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 **December Newsletter**

Dear Parents/Guardians

While we are coming to the end of a very busy first term and are all looking forward to the Christmas break, our thoughts this Christmas are with the family and friends of dear Brooklyn Colbert. We know Christmas will be a very difficult time for them and pray that they will find the strength to get through this difficult time.

**A few notices for your attention:**

**Voluntary Contribution:** I wish to thank all the parents who paid the contribution (€75)for this year. We are very grateful as the cost of providing materials for the children, paper, printing, Art &Craft materials etc increases year on year. The payment can be made anytime during the school year.

**Our annual Christmas Mass** will be held in The Holy Rosary Church on Thursday 19th at 1.15pm. The choir with Ms O Keeffe are preparing for it at the moment and so too are our Grúpa Cheoil with Ms C O Sullivan and Ms Cahill. Many of the other boys will be reading and participating also. We would dearly love to fill the church for this celebration and urge you to make every effort to be there, to support your sons. We welcome all the children and their families to attend regardless of their faith, however if parents of other **faiths do not wish their children to attend please collect them** **from the school at 1:00pm** as we will not be in a position to supervise them during the mass. There will be a cup of tea in the school hall afterwards.

**Christmas Carol Singing**: On Thursday evening next the choir will be carol singing in the Jetland Shopping Centre at 6.30pm. This is a fund raising activity organised by the Parents Association for the school and we would be delighted if you could come out to support them. They also visited St Camillus’ Hospital last Friday to sing for the residents there. Together with Ms O Keeffe and accompanied by Ms C O Sullivan they entertained for an hour with many of the residents singing along. It was a truly lovely occasion.

**Christmas Hampers Appeal** We have a long tradition in Scoil JFK of helping those in need.This year we are supporting the Redemptorists Hamper Appeal and the boys have been bringing in an enormous amount of non-perishable food items . The hampers will be given to the Redemptorists Fathers tomorrow Friday 13th, who will distribute them to the needy in Limerick. We thank you most sincerely for your very generous donations.

**The** **Ennis Road First Responders** spent a full day in the school in November training six teachers in the basics of CPR and use of a defibrillator etc. The 6th class boys were then trained in the afternoon with the help of the newly trained teachers in Hands Only CPR and what to do if presented with a choking incident. Now to show our thanks for this very important and worthwhile work we are holding a **Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 20th** and are asking for **€2** per pupil please. All money raised will go to the Ennis Road First Responders .

School closes on Friday December 20th at 12.00pm and re-opens on **Monday, January 6th 2020**

Wishing you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and best wishes for 2020.

 **Theresa O Sullivan and all the staff of Scoil JFK**