

SCOIL MHUIRE GAN SMÁL, CILL CHOIRLE

Newsletter September 2025



Fáilte romhaibh ar ais!

A big welcome back to all of our pupils, and a special word of welcome to our new pupils:

Junior Infants: Ben, Ethan, Finn, Shay, Conor, Liam, Reuben, Eden, Aisling, Eoghan, Fae, Eimear, Lukas, Ryan, Abby, Theodore, Max, Cathal, Aaron, Alfie, Tadhg, Fiachra, Ferdia, Suthirth, Leonardo & Úna

Rang 1: Phoenix

Rang 5: Milan & Paris

Rang 6: Yeva

School Mass

On Thursday 11th September Ranganna 3-6 and their teachers attended our "Mass for the Beginning of the New School Year", celebrated by our school chaplain Fr Brian MacRaois.

Fr Brian will celebrate a special blessing for the new school year with the junior classes in October.

Office Hours

Our **school office hours** are **9.30am to 3pm daily**. Telephone calls may not be answered outside of these times.

If preferred, you can send an email to secretary@kilkerleyns.ie (Ciara) or office@kilkerleyns.ie (Mrs Kirby) instead.

Message from Mrs Kirby

Another school year begins as we say hello to 26 new Junior Infants and 4 new pupils.

"The beginning is the most important part of the work" (Plato) and if this is true, then our pupils are off to a flying start! Indoor and outdoor learning took place this month, as new friendships were kindled and old friendships reaffirmed. We look forward to our end of month assembly to wrap up September and embrace all that October has to offer.

Le dea ghuí,

Donna Kirby

Enrolments

Applications for Junior Infants 2026-27 is open from Wednesday 1st October until Friday 7th November 2025. Please see the Admissions tab on our website www.kilkerleyns.com for details.

Teaching Staff 2025-26

Principal:	Mrs Donna Kirby
Deputy Principal & 6th Class:	Ms Aisling Fahy
5th Class:	Mrs Michelle Murphy
4th Class:	Ms Áine O'Hanrahan
3rd Class & APII:	Mrs Catherine Donnelly
2nd Class:	Ms Leah Hoey
1st Class:	Mr Pete Loughran
Senior Infants:	Mrs Katrina Cumiskey
Junior Infants:	Mrs Rilla Kelly
SET:	Ms Cróna Tansey, Mrs Clodagh Halpin & Mrs Muireann Johnston
SNAs:	Mrs Cath Turnbull, Mrs Sarah Mulligan, Ms Elizabeth Babington, Mrs Maria Farrell
School Chaplain:	Fr Brian MacRaois



Kilkerley Parents' Association News

Thank you to our PA for organising a Fun Day for the children on Friday 5th Sept. It was very well received by all!

We are delighted to let you know that the new **Garden Room** was opened earlier this month, after all of the hard work fundraising. Our heartfelt thanks go to each and every person who assisted the Parents' Association in achieving this goal. The room is designed to offer a calm, nurturing space to the children, and the benefits are already being felt by our school community.

Active Schools

Children from 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th class are enjoying weekly tennis lessons with coach Gary Rodriguez. The rest of the school will have tennis lessons in the summer term.

On Thursday 2nd October, we will host a skipping workshop for the whole school with Mark from www.skippingrope.com

Cumann na mBunscol football blitzes are back up and our teams are performing well. Thank you to Ms Hoey and Mr Loughran for their work with our football teams.

Green Schools

Our Green School Committee for this year has been elected and are already working on Global Citizenship Food and Biodiversity. They are:

Rang 6: Ruairí, Layla, Danny and Hannah

Rang a 5: Ella and Kai

Rang a 4: Hollie and Luke

Rang a 3: Mary and Adam Mc

Rang a 2: Tom and Ellie

Rang a 1: Sadie and Seán

Diocesan Congress

The Diocesan Congress on Youth, Family and Faith is scheduled to take place in March 2026. In order to prepare for this initiative, Fr Gerry would like to invite you all to a listening session on Tuesday 14th October at 7pm in the Community Centre. One fundamental question is to be discussed: "What can we do together, in our schools, homes, parishes and in the Archdiocese of Armagh to help young people and families to grow in faith and get to know Jesus in a real and personal way?"

Join our pastoral area delegates Nicola Connolly, Catherine Carolan, Claire Brennan, Geraldine Kirk, Ciara Nash, Kirstie Matthews, Maura Melia, Lorraine Quigley, Leah Hoey and Lisa Carragher.

Morning Procedures

A reminder that our yard supervision in the mornings commences at **9:10am-9.20am** for assembly of our pupils.

Our yard supervisors are easily identifiable by their hi-vis jackets. Our SNA staff have a particular awareness of an identified group of pupils who are their responsibility during the day.

On wet mornings, the school building is open for pupils from **9.10am**. The pupils proceed directly to their classrooms on these mornings.

Confirmation 2026

6th Class will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at 11am on Friday 24th April 2025.



1st Communion 2026

The Do This in Memory Committee members for this year are Lisa



Carragher, Gillian McGowan, Laura Ryan, Annmarie Finnegan, Judy Clarke, Áine O'Hanrahan, Mark Adams and Linda Lennon. We will have a date for 1st Holy Communion when Fr Brian returns from holiday next week.

Student Council

Rang 6: Cooper, James, Gráinne and Ben

Rang a 5: Ella-Rose and Harry

Rang a 4: Harry and Marie

Rang a 3: Matthew and Sophia

Halloween Dress Up

Children may wear Halloween costumes to school on Thursday 23rd October. Donations of €2 per child are requested which will be donated to Trick or Treat for Temple Street. Donations can be made online if preferred, see link sent via Databiz.



Dates for your Diary

School will be closed on **Fri 24th Oct** for the Presidential Election.

School will be closed from **Mon 27th Oct to Fri 31st Oct** for the midterm break.

Parent-Teacher meetings will be held on **Wed Nov 12th** and **Thurs Nov 13th**.

School will be closed on **Mon 17th Nov** for staff training.

Our Christmas Concert is scheduled for **Tues 16th December**.

