



12 Courtenay Hill, Newry, Co Down, BT34 2EA
Phone: (028) 3026 2175

1/12/23

Dear Parents

Thank you:

- For your support for the **Book Fair**. **£2074** was spent by parents/ pupils and consequently the school receives rewards of **£1184** to spend on books which will be a great benefit to us.
- Once more for supporting last week's 'pyjama day' - a healthy **£346.80** was banked which will boost the school council's fund beautifully.
- **To those parents who attended the First Friday Mass today.** This is a special part of our school faith development, enjoyed by P4-P7 pupils and we are delighted that Fr Alphonsus is able to facilitate this. The P4 pupils were outstanding, given their young age. Their reverence shows that they are well on the way to being 'really ready' to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation- First Confession on Tuesday 12th December.

Advent- a time for preparation:

Our school has been decorated beautifully for Christmas and I would urge you to have a little peek at the various cribs positioned around the school, when dropping off or collecting your children. They are absolutely beautiful and the children are entranced by them. We love sharing the story of the Nativity with our pupils, it is one of the joys and privileges of our job. I hope that you will hear lots as the month unfolds and I ask you, if you can, to take your children to one of the churches in our town to see the crib scenes and the advent wreaths.

Each child will be given a Kris Kringle card to take home. It will contain the name of a fellow pupil and we ask that your child says a little prayer or gives a caring thought to that pupil each day during Advent. During the last week of school the class teacher will **ask each pupil to bring in a Christmas card, bought or made for their prayer friend containing a thoughtful little message.**

The class will be gathered and the cards will be exchanged. We have been following this tradition for some time now and it is really lovely, showing us all that the exchange of a simple card can be every bit as meaningful as an expensive gift. Its success and impact is really strong when family members join in and think of the Kris Kringle friend in a special way for the month of December.

I look forward to a happy month

Yours in partnership.

Mrs Monaghan

