

Summer 2023

ST. LUKES NS NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

The 2022-2023 academic year has been filled with countless memorable moments, remarkable achievements, and the unwavering spirit of our vibrant school community.

Children have demonstrated exceptional resilience, determination, and a genuine love for learning. They have consistently shown us their enthusiasm, creativity, and thirst for knowledge. Their growth, both academically and personally, has been truly inspiring to witness.

None of this would have been possible without the support and dedication of our wonderful parents and guardians. Your involvement, encouragement, and partnership have played an integral role in creating a nurturing and stimulating environment for our students to thrive. We are deeply grateful for your continuous trust and collaboration.

I would also like to express my heartfelt appreciation to our exceptional team of teachers and staff. Your unwavering commitment, passion, and expertise have been instrumental in guiding and shaping our students' educational journey. Your tireless efforts to go above and beyond in providing a nurturing, inclusive, and engaging learning environment have not gone unnoticed.

As we bid farewell to our graduating class, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to each and every one of them. They have truly blossomed during their time with us, and we have no doubt that they will go on to achieve remarkable things in their future endeavours. May they always carry with them the values and fond memories they have cultivated during their time at our school.

Finally, I would like to leave you with an Irish proverb that encapsulates the essence of our school community:

"Is fearr linn bheith ag dul i ngleic leis an saol le grá, misneach, agus dúthracht."

As we embrace the upcoming summer break, let us cherish the wonderful moments we have shared and look forward to the new adventures that await us in the next academic year. Together, we will continue to build a community where every student can shine, learn, and grow. Wishing you all a safe and rejuvenating summer.

Le Meas,

Eddie Pepper

2023/24 SCHOOL YEAR NOTIFICATIONS

- School gate open at 8.20am and closed at 8.30am. This is to ensure safety of children.
- Please keep the path outside the school clear for pedestrians and residents.
- Please don't park on the road opposite the school - this is for the safety of pedestrians and children to prevent traffic having to mount the step to avoid parked cars.
- Going forward, please notify teachers/the principal via email or note of any absences. Email is preferable for record keeping.
- Please use teacher email accounts listed on the website to schedule meetings etc. Teachers are not expected to answer emails during holidays, weekends or outside of working school hours. When looking for a meeting with a teacher please include a brief outline of the agenda for the meeting so that teachers can best deal with queries or issues.
- We look forward to seeing you all on 30/8/23!



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PARENTS ASSOCIATION NEWS

As we come to the end of the year, we would like to thank every parent who got involved in school events this year. From the parents who attended and supported to the ones who organised, we would like to thank them all very much.

Our last PA meeting for this term was on Tuesday 20th June. It was really well attended and there was a lot of discussion about ISSA events, safe routes to school, future fundraising events, the uniform proposal and the new special class. We will circulate the minutes next week if anyone would like more information.

There was a busy year. The first event organised was the Junior infants parents and students gathering at The Address. Thanks to Eoin and Shirley for facilitating and organising this. We held our AGM in September which elected all committee members and class reps. We organised the Christmas fair in December. There was a substantial team organising this.

Soccer training and swimming started during this first term also. The voluntary contribution and curricular enhancement funds were requested at this stage. Thanks to Maeve and Ann who tracked all these payments and also transitioned the financials over to the Aladin system. They did a huge amount of work in the background.

Things were quite in January and February and then the ISSA sports events kicked off. We started with the swimming gala, hosted the soccer tournament, competed in the Tag Rugby and finished the events off with athletics. There were a lot of parents involved in the organising of all these events in particular we would like to thank Brian K., Kevin, Jess, Daniel, JP, Brian T., Colin, Carolyn, Alex, Elaine, Peta and Gemma as well as the other parents who showed up with their children every week for training and helped out in any way.

The Fun Day happened in June. Thanks to Kevin, Sarah, Ms. Kelleher, Ms. O'Mahony and other staff members who helped put this fun day together for our students. It was chaotic but really fun way of having the whole school community together. Again this would not have happened without the contribution of a number of parents volunteering to run the stations bringing their fun, enthusiasm and energy to each game.

For the PA the last event to organise was the raffle during the interval for the end of year show with CADA. It raised a substantial amount of money for school funds and future PA events. This was put together by Hazel and Sarah we would like to extend our appreciation to the some of the sponsors including The Address, Bare Foot Physio and Super Valu in Mayfield.

It takes a lot of support to run all these events in a small school like ours and we encourage every parent to get involved and put yourself forward particularly if your child is participating in an event. We really appreciate the continued support of all parents and look forward to the 2023 /2024 term.

School Updates:

- The Staff Room has been remodelled and upgraded.
- The interior of the school: walls, ceilings and woodwork; will be painted during the summer holidays. Matthew O'Regan Painter and Decorator is the contractor.
- Toilet blocks in the school will be revamped and upgraded during the summer holidays. This is part of the School Summer Works Scheme. The school was awarded a grant to complete this work.
- A special class for ASD is due to open in St. Luke's in September. Mr. Pepper will be the class teacher in charge of setting up our first ASD class. As a result a new permanent teacher will be appointed. We will announce the new teacher in due course
- Please refer to "Policies" section on website for updates.
- The Safe Routes to School Project earmarked for our locality is scheduled to be out to public consultation in July.

Tag Rugby

Pupils in St. Luke's NS competed in the interschools Tag Rugby Tournament on May 20th. They performed fantastically well and did the school very proud. We would love to see more children getting involved in this next year.

Massive thanks to Brian Twomey for organising this in the school and huge congratulations to all of our players!

ATHLETICS:

Children from St. Luke's competed at the interschools Sports in the Mardyke on June 8th. They performed well winning a number of medals. A fantastic achievement for our first time in the competition! Thanks to Brian Kenneally and the Parents who worked so hard on organising and training our athletes!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Ms. Cecilia McLoughlin and her husband Rob on the birth of their gorgeous son Cian. We at St. Luke's wish them all the very best!



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Soccer

Another year of soccer with St Luke's has come to a close but what a year it was! We have had unprecedented numbers attending our sessions, we had 4 teams compete in the inter schools soccer tournament with our senior girls team finishing runners up.

Thank you to all the kids for attending you make it so much fun. Parents thanks for finding the time to send your kids I know it's not always easy. Best of luck to the students leaving us to go to big school!

This year we also had an unprecedented number of volunteers willing to help out. Peta, Jess, Nick, Brian, Daniel and JP a massive thank you for all your help and support.

With such large numbers of our students attending its vital that we have volunteers to help out otherwise activities like these don't happen.

Our practice sessions are held every Monday 6-7pm in the Glen resource centre during school term. Children must be 7 years of age before they can attend. For volunteers no experience necessary, on the job training will be provided!

If your child is interested in attending or you would like to volunteer please let us know.

Have a great summer from all the team.



A Message from the Board of Management

The Board would like to thank the PA, Student Council and the whole school community for all of your work and dedication to our school this year. It has been a tough year with many changes and challenges and we very much appreciate your support, patience and the time people are giving to the school. We look forward to a great year next year. Have a fantastic summer everyone!

ST. LUKE'S NS STUDENT COUNCIL

We had our final fundraiser last week. Hope everyone has enjoyed the school year. New students will be elected in September and we hope they will do well next year.



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PHOTOGRAPHS

