**December Newsletter**

**Christmas**

Our Christmas Carol Service will take place on Tuesday 20th December. Please join us for some refreshments following the raffle, kindly organised by the Parents’ Association.

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**School Activities**

*Yoga* will continue with Siobhan O’Leary, for two more weeks, on 5th and 12th December. GAA will continue for one more week. We hope to have *Zumba* commencing on 6th January for all classes.

*School Panto*

 On Thursday 15th December, all classes will attend the Pantomime *“Peter Pan”* in UL. The Panto will commence at 1.00pm so children will come to school at the normal time on this day and we will return to the school at approximately 4.30pm. A text will be sent to all parents when we are leaving Limerick. Please ensure that the children bring extra lunch/drinks with them on this day.

**Team Hope**

It’s always nice to be nice! The boys and girls of St. Mary’s did a wonderful job collecting 33 boxes for the Team Hope Shoebox Appeal. We are very proud of the children as they all made

a tremendous effort in putting their boxes together and thinking of

those who are less fortunate than themselves.

**A Big Thank You**

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

**Parents’ Association**

Many thanks to all parents who joined us at our recent coffee morning. It was wonderful to see familiar face and some new faces.

***Christmas Jumper Day***

It’s that time of the year again and the excitement is building! We would be delighted if all children would dress in their Christmas Jumpers and Christmas accessories on **Friday 16th December.** All pupils who participate are asked to bring in €2 towards PA fundraising.

***Christmas Raffle***

 As part of our fundraising initiative, our annual Christmas raffle will take place again this year. Many thanks to those who have already sent in prizes towards the raffle. Raffle cards will be distributed today to all families. Please check schoolbags for raffle cards. We would ask that all raffle cards sold be returned by Friday 16th December. The raffle will take place immediately following the Carol Service on Tuesday 20th December. Thank you for your support with this event.

**Parish News**

***Christmas Tree Festival***-7th to11th December. Visitors are very welcome. €5 per adult (accompanying children are free)

Christmas trees are still being accepted so there is still time to be creative if any families wish to submit a tree. nenaghchristmastrees2022@gmail.com

The church is also looking for donations for the festival - jam, mincemeat, chutney, good quality bric a brac, etc. for stalls at the Christmas Tree Festival.

***Phil Coulter Concert***

Tickets still available for Phil Coulter Concert on 18th December.

Many thanks to all for your continued support with this event.

**The Last Day of Term**

School will close at 12.00pm on Wednesday 21st 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 Thursday 5th January at 9.00am.

 **Dates for your Diary**

* 2nd December Early closure to facilitate Staff training @12.30pm 5th &12th December Yoga all classes
* 8th December Last day for GAA
* 12th December Last day for Yoga
* 15th December Panto trip
* 16th December Raffle tickets to be returned
* 16th December Christmas Jumper Day
* 20th December Christmas Carol Service 12.30pm
* 21st December- Last Day of Term. Early Closure at 12.00pm
* 5th January- School reopens 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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