

SCOIL MHUIRE GAN SMÁL, CILL CHOIRLE

Newsletter May 2022

Confirmation & First Holy Communion

Congratulations to the boys and girls from 6th class, who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday 6th May, and those from 2nd class who celebrated their First Holy Communion on Saturday 21st May.

Celebrants at both ceremonies were Fr Brian MacRaois, our school chaplain, and Fr Gerry Campbell, P.P., assisted by Deacon Stephen. We thank them along with our class teachers Mrs Michelle Murphy and Mr Pete Loughran for their dedication and hard work in preparing the children for the sacraments.

Thank you to Mrs Rilla Kelly, Mrs Catherine Donnelly, Susan Mulholland, Ciara, and our school choir and ensemble for the beautiful music which so enhanced both celebrations.

Baby News!

We send our warmest congratulations to our Deputy Principal Aisling Fahy on the birth of her baby girl Eden!



Message from Mrs Kirby

The longer, brighter days mean lots of outdoor activities and we are certainly making the most of the beautiful school grounds that we are blessed to have here in Scoil Mhuire gan Smál. Our pupils are participating very well in lots of curricular and extra-curricular activities as we continue to keep well-being to the fore of school life and in our interactions with each other.

Le dea-ghuí,

Donna Kirby

Staffing 2022-23

Teacher allocations for 2022-23 will be communicated to parents after the next Board meeting in mid-June. Mrs Aoife Curran-Butler will be taking a one-year Career Break for the 2022-23 academic year.

School Tours

3rd, 4th and 5th class enjoyed a great day out to the Crystal Maze on 12th May.

Other classes will have their school tours on the following days:

- Junior & Senior Infants: Slieve Gullion (16th June)
- 1st & 2nd Class: Slieve Gullion (16th June)
- 6th Class: Carlingford Adventure Centre (10th June)



Well-being Corner

“Wellness is the complete integration of body, mind and spirit, the realisation that everything we do, think, feel and believe has an effect on our state of well-being” - Greg Anderson.

Our school grounds are getting a new lease of life with the installation of new playground markings, our colourful buddy benches, and our Wellbeing Wall which will be installed in the coming weeks. We are awaiting delivery of a new companion bench for our playground.

This month our pupils have enjoyed trips to Knockbridge, Lordship and De La Salle college, competing in football matches against other schools in the Dundalk area. Well done boys and girls for representing our school so well. We are very proud of you!

5th & 6th class enjoyed an inter-school rugby blitz in Dundalk Rugby Club on 26th May.

5th Class also enjoyed a trip to O’Fiaich College where they were able to see first-hand the wonderful facilities on offer.

Active Schools

1st and 2nd class enjoyed football training with Craig Lynch from Louth GAA over the last couple of weeks. It is now the turn of 3rd and 4th class to benefit from Craig's coaching.

Tennis coaching with Gary Rodriguez from Dundalk Tennis Club continues for Junior and Senior Infants, and 5th and 6th Class.

Swimming continues for classes 3rd-6th in Aura Leisure Centre.



Conor Morgan Gaelic Blitz

10 of our 5th & 6th class boys recently participated in the Conor Morgan Gaelic Blitz. They competed in and won four matches to reach the final, playing against St. Peter's NS, Dromiskin and unfortunately were beaten in a very close and exciting final. Thank you to Mr Loughran for coaching our team and to the De La Salle College for hosting this very enjoyable and competitive event.

New School Tracksuit

Our new school tracksuit (pictured) will be available in both Michael Lynch's and McEvoy's from July. Children can still wear the existing tracksuit if they wish to do so. Thank you to our student council members from 5th and 6th class for your trial and feedback on the new tracksuit!



Green Schools

Jodie Allen, mother of TJ in Junior Infants, is currently working on a sculpture for our Green Schools theme of Marine Environment. The sculpture will be made from recycled materials. Many thanks to Jodie for all of her hard work so far. We cannot wait to see the final result!



Kilkerley Parents Association News

Huge thanks to all who supported and helped out by collecting money on the annual PA Flag Day. Just over €2,400 was raised.

The PA pays for annual maintenance of the Emergency Defibrillator which is located at the rear of the school. This is the only defibrillator in the area which is accessible at all times and is a vital asset to the community as a whole.

The PA also organised and paid for treats for 6th Class post-Confirmation, and for the refreshments following First Communion in the Community Centre. We were delighted to see this lovely tradition revived now that Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted.

PA funds also allowed for the recent installation of our playground markings which are getting great use!

Cumann na mBunscol Tráth na gCeist

Well done to our 6th class quizzers who took part in the Tráth na gCeist in Knockbridge recently. They were:



Foireann A: Lily Clarke, Kate Holland, Mark Holland, Sadhbh Lennon & James Rice

Foireann B: Ellie Mai Finnegan, Ivelina Georgieva, Sophie Lynch, Charlie Mulligan & Tom O'Connor

New Parent Information Evening



This month Mrs Kirby, Mrs Donnelly, Mrs Kelly and Mrs Halpin welcomed parents and guardians of the new pupils who will be joining us for the 2022/23 school year to the school for an information evening.

Thank you to Geraldine Kirk our chairperson who attended on behalf of our Board of Management, to Fionnuala Cunningham and Leona Burgess who attended on behalf of the Parents Association, and to Fr. Brian Mac Raois our school chaplain.

Dates for your Diary

June Bank

Holiday: School will be closed on



Friday 3rd and Monday 6th June.

Half Day Closure: School will finish at 12pm on **Wednesday 15th June** to facilitate teacher training.

Summer Holidays: School closes at 12pm on **Tuesday 28th June** for summer holidays. We will reopen on **Tuesday 30th August.**