



**St. Joseph's School,**  
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# Format of meeting .

- Welcome and Introductions.
- Presentation – 30 mins approx.
- Walk around school – 20 mins approx.
- We will be available to speak to individual parents after the presentation.
- If any parents would like a follow up meeting please let me know .
- School booklet for everyone. (and forms to sign)
- Slides will be uploaded to website.

# About our school

- Brief history of school.
- Management structure. Patron , Trustees , Department of Education and Skills, Board of Management , In school management .
- Governed by legislation (Education Acts) and Department circulars.
- Principal. Pádraic Fay.
- Deputy Principal. Emer Casey.
- Secretary .Terri Maher.
- Junior Infant teachers 2017/2018. Lorraine Mitchell and Linda McCarthy.

- 170 pupils currently . (growing rapidly)
- Special class – children who have a moderate learning disability.
- 2 junior infant classes each year for past 3 years.
- We anticipate that we will have 2 Junior infant classes in Sept 2017.
- Catholic school with a catholic ethos ,but we have children who are non catholic in every class.
- Plans for future – entrance from Cualanor – cycleway etc.
- Park and Stride.



# MISSION STATEMENT

- At St. Joseph's we will provide a well ordered, caring, stimulating and safe learning environment, where the intellectual, spiritual, physical and emotional needs of all the pupils are met in accordance with the revised Primary Curriculum of 1999.
- Each individual pupil is challenged to reach his/her potential and is encouraged towards independence and self-fulfilment.
- Pupils are taught to care for each other and for the world around us.
- We encourage the involvement of the parents through home/school contacts and through their involvement in the Parents' Association.
- We place a high emphasis on literacy and numeracy skills.
- The school has a catholic ethos.

# How we fulfil our mission statement

- Establish high levels of communication.  
Teacher – pupil . Teacher - parent.
- Behaviour management.
- Structure on rules implementation. Age appropriate. Children having ownership of rules.
- Aim-Children as self regulators of their own behaviour.
- Rewarding positive behaviour. Non punitive . Restorative practice.
- Staff continuously focusing on having a positive learning environment in classroom and in school.
- Early recognition of childrens' strengths and weaknesses and early intervention .
- EDUCATION – To bring out – in the true sense of the word. Values ,sense of community etc.

# General Information

- Class starts at 8:50 am
- Class finishes at 1:30 pm for infant classes (2:30 pm 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> classes)
- Break times . 10:35am- 10:45am and 12pm - 12:30pm.
- Minding facility 1:30pm- 2:30pm (organised by Terri , school secretary )
- Many creches collect pupils from St.Joseph's.
- Playground supervision. 8:40 am – 8:50 am.
- Uniformity - for school tracksuit and school hoodie.

- Primary School Curriculum (1999)
- Providing a holistic education for all pupils .
- Literacy and Numeracy.
- Sports . P.E. Curriculum and After school clubs .
- Involvement in Primary Science Fairs 2016 and 2017.
- ICT .
- Support Teachers.
- Green Flags. (4)
- Active Flag . (Aiming for 2<sup>nd</sup>)
- Digital Flag (2017/2018)

# Important Events.- whole school involvement

- Halloween dress-up and disco
- Christmas Fair
- Christmas Carol Service.
- Confirmation.
- Communion.
- Grandparents' Day.
- Ceilí.
- Easter Egg Hunt.
- School Tours.
- Sports Day

# Junior Infant Curriculum

- Irish, English, Maths
- SESE (History, Geography, Science)
- SPHE
- PE
- RE
- Visual Arts, Music, Drama



# Focus in Junior Infants

- Literacy (oral language, reading and writing)
- Numeracy
- Oral Language – Aistear
- Learning through play



# Aistear

- Themes: Autumn (The Little Red Hen)

Transport

Winter

Christmas

Weather

People Who Help Us

Spring and Easter

Local Environment

Summer

# How children learn and develop

(6 principles)

- Play and hands on experiences
- Relevant and meaningful experiences
- Communication and language
- The learning environment
- Holistic learning and development (learning many different things at the same time – connected to where, how and with whom they learn, leading to the child being confident, happy and healthy)
- Active learning



# Active Learning

This involves children learning by doing things. They use their senses to explore and work with the objects and materials around them and they interact enthusiastically with the adults and other children that they meet. Through these experiences children develop the dispositions, skills, knowledge and understanding, attitudes and values that will help them to grow as confident and competent learners.



# Layout

- Both classes join together
- Groups
- Areas (8) – Construction, Junk Art, Small World, Sand Play, Water Play, Playdough, Socio-dramatic Play, Writing Area
- Introduction of theme – Activate prior knowledge through story, vocabulary, pictures, video clips, discussion
- Each group is given an opportunity to explore each area over 2 weeks
- Learning is supported through in-class activities during this time



# Construction





# Playdough





# Sand Play





# Water Play





# Writing





# Socio-dramatic Play





# Junk Art





# Small World





# The final project!





# Life in St. Joseph's





# Walk around.

- Look out for :
- Primary Science Projects.
- Photographs of various events.
- Hall
- Artwork from various classes.
- Go into classrooms.
- Remember to take an information booklet and the important forms to be signed.
- Slides will be put on website in near future.

# Thank you for attending this meeting

We will do our best to make your child's time in St.Joseph's as enjoyable  
and as educational as possible.