Newsletter - 5th February 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Winners of €15 Smyths vouchers for outstanding
work on Seesaw this week
Lily Payne – Senior Infants
Lisa Colgan – Lighthouse
Dave Anyadioha – 3 rd Class



Thank you to Mr Doogue's 5th class for presenting our weekly assembly and to Mattie for reciting his wonderful poem.

Next week we will celebrate our annual 'Friendship Week'. While it is different as the children are participating in the week from home, we do hope that the lessons and activities planned will help to reinforce positive peer relationships for our children.

We are delighted that the Lighthouse will reopen fully from Monday 22nd February. We are so looking forward to welcoming the children back to school and are very hopeful that the remainder of St Mary's children will be back with us shortly after that. In the interim the Department of Education is offering children with diagnosed complex needs home tuition, any one who is interested in more information about this can contact me directly principal@saggartns.ie . We will keep all parents updated as soon as any additional information about our reopening is available.

<u>Active School's Week</u> was a great success, it was fabulous to see how many children (and parents!) made a great effort to keep active over the course of the week. Children who have completed their active grid should return to their class teacher to be in with a chance of winning some Active Week prizes.

Please check out our school website <u>www.saggartns.ie</u> which has been recently updated with beautiful photos of our children working really hard from home. Many class teachers have also posted an insight into the type of work children have been doing across the various class levels. Our school website is host to important school information and I would encourage parents to check for updates regularly.

<u>Admissions</u> – Yet again, St Mary's NS was oversubscribed this year with 127 children applying for places in Junior Infants for next September. Offers of school places have been sent out to successful applicants due to start in Junior Infants and the Lighthouse in September 2021 – please complete the Acceptance of Offer form as soon as possible and email to admissions@saggartns.ie. Unfortunately, we were unable to offer places to many children resident in the parish and siblings of children in the school again this year, all applications were processed in accordance with our admissions policy (available on www.saggartns.ie). All unsuccessful applicants will be placed on a waiting list and notified should a place arise.

Tuesday the 9th of February is Safer Internet Day 2021 and National Parents Council Primary are running free online interactive workshops on "Keeping your child safe online" all next week. This programme will give you practical information and supports to help you as a parent in this vital role. It will help you better understand that your parenting skills are key to keeping your child safe and it will also look at some of the evidence about what children in Ireland are spending their time doing on line and will also examine some of the risks and benefits for children online. The sessions are taking place online via Zoom at 10am on Monday to Friday, and 8pm on Monday to Thursday next week, starting Monday the 8th. Just click on the link below to register. https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/InternetSafetyOnline2021

<u>Parent teacher meetings</u> will take place next week, you should have your allocated time through Aladdin by now. The teachers will phone you, from a withheld number, at the scheduled time to discuss your child's progress. Please note that each call has a maximum time limit of ten minutes, the teachers will have to keep the call to ten minutes to ensure they keep to the schedule of meetings and don't leave other parents waiting.

<u>Contacting the school:</u> As the school building is closed for the next while the phones in the school will not be answered. You should contact your child's teacher via Seesaw app directly. If you need to contact the office the email is stmaryssaggart2@gmail.com or my own email is principal@saggartns.ie.

Kind regards Ms Olwill Principal

Ms Lannery Deputy Principal