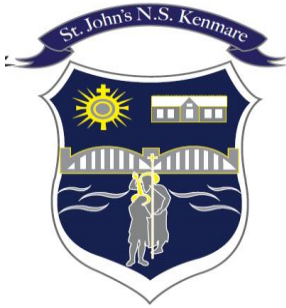


NEWSLETTER – March 2023



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Upcoming School Closings:

Closing: Friday, March 31st at **12 noon** – Easter Holidays
Re-opening: Monday, April 17th at 9.20 a.m.
Closed: Friday, April 28th – School Closure to facilitate Staff In-service for Primary Language Curriculum
Closed: Monday, May 1st – Public Holiday
Closed: Monday, June 5th – Public Holiday
Closing: Friday, 23rd June at **12 noon** – Summer Holidays

Sacraments of Confirmation, First Confession and First Holy Communion:



Congratulation to the pupils in 6th Class who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday, March 2nd.
Congratulations to the pupils in 2nd Class who received the Sacrament of First Confession on Tuesday, March 7th.5



Pupils from Second Class will receive their First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 13th at 10.30 a.m. in Holy Cross Church.

A visit from Fr. Peter McVerry:

Fr. Peter McVerry visited the school on March 22nd, as part of Lenten Talks. He talked to the children from 5th and 6th Class about life in Dublin, battling homelessness in Ireland and being grateful for everything in his life. The children were very interested and asked Fr. McVerry a lot of questions. The Student Council presented him with a cheque for the Peter McVerry Trust, to help towards homelessness in Ireland.

Green Schools 2022-2024:



We are in the process of working on our 9th flag. We are working on the themes of Transport and Global Citizenship for the next two academic years. In February/March, we participated in the Green Schools Travel Challenge, where we encouraged students to walk to school and recorded the number of students walking to school over a 10 day period. In this 10 day period, a total of 1,141 students walked to school. We aim to continue to encourage this trend. Thanks to our Green Schools Committee and school community for their support.

Credit Union Quiz:

Well done to our U13 Quiz Teams, who were victorious in the Killarney Area Finals in January. The teams went on to represent the school in the Chapter Level of the Credit Union Quiz on Sunday, March 5th. The teams finished 3rd and 6th and were gallant ambassadors for the school. Many thanks to their teacher and mentor, Ms. S O’Sullivan, for all her hard work in preparing the pupils for each of the competitions.



Cross County Running:

The children took part in the schools Cross County Running in Tralee, during March. Under freezing conditions, the boys and girls ran exceptionally well. A big thank you to Ms. Maureen Harrington for all the organising.

5 A Side Soccer:

The 5th and 6th Class boys had a great day playing soccer in Tralee during March and both teams made it through to the County Final. The girls will play the 5 A Side Soccer Competition in May. Best of luck to all involved.

Cumann na mBunscoil Mini 7s:

We done to the boys and girls teams, that took part in the Cumann na mBunscoil Mini 7s on March 27th. They competed against all the local school in Kenmare GAA Grounds. Both teams performed really well, with the girls team winning the final against Realt na Mara and qualifying for the county final. The boys also reached the final, losing to a very strong Kilgarvan team. The pupils carried themselves brilliantly both on and off the pitch.

Super Sevens Slam Basketball:

St. John's N.S. are delighted to be taking part in the Super Sevens Slam Competition in Killarney, for the first time. Boys and girls from 5th and 6th Class will be taking part in this basketball event. Best of luck to all involved.

Swimming:

3rd Class have been enjoying Swimming Lessons in the Kenmare Bay Hotel, this school term. This was a great opportunity for the children to take part in swimming lessons.

Seachtain na Gaeilge:

Seachtain na Gaeilge took place from 6ú Márta – 10ú Márta and all the children made an extra special effort with their Gaeilge! The pupils were involved in a number of school initiatives such as Gaeilgeoir an lae, biongó agus Lá Glas. It's important for the children to hear Gaeilge as a spoken language both in school and at home, using cúpla focal at home every day would be very beneficial to the children. 'Beatha teanga í a labhairt'!

Dia duit – Hello, **Conas atá tú?** – How are you?, **Aon scéal?** – Any news?, **Le do thoil** – Please, **Go raibh maith agat** – Thank you, **Slán** – Goodbye.

Spanish Students:

In February, we welcomed Maria and Ilya Antonio on international placement from Villanueva University in Madrid. They came here to improve their English and to share and exchange teaching methodologies with Irish Teachers. When they return to Spain, they will continue in their teacher training, to gain their qualification in Primary Teaching. Both trainees were very impressed with the very high quality of teaching and learning and the methodologies used in Ireland such as team teaching and station teaching. They were also very impressed with the friendliness and attention of the pupils they have worked with. We would like to thank them for sharing their expertise with us and wish them every success in their teaching careers.

Exploration Dome:

Exploration Dome will be in the school hall from Monday 22nd to Wednesday 24th May, all classes will visit the dome. Exploration Dome is a mobile and online virtual STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Maths) service. The children will be invited into the dome, to explore STEAM in a fun and interactive way.



School Tours:

Teachers are currently in the process of organising School Tours, for their classes for next term. We are delighted to have a range of fun activities to look forward to!



Prompt Collection & Staff Car Park:

We kindly remind parents of Infants to collect their child promptly at 2.00 p.m. each day. Likewise parents of pupils from 1st to 6th classes should be at school on time at 9.20 a.m. and be collected promptly at 3.00 p.m. This also applies to parents/guardians collecting pupils from After School Activities. We would like to remind parents that the staff car park is for staff only. Parents are not permitted to use this car park during the school day.

Appointments:

Congratulations to Ms. Shóna O’Sullivan on her appointment as Permanent Teacher in St. John’s N.S., who replaced Mrs. Geraldine Kelly in January. Ms. O’Sullivan is currently teaching Third Class.

In February, we welcomed our new caretaker Mr. Timmy Clifford, who replaced Mr. Niall Wright. We wish Timmy a very enjoyable time in St. John’s N.S.

**WE WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL OUR PUPILS AND PARENTS A VERY
HAPPY AND SAFE EASTER.**



Mise le meas,

Barry O'Leary

Barry O’Leary
Principal.