your on-going support of the Parents' Association which is much appreciated.

***Events:** The Quiz night on 2nd April 2009 was a huge success. Over 150 people enjoyed an evening of friendly rivalry and sociable banter coupled with the participation of some serious quiz aficionados at the CYM in Terenure. Sincere thanks again to Mr O'Riain, our brilliant quiz master and to Mr Donnelly, score master, for making very high-tech scores on excel via PowerPoint look easy. Thank you to all those who attended, gave raffle prizes and supported the event for helping us to raise over €2000. This money will be used to help support a new accelerated reading programme being introduced in the autumn and to support the production of our 2010 calendar - on sale in the autumn.*

***Dates for your diary:** Our next event is a **Cake Sale**. This will take place on **Friday 12th June 2009 from 10am until 3pm in the Parish Hall**. More details will follow closer to the time. **The AGM** of the Parent Association will take place on **Monday 28th September 2009 in the school hall at 8pm**.*

***Art competition:** As you know the Parents' Association is sponsoring an Art Competition. The boys have already started*

work on their entries. There will be a first, second and third prize in each class.

Update: Money from the November social and the cake sale last December has been used for the purchase of school team kit for the hurling and football. Some new musical instruments have also been purchased along with prizes for the art competition. Further money has been allocated to buy items for each individual classroom.

Uniform: The Parent Association has been in contact with Mr. O'Keefe in the uniform shop regarding various issues raised at our committee meetings. This year Mr. O'Keefe will have school coats (with the school crest) in stock they are €25 these are an optional item of uniform.

Questionnaire: Thank you all for taking the time to complete our questionnaire regarding issues such as after school care for infant classes. The results have now been compiled. The headline results are that the majority of parents did not want children in junior and senior infants to wear tracksuits everyday. Parents in the infant classes also expressed a positive interest in after school care between 1pm and 2pm. The full results of the survey will be available on the website later this month. Access to the parents' page of the school website is via www.stjosephsterenure.ie. The username is parents and the password is dublin6.

We look forward to seeing you at our next event and would like to thank you once again for your support. If you wish to contact us please feel free to speak to any member of the committee, or email us at parents@stjosephsterenure.ie Julie Ling, President, Parents' Association.

CALENDAR FOR THE REMAINING SCHOOL YEAR

School Sports: **Thursday 28th May** in the VEC Grounds at 6.30 p.m.

June Closing: The school will be closed on **Monday 1st to Friday 5th June** inclusive.

Mass to mark the boys leaving 6th Class will be held on **Tuesday 23rd June** at 8.00 p.m.

Holidays: The school will close on **Tues 30th June** at 12.00 noon and 12.30 p.m. for summer holidays.

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