

SCOIL MHUIRE GAN SMÁL, CILL CHOIRLE

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2020

Confirmation



Congratulations to all of the boys and girls in 6th Class who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday, February 28th. They were confirmed by **Monsignor Colum Curry** in a beautiful ceremony accompanied by our chaplain **Fr Brian MacRaois**, **Fr**

Gerry Campbell, and **Deacon Martin Cunningham**.

Thank you to **Ms Condrón** and **Kathleen Byrne** for their hard work in preparing the children for the sacrament. Thanks also to **Fidelma Bellew**, Mrs **Donnelly**, **Ms Mulholland**, and members of our school choir and ensemble for providing the beautiful music which added so much to the ceremony.

Thank you to the parents of children in 2nd class who cleaned the church in preparation for the ceremony. And finally, many thanks to the **PA** and to all of the parents who organised the refreshments in the Community Centre after the ceremony.

Trip to Faughart Shrine

As part of this Year of Prayer and Reflection, and following our Novena to St Brigid held at the end of January, the children from 3rd and 4th class visited Faughart Shrine on Thursday 27th February to learn more about St. Brigid.

The children were accompanied by Mrs Halpin, Mr Loughran, Ms Catherine, and Ms Sarah.



Attendance for February

School attendance for the month of February was **95.94%**.

Collection for Women's Aid



The Kilkerry Guides, Brownies and Ladybirds and their leaders would like to thank everyone who donated to their recent collection for Women's Aid Dundalk. There was a huge response to this appeal.

Half Day for Staff Training

School will be closing on **Monday 16th March** at **12 noon** to facilitate staff training in the new Primary Language Curriculum.

Care Programme Theme: Happiness



Our care programme theme for this month is 'Happiness'.

The children have been learning how happiness is influenced by our genes, upbringing and our external circumstances, and also how it can be heavily influenced by our choices - our inner attitudes, how we approach our relationships, our personal values and our sense of purpose.

Entrance Exams

Well done to our 6th Class pupils who sat their Entrance Exams for secondary school on Saturday the 8th of February. Thank you to Ms Condrón for your hard work preparing the children for these exams.



Visit from Diocesan Advisor



Sr Anne Lyng visited our school on Monday 3rd February and met with the teachers and the children in Rang 2 and Rang 6 who are preparing for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion and Confirmation respectively.

Thank you Sr Anne for your visit.

PA Table Quiz

Our PA would like to say a big thank you to all who supported the raffle and/or attended the Table Quiz fundraiser which was held in Kennedy's on 7th February. Over **€1,000** was raised. The lucky winner of the Omniplex cinema voucher was won by Cian Larkin.



Junior Infant Immunisation



Junior Infant Immunisations will take place on 10th March in the school. Please remember to send your Junior Infant child to school wearing their tracksuit that day.

Board of Management

Our new Board of Management had their first meeting in January. Our Board Members are as follows:

Chairperson: Mrs Geraldine Kirk
Secretary: Mrs Donna Kirby
Treasurer: Mr Charlie Geoghegan
 Fr Gerry Campbell
 Mrs Muireann Johnston
 Mrs Ann Sheehy
 Mrs Niamh Larkin
 Mr Colmán Burgess

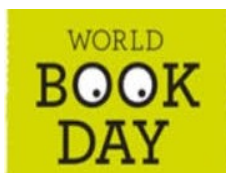
The Board ratified four policies at the meeting, all of which are now published on our website. They are:



- Parental Involvement Policy
- Work Experience Policy
- Religious Education Policy
- Policy on Swimming

World Book Day

We will celebrate this event on **Wednesday 11th March**, and encourage all pupils to dress up as a book character. We ask for a €2 donation from each child to Parents' Association funds.



Our PA are always very generous to us with purchase of equipment, subsidising bus costs and other expenses.

As part of our World book Day celebrations, we will also be holding a **Bedtime Story Event** for children in Junior and Senior Infants only on the same date, at **6:30pm** in the evening.

Eason's Spelling Bee

Congratulations to **Aibhilin Scilley** in 6th Class who was our school winner in the play off held on Friday 14th February, and will now go on to represent our school in the Eason's Spelling Bee.



Well done to our finalists from 5th class, **Oisín Donnelly, Dáire Foley** and **Anna Mulholland**, and from 6th class **Mihaela Georgieva** and **Jessica Hoey**.

Internet Safety Day

In recognition of Internet Safety Day, our pupils engaged in activities and lessons emphasising the importance of safe internet use. We encourage all of our parents to be aware of and monitor their child's online safety. See www.webwise.ie

Connect Credit Union Table Quiz



The heats of the Connect Credit Union Table Quiz were held on Monday 3rd February in O'Connell's GAA Club, Castlebellingham. Very well done to our U13 and U11 teams who came 4th and 7th

respectively.

Our U13 Team were: **Nancy Coleman, Jessica Hoey, Eoin Larkin** and **Aibhilin Scilley**

And our U11 Team were: **Kitty Coleman, Ollie Conroy, Aaron McEntegart** and **James Rice**

Lenten Masses

Children from 2nd-6th Class attended Mass on Ash Wednesday, 26th February to receive ashes.

The children from these classes will also be attending weekday Masses on Tuesdays and Thursdays during Lent on a rota basis.



Clothing Collection Fundraiser



The Kilkerry Parents' Association will be holding a clothing collection as a fundraiser after the Easter Holidays. Any used clothing can be dropped to the Community Centre on Wednesday 22nd April between 9am and 1pm.

HSE Infographic on Common Childhood Illnesses

Please see below a useful HSE Infographic on Common Childhood Illnesses. For those marked with an asterisk, *, it is not necessary to keep children home unless they are feeling unwell, but please inform the school.

WHEN SHOULD MY CHILD RETURN TO SCHOOL/ CHILDCARE?				
Chicken Pox When scabs are dry	Conjunctivitis No need to stay out*	Diarrhoea or Vomiting 48 hours after the last episode	Flu 5 days after start of illness	Glandular Fever No need to stay out*
Hand, foot & mouth No need to stay out*	Head Lice No need to stay out*	Impetigo When scabs are dry or 24 hours after starting antibiotics	Measles 4 days after rash appears	Mumps 5 days after swelling appears
Scabies After first treatment	Scarlet Fever 24 hours after starting antibiotics	Slapped Cheek No need to stay out*	Threadworms No need to stay out*	Whooping Cough 5 days after starting antibiotics or 21 days after start of illness

This information is based on the Management of Infectious Diseases in Schools guidance document. *No need to stay out if child is well but school or childcare provider should be informed.