



Loreto College Junior School

ST. STEPHEN'S GREEN | DUBLIN 2

Tel: 01-6618181

Email: info@loretojuniorthegreen.ie

Newsletter December 2018

Dear Parents,

As advent draws to a close, we have watched, waited, listened, wondered, prepared and reflected as the celebration of the birth of Jesus draws near. The Advent wreath has been lit with the passing of Sundays. The first purple candle represents Hope. The season of Advent is a time of preparation and reflection. During this special season we get the chance to take stock of everything we are grateful for in our lives, and remember to extend a hand of friendship and hope to those who need it. We pray that our words & actions may bring hope into the lives of those who find themselves without it this Christmas season.

Carol Service

Our Nativity/Carol Service begins at **11.30am** in University Church tomorrow, Thursday. Our whole school will come together to remember the birth of Jesus. We welcome family and friends to our very special Service.

Please note:

Our school holidays begin immediately afterwards. All children should be collected from the church at 12.20. Be sure to inform whoever is collecting your children of these arrangements. School will reopen on Monday 7th January.

Our **Parent/Teacher meetings** have taken place and I thank you for the appreciation you have expressed of our staff, of the work taking place and of the care and support we give to your children.

Junior & Senior Infant Nativity

The Junior and Senior Infant Nativity took place last Monday and it was a joy to behold. I was delighted to welcome so many parents, grandparents, relations and minders to this very special occasion reminding us of the real message of Christmas

Musical Entertainment

Our recent Musical Entertainment gave an opportunity to showcase the amazing talent within the school. We ensure all our girls participate thus developing team spirit, discipline & resilience while having plenty of fun. They all worked so hard and it certainly paid off. They were wonderful!. My heartfelt thanks to our staff who worked tirelessly in the background ensuring everything went so well.



Junior Infants

Special mention to our Junior Infants who are working so well. There is a great buzz in the classroom each day when I visit. "Mol on Óige agus tiocfaidh sí". I ask all our Junior Infant Parents to continue to reinforce their phonics and sound blending over the holidays as it is easy to forget them. The children continue to gain in independence which is to be encouraged. HSE Immunisation was administered in Junior Infants together with hearing & sight screening.

Junior School Outreach

As part of our outreach to those less fortunate than themselves, our girls have once again shown the generosity of spirit which is at the centre of our Loreto philosophy of Education.

Sr Bernadette IBVM thanks all our families for their continued generosity in answering her **Hamper Appeal**. 5th Class took charge of the appeal and spoke to the classes about Sr Bernadette's request. They sorted and packed the food which was donated and Sr. Bernadette made **two** trips to the school filling her car each time to the brim. Needy families will benefit from your kindness. Sr. Bernadette works in disadvantaged communities in our city. My thanks to Ms Hogan for organising.

Sporting Achievements

Well done to our Gaelic Football team who put in a huge effort early in the school year to progress to the Final of this year's Cumann na mBunscoil League. We were very proud of the effort and time they put in, as well as the commitment of the coach Ms Timmins.

Christmas Cards

Beautiful art work was produced when the classes designed their **Christmas Cards**. We hope that family and friends will enjoy receiving your daughters personal card. My thanks to Ms St. Ledger for co-ordinating everything.

6th Class sang **Christmas Carols** in St Stephen's Green Shopping Centre on Monday. The funds gathered by our Past Pupils Association will go to our Loreto Charities. Their behaviour and singing were exemplary. My thanks to Ms Walsh and Ms Carroll for preparing the girls.

Cinema

As a special treat we all went to the Cinema yesterday to see **The Grinch**. The younger girls went by coach while the rest of the school took the Luas.

It is our aim to encourage growth across all domains and talents this year; academic, musical, sporting, creative, spiritual, leadership and cooperation. I look forward to watching the continued growth of our pupils within a school family that values each of them as individuals.

As the great feast of Christmas draws near with its message of Hope for all mankind, we think of the poor, the sick, the lonely and the refugee. We pray for families everywhere. We thank God for his many blessings to our school community. We welcome the babies born, with joy, and we gather and treasure the precious memories of loved ones we have lost - so loved and so very dear.

The staff of Loreto College Junior School wish you all a peaceful and holy Christmas.

Beannachtaí na Nollag oraibh go léir

Ó

Mairead, Bean Uí Chathmhaoil

Margaret Campbell, Principal



2nd & 6th Class faith friends visit the live crib