



# SCHOOL & COMMUNITY

St. John the Baptist PS 02890614546

## November 2018

### Fun and Fitness with Friends of SJB



The Friends of SJB Association ran a fun fundraising event of the 2018-19 year and raised a whopping **£3,360.10.**

Pupils from all

age groups and classes were involved in a fun and fitness day which involved them 'working out their muscles' with the GymCo team, then going to the school hall to make smoothies on a smoothie-bike and eat a healthy break of fruit and water. The healthy break was courtesy of ASDA and the water was donated by Makro.

We'd love many more members of our parent community to join the Friends of SJB team. It is a very small body of parents, who work actively to raise funds and host events which will solely benefit the children in the school.

The money raised to date is now going to purchase

- New ipads
- New computer keyboards (child design)
- Set of New computer mouse (child design)
- Headphones
- Active learning resources
- The latest practical number equipment
- PE equipment for gymnastics

Every child from Primary 1 to Primary 7 will benefit from everything purchased. It will help advance the learning taking place in literacy, numeracy and ICT as well as the other parts of the curriculum.

Please join with us; not just in the very generous manner in which you support the fundraising, but by actively becoming part of the committee. Our Annual AGM will be in January. We need additional members.



Reminder: **No dogs** are allowed on the school premises, unless a guide dog.



### School Closures for Pupils

**Parent consultation day – 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018**

**SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED TO FACILITATE THIS**



**Congratulations to our girls' Gaelic team who won the Division 1 League Title**



What a great start to the year!

The boys qualified for another 'League semi-final' and the girls went another step further and were victorious.

Holy Trinity performed admirably and deserve huge credit. Exceptional performances from Niamh, 'the Mervyns', Izzy, Aine and Roise were key.

This team has now become the first girls' team to win the coveted Division 1 League title. We currently hold every girls' football title in Antrim; from the League to the indoor competitions to the Championship.

These girls are a credit to the school, their families, their clubs and themselves.

*ASPIRE, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE...*



### Attendance

In October the overall percentage attendance was 95.7%

The winning class was P1 Mrs Conlon with 97.9%

## Help the Homeless by buying a ballot

The Big £1 Ballot to raise money for the Homeless will run for the month of November. There will be two hampers this year. One for the adults only and one for the kiddies.

**Ballots are £1.**

*P5 Ms Heatley's class will go around at break time to sell the ballots.*



## Book Fair

We are hosting our Scholastic Book Fair in the large meeting room from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November.



## Anti-bullying Week (12-16 Nov)



The Anti-Bullying Week 2018 theme is **“We choose respect.”** The aims of this week is to help children and anyone who work children to understand:

- **The definition of respect**
- **That bullying is a behaviour choice**
- **That we can respectfully disagree with each other i.e. we don't have to be best friends or always agree with each other but we do have to respect each other**
- **That we all need to choose to respect each other both face to face and online.**

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> we ask ALL pupils to wear something yellow (i.e socks, scarf, ribbon) with their uniform to celebrate Anti-bullying assembly. Photos will be shared on Twitter.



## Internet matters

You can download the Internet Matters tablet app for:

Android:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.internetmatters&hl=en>

Apple iOS:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/internetmatters/id1088787905?mt=8>



We have children in this school with severe allergies. We **MUST** insist that breaks and lunches are healthy and **NUT-FREE**. Only water is encouraged as a drink. Bread / sandwich is permitted at break time if you feel your child gets hungry and a piece of fruit is not enough.

NO Breakfast bars – full of sugar  
NO Nutella or nut products- please check labels  
Keep treats / desserts to a minimum of one please per lunch. Lunch children deserve a dessert, just as school meals children do. A sensible lunch will help your child play and learn better.

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## USED TOY APPEAL



Have you any old toys which are in reasonable condition?

Learning through play is still one of the most effective ways for children to learn. Having toys which are stimulating generates conversation and great play.

If you have any toys that you don't use, perhaps you consider donating it to the school for pupil use. We promise to use them with love and fun!







Elvis the Elk and some of the Buffalo Basketball Squad from the University of New York have been in contact with us via Twitter. At the forthcoming Basketball Games on 30<sup>th</sup> November in the SSE Arena our school will be championing the Buffalo team. They are going to visit the school on 28<sup>th</sup> November. P6 – 7 pupils are going to watch on the day.

### The Value for November is Compassion



A quote from Pope Francis:

*"In our technological and individualistic culture, compassion is not always considered well; at times, it is even regarded with disdain as it is equated with the humiliation of the person who receives it. And then there are those who hide behind an alleged compassion to justify and approve the death of a patient. This is not it. True compassion does not marginalise anyone, nor does it humiliate and exclude; much less consider the disappearance of a person as a good thing."*

Address to doctors in Spain and Latin America, June 9, 2016

Compassion is a quality that children learn over time and through practise. Thankfully, there are many things you can do to encourage your child to be a more compassionate person. Try a few of these:

Model positive action      Acknowledge kindness      How you treat others matters

Get caught in the act of showing compassion through a kind word or a genuine act.

We look forward to catching our pupils in the act of showing compassion to each other, especially in the month of November.

### Key Forthcoming dates for your diary

19 Nov	P4JQ Music Makers Morning	7 Dec	Open Morning 10:30-12 noon
21 Nov	Internet Safety P5SH,P6CM	12 Dec	P1 Nativity (P1s parents)
21 Nov	Cinema Trip KS2	13 Dec	P 1 Nativity (P2 parents)
22 Nov	Parent Consultation Day	14 Dec	Musicathon on Kennedy Centre
30 Nov	SSE Basketball trip P6/7	19 Dec	Sing for Autism Day choir
2 Dec	SJB Christmas Craft Fayre parish centre	20 Dec	Carol Service
		21 Dec	School finishes 11am
6-7 Dec	Action Cancer Heroes Visit	7 Jan	School reopens