

December 2014

Hello everyone. It has been a very busy few weeks in our junior school.

Teaching Staff: We congratulate Mrs. Fitzgerald who has been appointed Deputy Principal of San Carlo J.N.S. We also congratulate Ms. Spaight who has become a permanent member of staff. We were sorry to say goodbye to Mrs. E. Kelly who completed her contract with us but we welcome Miss. B. Nugent who will be with us until the end of the school year.

Sponsored Walk: Well done to all the pupils who completed the Sponsored Walk on Sunday the 19th of October. The children looked great in fancy dress but it was a pity the weather didn't permit a longer walk. However, I think everyone had great fun at the disco. Many thanks to the Parents Association for their tremendous work in organising this event.



Autumn Assembly: Our Autumn Assembly took place on 23rd of October. The children sang their hearts out and we are really proud of the pupils in Junior Infants who participated in their first big assembly. I want to thank parents for the food that was so generously donated. Hampers were made up and distributed to the older members of Confey community along with a note explaining where the food and gifts had come from. I would also like to thank the members of our cleaning staff who made up and delivered the hampers in their free time.

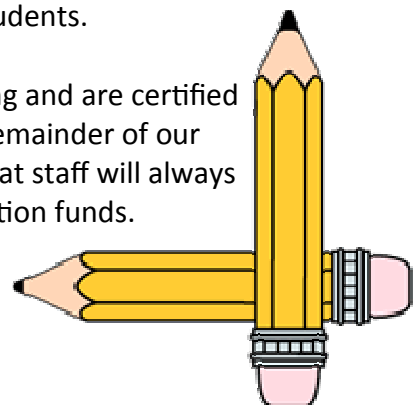
School Calendars: Class photographs were taken on 17th of November for the school calendars. They are currently available from their class teachers. Final orders will be taken on Tuesday 2nd of December.

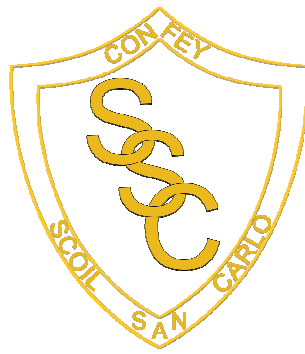
Infant Photographs: Junior Infant children had their photographs taken on Wednesday Nov. 5th and these photographs are available from their class teachers.

Theatre Group: A theatre group, E Squared, put on a show for all our pupils on 11.11.2014. This new theatre company was set up by two of our past pupils, John Dennehy and Barry Dowd. The show was called "Billy the New Kid" and showed how one child can make a big difference in the world. It was an interactive show which dealt with many areas of the curriculum and it was enjoyed by everybody. I wish John and Barry well in their new venture. The cost of this show was paid for by money raised by our wonderful Parents Association.

Teaching Practice/work experience: Four students from Froebel College of Education, Maynooth completed teaching practice with us and students from Confey College completed their work experience. I want to thank all the teachers for being generous and giving guidance to the students.

CPR and First Aid Training: Seven teachers and SNAs completed First Aid Training and are certified to administer CPR. This certification lasts for two years. It is envisaged that the remainder of our staff will be trained next year and that training will be rolled out every year so that staff will always be up to date in their certification. Again this was paid for out of Parents Association funds.





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School Website: Great news. San Carlo Junior School has got a new website sancarlojunior.org. We hope it gives you an insight into the life of our school. Through our website we hope to keep you regularly informed on our latest news and up-coming events. We hope you and your children will be regular visitors to our website.



Green Flag: Our teachers and pupils are actively trying to get a Green Flag for our school following the successful achievement of the Active Flag in June 2014. Various initiatives and activities are under way that will assist in reaching the targets set out in our Action Plan.

Please see the separate Green Schools newsletter.

Active Flag News: Activities and initiatives are ongoing to ensure we keep our Active Flag flying high. These include **boot camp** for our Junior and Senior Infants every Tuesday, active transitions between classes for all and **"Drop everything and dance"** movement time. The pupils of San Carlo Junior school are getting very fit.



Library Visits: These are continuing for our 1st and 2nd class pupils. Senior Infant children made a special trip to the library for Halloween. They had a treasure hunt and all got a knitted surprise to take home. A special thanks to the Knitting Club and the Library staff who organised this treat.



Christmas Fair: It's that time of year again and the Christmas Fair will take place on Sunday 7th December at 11.30 in the Senior School. There will be a cake stall, "Risky Business" stall, Wheel of Fortune and lots more fun and games for all the family. Santa himself is due to make an appearance at 12.00 noon and we hope to see you all there.

The Nativity: This year we plan to stage our little nativity play in the church. This is because the large numbers that attended last year were a Health and Safety concern. We had tried to alleviate the situation by having two separate shows, one for parents of infants and one for parents of 1st and 2nd class pupils. However, our school was still too crowded. So this year we will stage the nativity in the church on Tuesday 16th of December at 1.15pm and parents may take their child home immediately afterwards.



School closure: Our school will close for the holidays at 12.30 pm on Friday the 19th of December and re-open on Monday January 5th at 9.20am.

On behalf of all teachers, Board of Management members and auxiliary staff I want to take this opportunity to wish all the children of San Carlo Junior school and their families a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. I would also like to add our thanks to the members of the Parents Association for their commitment to San Carlo and for the great sense of fun that they bring to all the activities organised. **Nollaig Shona dhaoibh .**

Catherine

Catherine Diggins
Principal

