



Newsletter
December 2020

Seasons greetings everyone!

Nativity Production

We will be holding our Nativity Play remotely this year! This will be held via Zoom on Thursday 17th December at 1pm. We hope you will be able to watch it during your lunch break. All parents will receive an invitation via email. If you have other family members who would like to join us, please email their full name, and email address to the school office. Only those on our list will be accepted to the call. As the children will be watching it from their classrooms, Junior and Senior Infants will be staying in school until 2:30pm on that day.

Book Fair

Many thanks to all who supported our Annual Book Fair. The pupils bought €525.45 worth of books, which means that our school will receive €105.09 in Scholastic Rewards.

Clothes Collection

We will be holding a clothes collection in January so anyone who is clearing out over Christmas might keep their bags for us and bring them into school in the new year!

Supporting Team Hope

This year, we have decided not to do Secret Santa in the classrooms. Instead our school is supporting Team Hope's Christmas Shoebox Appeal. The Christmas Shoebox Appeal is an annual campaign where thousands of individuals in Ireland donate shoeboxes filled with gifts to be given to children affected by poverty in Africa or Eastern Europe. It is an opportunity to share a little joy and excitement with children who live in circumstances where these can sometimes be in short supply. You can read their stories at www.teamhope.ie. This year due to the effects of Covid-19 restrictions, the Christmas Shoebox Appeal has gone online. Every €20 donated will allow Team Hope's partners in Africa or Eastern Europe to purchase items for shoeboxes locally, which will then be

packaged and delivered directly into the hands of children. Thank you for supporting this appeal.

Care Home Letters

Some of our classes will be taking part in An Post's free letters to care homes initiative. We have teamed up with Care Pack and have been allocated a nursing home to write to. If you know of a care home that might like to receive pictures or letters from our pupils, please get in touch with the class teacher to let them know.

Chicken Run!

A family have very kindly donated a chicken coop to the school, so we hope to get hens! If you would like to sponsor a hen, please let the school know. We hope to buy about 5, costing approximately €15-€20 each. Also, if you would like to help feed the hens during school holidays, please let us know!



Polytunnel

The PA have been raising funds for the school garden. With the Covid-19 restrictions, we decided to build a polytunnel for the children. This will give us shelter outdoors while also providing lots of exciting opportunities for learning! Under Richard Dorman's lead, we hope to start this building project in January. If you have a few hours spare to help out, please let us know. We also have some wonderful plans for the area around the old oak tree at the front of the school. Plans coming soon!

Lost Property

Please ensure that all pupil belongings are named including clothing. If your child comes home with something that does not belong to them, please send it back into school. Please note that every half term, any remaining items in the lost property will be donated to charity. Because of current restrictions, it is much harder to get lost property around to all classes, so it is now more important than ever to put names on clothing.

Sharing stories of old school days

Mr and Mrs Collins came to visit the junior classroom and told us all about what life was like when they were in school. How the times have changed! The children were fascinated by their stories. Thank you for sharing your memories with us! 😊



Nollaig Lúcháireach (Joyful December)

Starting on Monday, we have decided to encourage all our pupils to carry out acts of kindness/positivity, every day after school, in place of formal written homework. Each day, pupils will pick one act of kindness/positivity from four themes. They can record their good deed by drawing/writing on their Nollaig Lúcháireach sheet. Each deed must be signed by a parent/guardian.

On Friday, 18th December we are asking all our pupils to wear their Christmas jumpers and to donate €2 for Make a Wish Foundation. This is in memory of Béibhinn O' Connor our local #heartangel who sadly passed away in September.

Ukulele Lessons

Our Ukuleles have arrived and Ms Curtin's class will be starting their lessons on Wednesday 13th January.



Crazy Hair Day

In November, we held a dress up day to raise money for Pieta House. Thank you to all the pupils who participated! A total of €230 was raised. There were some really inventive and creative hair styles to be seen! Well done to all pupils and staff!



Free online counselling service

There is a government funded online counselling service for people experiencing poor mental health during this pandemic. This is free to all who need it and can be accessed using www.mymind.ie (Covid-19 Project). Individuals can access HSE accredited counselling and can choose a counsellor that meets their needs (bereavement, addiction, loneliness, depression etc). www.mymind.ie also have counselling services available outside of the Covid-19 Project, which while not free of charge, may be of benefit to someone known to you.

Twitter

We are posting regularly about our school activities on Twitter. To see what we are getting up to, follow us: @StMultoseNS. The newsfeed is also available on the school website homepage.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year from the staff and pupils at St. Multose National School!



Dates for your Diary

Thursday 17th December: Nativity Play via Zoom at 1pm.

Friday 18th December: Christmas Jumpers & €2 for Make a Wish Foundation.

Tuesday 22nd December: School closes at 12 p.m. for Christmas holidays.

Wednesday 6th January: School opens at 8:50 a.m. for the second term.