

SCOIL MHUIRE GAN SMÁL, CILL CHOIRLE

Newsletter January 2023

Ceremony of Commitment & Light



6th class celebrated the Ceremony of Commitment and Light with Fr Brian & Fr Gerry this month. This is a pre-Confirmation ceremony. During the ceremony, parents and guardians were invited to pass the lighted Baptism candle to their child, showing that they promise to keep the light of faith burning in all of their lives. The children are now looking forward to celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation on 28th April.

Do This In Memory

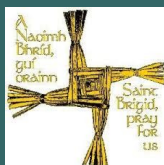
The Do This In Memory programme for 2nd class children continued this month, with a Mass on 22nd January, with Fr Brian as celebrant.



The children renewed their Baptismal promises at this Mass. Well done to the boys and girls and their families.

St Brigid's Crosses

Thank you to Bernadette Mullen, Margaret Watters, Kitty Holland, Kathleen Sharkey, Mary Corrigan and Jacinta Kelly who came in to show the children how to make St Brigid's crosses this month. The crosses will be blessed by Fr Brian at Mass on St Brigid's Day, February 1st.



Message from Mrs Kirby

'Friendship' is the theme for January of the Care Programme we use in our SPHE lessons. It is a very apt theme as it is this month that we lost our colleague and dear friend Tommy Kirk.



Now that Spring is almost here, we will remember Tommy fondly as the signs of rebirth and new life surround us, particularly in our school grounds, which Tommy cared for so diligently over the years.

Le dea-ghuí,
Donna Kirby



Catholic Schools Week 2023

Catholic Schools: Walking Together in Faith & Love

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Catholic Schools Week 2023 was celebrated from 22nd-29th January in Scoil Mhuire gan Smál. The theme this year was "Walking Together in Faith and Love". All classes had special lessons and prayers on this theme each day this week.

Our altar servers, choir members, and readers attended a special "Seinn" celebration in the Holy Redeemer Church on Wednesday. Thank you to Susan Mulholland who prepared the children for this celebration. Abby Hoey and DJ MacFarlane represented our school in the prayers.

Fr Brian celebrated Grandparents Day with grandparents of the boys and girls of 2nd class on Friday. We had a lovely afternoon, filled with prayer, music and stories.

Wellbeing Corner

This month we welcomed the travelling theatre company, M&M Productions, to our school with their performance of 'Beauty and the Beast'. The show was very enjoyable, and the audience participation was excellent!



Thank you to our hardworking Parents Association for financing this event.

Kilkerley Parents Association News

Upcoming Events

The PA will hold the annual Table Quiz in Kennedy's Bar on the Carrick Road on **Friday 24th March**. A raffle will be held on the night, with tickets on sale from the school in the weeks before the quiz.

The star prize in the raffle will be a **framed Dundalk FC jersey, signed by all of the team**. Thank you to Andy Connolly who organised this fantastic prize.

Details of our annual flag day will follow.



Louth GAA Event

Our 5th and 6th class pupils were delighted to receive a very special invite to attend the Protection and Prosperity Louth GAA Training Centre, Darver. They had talks from Mickey Harte (Louth Senior Football Manager), Sam Mulroy (Louth Captain), Áine Breen (Louth Ladies Captain) Ciarán Sloan (Strength and Conditioning Coach), Paddy Hogan (STATSport) and Ronan Mulholland (Louth All-Ireland winning hurler and local man). Sam Mulroy and Áine Breen also took the time to answer questions and to sign jerseys. They were also taken on a tour of the centre including the changing rooms and corporate rooms.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Peter Sage, Dad of James in 6th class, and Vice-Chairperson of the County Board, who organised this unforgettable evening for us.



Credit Union Table Quiz

Well done to our quizzers who competed at the Connect Credit Union Table Quiz held in the Fairways Hotel this month. Congratulations to our team of Clara, Enya, Rebecca and Éinín who came **1st** in the U11 competition and will now go forward to the next round!

U-13 teams: Amy Griffin, Bébhinn Harris, DJ MacFarlane & Emily McEntegart **and** Eleanor Byrne, Juliette McEntegart, Finn Stacey & Rebecca Trimble

U-11 teams: Grace Griffin, Liam Kelleher, Moya McMahon & Charlotte Trimble **and** Clara Conway, Enya Green, Rebecca Mulligan & Éinín Stacey

Active Schools



Junior Infants—2nd Class are currently attending weekly Fit Kids classes with Niall Teather.

Thank you to the Transition Year football mentors from De La Salle who have been coaching 1st & 2nd class this term and to Shane Lennon and team for working with 3rd & 4th class.

Clothing Collection

We are holding a clothing collection drive in aid of school funds. You can leave bags of clean dry clothing in the community centre foyer the week after midterm (i.e. week commencing 20th February). **NO** bed linen, duvets or pillows please. The collection will take place on **Thursday 23rd February**. Thank you for your support.



Carolan Family Fundraiser

RJ Carolan's family raised €5,927.50 for St James' Hospital with their 'Lighting Up the Darkness' fundraiser in December. They wish to thank your generosity.

Enrolment 2023

We are in the process of finalising our enrolment for the coming school year. Offers of places will be sent out this month.

Dates for your Diary

- The school will be closed on **Monday 6th February** for the new Bank Holiday.
- The school will be closed from **Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February** for midterm.