**December Newsletter**

**Green Schools**

We would be extremely grateful if there are any parents that would be willing to help our school in achieving our next green flag.

If anyone would be willing to volunteer to do any of the following jobs please email the school to let us know you are interested in helping out.

Mrs. Cavanagh will then contact you regarding your email.

* Take down the birdhouses, paint and rehang
* Make a bird bath
* Hang up the bug hotel and the bird’s table (already made by parents last year)
* Tidying our planters and making three new vegetable planters.

If you have any other ideas of something that you could make to add to our school’s garden please let us know by email.

With thanks,

The Green School Team

**Christmas Surprises**

The boys and girls will be working hard over the next few weeks creating a few surprises for mums and dads. It is our intention to upload a surprise to Seesaw towards the end of term. Keep a lookout!

Any images/video footage of your children to Seesaw is for your own personal viewing. Images/Video footage ***must not be put on the web***, ***in particular social media specifically***

***Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat etc.,*** otherwise Data Protection legislation may be

contravened. If you do not wish for your child(ren)’s images/ video footage of our Christmas Surprises to be uploaded to Seesaw, please let your child’s teacher know as soon as possible.

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**Reminders:**

**Traffic**

It has been brought to the attention of the Board of Management that some families are parking on the double yellow lines outside the school gates at morning and afternoon collections. We would ask everyone to refrain from doing so.

**School Hours**

We, also, request that parents and pupils do not enter school grounds until the first bell goes at 8.50am. This is for insurance reasons as pupils are not insured on school grounds outside of school hours.

We greatly appreciate you cooperation with the above matters as everyone’s health and safety is our priority.

**School Payments**

We would like to thank all those that have made payments for this school year to date.

**Parents’ Association News**

Hi everyone,

The PA zoom call on November 11 had a great attendance. It was super to see so many logged in. We plan to have another in January. Details will be sent out when we return after the Christmas break.

Many thanks to all the parents and guardians who bought Christmas cards. We raised €278 towards the new computers.

The PA are planning a Christmas raffle and donations are welcome. Raffle suggestions include wine, biscuits, chocolates etc. Most shops sell vouchers from €5 upwards. Whatever you can manage to make the raffle interesting! We’ve already received an ANTARI flashback 8 Gold edition games console and a €20 voucher for Denis Meats. We will not be approaching local businesses this year to donate as we feel 2020 has been hard enough.

**Upcoming dates**

* Christmas raffle: 22nd December – Tickets for the raffle will be sent out shortly, usually a card per family.
* Father Christmas visit: Friday 18th December
* Christmas jumper day: Tuesday 22nd December - €2 per child.

Thank you all for your support.

Wishing you all a happy and peaceful Christmas.

**Community Initiative**

It’s always nice to be nice! The boys and girls of St. Mary’s are delighted to be involved in a Community initiative organised by our Community Garda, Garda M. Finnerty. The boys and girls will make some Christmas cards  to bring a smile to the faces of the elderly in our local community this festive season.  Cards will be delivered to all our elderly in our local nursing homes in Nenagh and also users of the Nenagh Day Care Centre Christmas week. We are very proud of the children as we know that they will take on this task with great enthusiasm and pride.

**A Big Thank You**

A big thank you to the parents who are organising some very important Christmas activities including the Christmas raffle.

**The Last Day of Term**

School will close at 12.00pm on Tuesday 22nd December. The school bus will facilitate this earlier collection time. It is not necessary for children to bring schoolbags on this day.

**School re-opens**

Please note that the school reopens on Wednesday 6th January at 9.00am.

*On behalf of all of the staff, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas.*

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