

# SCOIL MHUIRE GAN SMÁL, CILL CHOIRLE

## NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2020

### Fáilte Romhaibh Ar Ais

Welcome back to everyone after the Christmas break. We hope that you enjoyed time with your friends and family and that 2020 is a peaceful and happy time for us all. Each year when we return after Christmas, we start a fresh new year with the usual buzz of school life. You can see from this newsletter that we have had a very busy January in Scoil Mhuire gan Smál!



### New Pupil



A big welcome to our newest pupil **Sophie Murphy** who has joined Mrs Cumiskey and the children in Rang 2.

### Catholic Schools Week

The launch of Catholic Schools Week 2020 took place during a "Seinn" Mass at the Church of the Holy Redeemer on Thursday 23rd January. Mrs Donnelly, our Chairperson Geraldine Kirk, and 2 representatives from each of our senior classes attended the launch on behalf of our school.

Our annual **Grandparents Day** as part of Catholic Schools Week took place on Thursday 30th January. Grandparents and older relatives of children in Rang 1 were invited to attend. We enjoyed a lovely afternoon of music, poems and stories to pay tribute to grandparents and the role they play in handing on the faith to their grandchildren and in supporting the community of faith at home and in the parish. Thank you to all who attended. We hope you enjoyed the afternoon.

Also on 30th January, a number of children from 6th Class attended a Prayer Service in Armagh to launch the **Year of Prayer and Reflection**.



**Celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2020**  
January 26 - February 1  
**#CSW1920**

### St Brigid's Feast Day

In preparation for St. Brigid's Feast Day on 1st February, the children have been participating in a Novena to St. Brigid daily.



In addition to this, all of the classes made St Brigid's Crosses in the Community Centre this week. Each child made a cross to bring home. Many thanks to our volunteers Geraldine Kirk, Jacinta Kelly, Bernadette Mullen, Mary Corrigan and Jennie Short for sharing your time and expertise with us.

### Care Programme: Friendship



Our care programme theme for this month is '**Friendship**'. Relationships play an important role in our lives from the minute we are born. Happiness researchers consistently find connections between the quality of our relationships and our level of life satisfaction. The children have been learning about how to make friends and maintain good quality relationships.

The KiVa Anti-Bullying programme lessons are ongoing also.

### Parents Association Table Quiz

After the success of last year's event, Kilkenny Parents Association are once again holding a Table Quiz in Kennedy's Bar, Carrick Road on **Friday 7th February at 8pm**. Tickets are €10 a head and may be purchased on the night, or from the school office in advance.



A raffle will be held on the night. If you have any items to donate towards the raffle please send them into the school office.

Every child in our school will receive a *free* raffle ticket. If you are present on the night and your child's ticket is drawn, you will receive a lovely family pass to the cinema!

## Child Protection Policies & Procedures

Our Child Protection Policy and our Child Safeguarding Statement are available on our website. A copy of the Child Safeguarding Statement is available on request.

Our Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Mrs Kirby, and our Deputy DLP is Ms Fahy.

As part of our SPHE, we cover RSE (Relationships and Sexuality Education) and the Stay Safe Programme. You can go to [www.staysafe.ie](http://www.staysafe.ie) for further details.

We also teach the Care Programme, with monthly lessons on various topics, such as Friendship, January's theme. This programme is also outlined in our Anti-Bullying/Care Programme Plan which can be accessed on our school website, and information is also sent to you in our monthly newsletter.

## Football

Craig from Louth GAA has been facilitating weekly training sessions to Rang 3 this term.



The boys football travelled to Darver Centre of Excellence for a blitz on Monday 18th January with Mr Loughran and Tommy our caretaker.

## Gardening Club Update



Ms Catherine and the children in the Gardening Club have been keeping busy throughout the winter. They have been carrying out garlic weeding, planting spring bulbs, topping up our bird feeders and de-frosting the bird

baths! The children document their activities weekly using the chrome books.

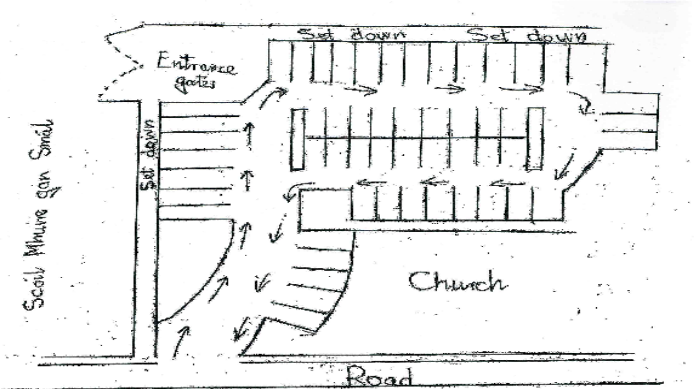
## Friends for Life

Rang 4 have now completed the Friends for Life programme, facilitated by Mrs Halpin and Mrs Curran-Butler. Friends for Life is a school-based positive mental health programme. It is the world's leading programme for fighting childhood anxiety and building resilience, and is run annually for children in Rang 4 in our school.



## School Car Park

We would ask that everyone using the car park be made aware of our [car park safety rules](#) which are as follows:



1. Use the one-way system as shown on the diagram above
2. Observe the speed limit of 10km/ hour
3. Park in designated spaces only
4. Do not block the one-way system by stopping at the entrance gates when dropping children to school in the morning – use the spaces provided
5. Be vigilant at all times

## Enrolment 2020



We are in the process of finalising our enrolment for the coming school year. Any parent/guardian wishing for their child to be considered for enrolment for the school year

2020-21 are advised to contact the school office at 042-9337187 or [secretary@kilkerleyns.ie](mailto:secretary@kilkerleyns.ie)

## Confirmation 2020

Ms Condon and the children in 6th Class are busy preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on 28th February. The ceremony will begin at 11am. As per note sent home, if your child was **not** baptised in Kilkierley, please send details (date/parish/godparents) of your child's baptism to the school.



## February Midterm

The school will be closed from Monday 17th-Fri 21st February for midterm.