



ST. JOSEPH'S SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Proud of our Past, Confident of our Future

Sept 2009
Vol. 11 Issue 1

Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to have this opportunity to welcome all our 670 students for the 2009/2010 academic year. We, the staff of St. Joseph's, wish to extend a particularly warm welcome to the 135 new First Year students.

As a country, we are experiencing an economic downturn and this has serious repercussions for all of us. Schools are particularly hard hit. As you know, there have been major cuts in our funding – we have lost our Book Scheme grant, the Science subjects grants and financial support for Transition Year has been withdrawn. The loss of these substantial grants has made it very difficult to run the school.

However, we are very lucky in St. Joseph's to have an active and supportive Parents' Council, who donated 10,000 Euro to help keep the Book Rental Scheme for Junior Cycle students and this year's Transition Year afloat.

I would appeal to you, the parents of our 670 students, to join the Parents' Council and to show your support for St. Joseph's in this very practical way. We need your help and support more than ever.

Ms Adamson, , Principal

Swine Flu—Precautions

What are the symptoms

In most children, the symptoms are similar to the symptoms of regular flu. They include:

Temperature over 38 °C/100.4 °F that begins suddenly and some of the following:

- Dry cough
- Sore throat
- Muscle aches and pains
- Headache
- Runny nose
- Severe weakness and fatigue
- Vomiting/diarrhoea (in some cases)

What should I do if my child gets sick?

If your child gets sick with a flu-like illness as described above you should:

Keep your child at home and away from others as much as is possible to avoid spreading infection to others. If they are sick with flu they should stay home for 7 days from the onset of symptoms.

Give your child simple anti-fever medication such as paracetamol or ibuprofen (NB aspirin should NOT be given to children under 16 years of age) and drink plenty of fluids.

If you think you or your child may have Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 you should call the HSE Flu Information Line Freephone 1800 94 11 00 or check www.swineflu.ie for advice on what to do next.

If you think your child needs to see the GP because they have severe symptoms, remember to ring your GP first. Do not visit the surgery unannounced.

If your child is in a high risk group for complications of Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 flu contact your GP, even if their symptoms are mild

Teach your child good health habits, as above.

It is important to ensure that all household surfaces that are touched by hands are kept clean, especially bedside tables, surfaces in bathrooms and kitchens and children's toys. Such surfaces should be wiped regularly with a household disinfectant according to directions on the product label.

For more Information please check www.swineflu.ie for more information

Check out the latest news on our School's Website www.droghedacbs.ie



Career Guidance Reminder for Sixth Years

Higher Options Conference: Seventy 6th Year Students from St. Joseph's CBS will attend the Higher Options Exhibition in the RDS in Dublin on Friday next, 18 September.

Open Day DKIT: Sixth Year Students who are interested in attending the Open Day in Dundalk Institute of Technology on Friday 16 October are asked to give their names to Mr. O Briain or Ms O' Doherty in the Guidance Office.

UCAS: Students who are interested in applying for third level courses in Northern Ireland, the UK, USA or to any other country abroad are asked to make an early appointment with Mr. O Briain during the month of September.

For these and other news please go to our website

Examination Results above the National Average

Congratulations to all our Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate students who have done so well in the 2009 examinations. Congratulations especially to Paul Sharkey who received seven A's, one of the best results in Drogheda. The Junior Certificate Results in St. Joseph's this year were higher than the national average with especially high results in higher level English, History, Geography and R..E..

Year Heads

First Year - Mr. Tully
Second Year - Mr. Crummev
Third Year - Mr. Smyth
TY Co-ordinator - Mr. Kelly
Fifth Year - Mr Sharkey
Sixth Year - Mr. Mansfield

Extra Curricular Activities

It is an important part of life in St. Joseph's to become involved in sports and other activities outside the class. Why not approach the following teachers who are organising the following activities:

Football: Mr Lynch and Mr. McCole
Mr Smyth and Mr. Sharkey
Mr. Kelly and Mr. Mathews

Hurling: U14 and U16 Mr. Ryan and Mr Crummev

Athletics: Mr. Stephenson

Key Programme: Ms Flood

Homework Club :Ms Murray

Lets Educate Together (L.E.T.): Ms. Finnegan

Golf and Pitch and Putt - Mr Tully

Green Schools : Mr Tully and Mr Sharkey

Rainbows : Ms Flood

European School Twinning : Mr Tully

Extra-curricular Activities



This may be subject to change

First Term

Staff Meeting: Sept 28th 2009 at 3.00pm

Mid-term break: Closing Friday Oct 23rd Oct 2009 at 3.45

Second Term:

School re-opens: Monday, November 2nd 2009

Staff Meeting: Nov 3rd 2009 at 3.00pm

Parent/Teacher Meeting, Sixth Years Nov 12th 2009

November Examinations: Commencing Nov 23rd 2009

Parent/Teacher Meeting, Third Years, Dec 2nd 2009

Staff Meeting: Dec 16th 2009 at 3.00pm

Christmas Holidays: Friday, Dec. 22nd 2009 at 12.35

School re-opens Monday, Jan 7th. 2010

Parent/Teacher Meeting, Fifth Years, Jan 11th 2010

Pre-Leaving and Pre-Junior Examinations (to be decided)

Mid-term break - Closing on Friday, Feb 12th 2010 at 3.45.

Third Term:

School re-opens: Monday, Feb 22nd 2010

Parent/Teacher Meeting First Years - March 16th 2010

Parent/Teacher Meeting Second Years - March 16th 2010

School closed: March 17th 2010

Easter Holidays - Friday, March 26th 2010 at 3.45

School re-opens - Monday, April 12th 2010

School closed Monday, May 3rd 2010

Summer Holidays - Friday June 4th 2010 at 12.35

State Examinations - Commencing Wednesday June 9th

2010

Contacting the School

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If you wish to meet a member of staff, please phone and make an appointment

Check out the latest news on our School's Website
www.droghedacbs.ie

