

SCOIL MHUIRE GAN SMÁL, CILL CHOIRLE

Newsletter April 2021

COVID Protocols

A reminder to parents and guardians that we would ask you NOT to congregate at the school gate when bringing children to/from school.

Do This in Memory

The next Do This in Memory Mass for children in 2nd class will take place on



Saturday 8th May 2021 at 6pm.

The Mass may be viewed online at this link which is also on the home page of the school website: <https://www.churchmedia.tv/camera/church-of-the-immaculate-conception-kilkerley>

Update on Sacraments

In keeping within Government guidelines re. Covid-19, if at all possible we will celebrate the sacraments of First Penance, First Holy Communion and Confirmation with the relevant classes before the end of this school year. With this in mind, Mrs. Cumiskey and Mrs. Murphy are continuing to prepare their pupils for these special events.

Trócaire



€430 was collected from school families for Trócaire's Lenten campaign. Thank you for all of the donations.

Labelling Belongings!

A reminder to please **label** your child's belongings, especially uniform jumpers which are regularly abandoned all over the school in warm weather!



Principal's Letter

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We've had another busy month as we got our in-school activities up and running again. We have tried our best to keep school life as normal as possible for our pupils this term and hope to enjoy more school activities in May and June. The return to outdoor sports activities for children after school has certainly caused great excitement and is very welcome.

Wishing you all a lovely May Bank Holiday weekend.

Le dea-ghuí,

Mrs Kirby

Gardening Club



Ms Catherine's Gardening Club from 5th Class have been busy. They have planted peas, beetroot, salad leaves, radish, spinach and rhubarb. They have also been making nitrogen-rich plant feed from nettles. We look forward to sampling their produce!

New Staff Members

A big welcome to our two new members of staff for this term— Mr Fintan Coleman who is teaching 1st class, and Ms Niamh McBride who is teaching 4th class.



Sports Day 2021



Our staff are busy planning our annual sports extravaganza which will be held as part of our school day this year, given the current restrictions in place.

We look forward to holding it on a nice, dry sunny day in late May or in June.

Student Teachers

We would like to wish student teachers Ms Gráinne Murphy and Ms Eilís Kilkenny the very best in their future careers. And best wishes also to Ms Tara Litchfield as she continues with her studies.



Active Schools

Tennis coaching with our Dundalk Tennis Club coach **Gary Rodriguez** is ongoing for Junior and Senior Infants and 5th and 6th Class.

Craig Lynch from Louth **GAA** has been providing coaching for Junior Infants to 4th Class. Thank you to **Kilkerley Emmets** for the use of their pitch.

4th, 5th and 6th classes have been enjoying rugby coaching provided by **Tiernan Gonnely** from **Dundalk Rugby Club**.



Junior Entrepreneur Programme

Mrs Kelly's 5th class have been working to create prototypes of four different products, 'Bangle Jangles', 'Bath Bombs', 'Stress Balls' and 'Box 'em Up'. Each group will present their products to the dragons who will choose one of these products which we will continue our work on as a whole class. We look forward to chatting to a business visitor in the coming weeks to help us with our business idea.



Green Schools

Our Green Schools committee met outdoors for the first time last Friday, to review our work on the seventh green flag for *Global Citizenship: Energy*. We have completed most of the required actions and hope to receive our flag this summer. As judges will not be visiting the school, the committee will present our work virtually, in the form of a tour or video presentation. Classes are finishing up on projects based around themes such as energy, heat and global warming.

The pandemic has made it more challenging for us to save energy, and conserve water, and the children have noticed an increase in litter; with masks and gloves littering the streets. Still, we do the best we can at school, by turning off appliances and lights when not in use, using our water butt to water plants and by litter picking daily to keep our school grounds beautiful. Thank you to our staff and volunteers for planting, pruning trees and enhancing our forest school area and herb garden.



School Year 2021-22

Our teaching staff have been allocated classes for the upcoming academic year, and will be as follows:

- *Junior Infants: Ms Cróna Tansey*
- *Senior Infants: Mrs Katrina Cumiskey*
- *1st Class: Mrs Muireann Johnston*
- *2nd Class: Mr Pete Loughran*
- *3rd Class: Ms Cora Ryan/Ms Áine O'Hanrahan*
- *4th Class: Mrs Aoife Curran-Butler*
- *5th Class: Mrs Rilla Kelly*
- *6th Class: Mrs Michelle Murphy*
- *SET: Mrs Donnelly, Ms Fahy & Mrs Halpin*
- *SNAs: Mrs Catherine Turnbull and Mrs Sarah Mulligan*



Care Programme : My Health

Education about physical wellbeing is an integral part of our school curriculum, and is of course of particular relevance during these times.



The children have been learning about the importance of promoting their own physical health through diet, exercise and good sleep.

Cash 4 Clothes

Thank you for your support of our Cash 4 Clothes clothing recycling drive on 25th March. Over €300 was raised for school funds.

'Home Advantage' for the Kellehers!

There was great excitement this month as we watched the Kelleher family competing on 'Home Advantage', an RTE Family Quiz show. Parents Orlaith and Peter, along with Senan in 5th class and Liam in 3rd class put in an excellent performance.



Well done to them all!

Dates for your Diary

The school will be closed on the following dates:

- **Mon 3rd May**
- **Fri 4th June**
- **Mon 7th June**

The school calendar for 2021-22 will be published on our website following ratification at the next Board of Management meeting in June. Until then, please note that school will return following the summer break on **Thursday 26th August**.

