**St Joseph’s National School**

**Milltownpass**

**Co Westmeath**

Roll No: 16304J Phone/Fax No: 044 9222512

Registered Charity Number: 20137168 Mobile: 087 1131259

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*Principal: Mrs. Pauline O’Hara Deputy Principal: Ms. Emer Bermingham*

26/10/’23 **October Newsletter**

Dear Parents/ Guardians, thank you for taking the time to read the following information:

**Fire Station** Thank you to Mullingar Fire Station for visiting the school yesterday to give a very important talk to the pupils about the importance of fire safety. A Fire Safety pack is being sent home with your child today.

**Halloween Fancy Dress** Tomorrow the children may dress up in their Halloween costumes and we will have a Halloween parade. The Parents Association have kindly offered to buy treats and prizes.

**TEAM HOPE Shoebox Appeal** Reminder, if you wish to participate in the Team Hope Shoebox appeal, to return shoeboxes to the school by Friday 10th November.

**Parent/Teacher Meetings** Parent/ Teacher meetings were held in the school last week and we wish to thank parents for the great turnout.

**Cross Country** A very successful and enjoyable day was had by all at the recent Cross Country in Belvedere. Well done to all pupils for taking part and we commend them on their excellent behaviour on the day.

**Staff Training/ CPD** Staff members have undertaken training in the following areas:

* Gestalt Language Training
* New Primary Maths Curriculum
* Ready Set Go Maths

**Cumann na mBunscol** Games are up and running and will continue after midterm.

**Parents Association AGM** Parents Association AGM takes place on Thursday 9th November at 8pm in the school. They would welcome as much support as possible please as the Parents Association is a very important asset to our school and their fundraising assists with many important activities in our school.

**Money Collections** Any outstanding money collections for Art/Photocopying are now due. ((€30 per child or €75 per family) Please call the office if you are unsure whether you have paid.

**Blog** Always keep an eye on our **Blog** page at *milltownpassns.com* for photos / updates /information / newsletters etc.

**Website** The following documents are available to view on our school website:

* Agreed Report from our latest Board of Management meeting.
* Child Protection and Anti Bullying Annual Reviews 2023.
* Revised Child Protection Procedures 2023.
* Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment (available to parents upon request by phoning the office)

**Congratulations!** We wish to extend our congratulations to Mr Foy on the recent birth of his baby boy Tadhg.

**Retirement** Finally, the Board of Management of St. Joseph’s NS together with the school staff and the wider school community would like to take this opportunity to extend our best wishes to Mrs. Imelda Cully on her retirement tomorrow from our school. Imelda has been a steadfast, hardworking and loyal member of our staff here for 20 years and we thank her for her contribution to school life here, in particular her dedication to the Reach Centre. We wish Imelda health and happiness in her retirement.

**Midterm Break** School closes tomorrow at 2.50pm and reopens on Monday 6th November at 9.10am.

Enjoy the midterm break everyone!

Yours sincerely

Pauline O’Hara

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Principal