

# SCOIL MHUIRE GAN SMÁL, CILL CHOIRLE

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2021

## Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week took place during the week of 24th January, with the theme '**Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith and Resilience**'. Although our school was closed, we were still able to consider ways to celebrate, and all of our classes marked the week with age-appropriate activities.

A special **Mass for Grandparents** was held via webcam in Kilkerry on Tuesday 26th January at 9.30am.

Here is a family prayer to mark this special week:

**Loving God, we ask you to wrap our school family in a cloak of love and protection. Amen.**



## Message from Mrs Kirby

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Unfortunately, we were unable to return to school in person in January. This is disappointing, after the joy we all experienced from September to December, in coming together each day as a school community. We fully appreciate the challenges faced by parents, staff and pupils alike.

Our theme for this month has been friendship. We are all missing our friends, and opportunities to engage in person with them. For many, screen contact does not replace the joy that physical contact with our friends brings. With the limited opportunities that we now have to meet in person, it is ever more important that we use these online platforms to support and encourage each other. A kind word can go a long way towards making somebody's day better.

With this in mind, I thank you for the very positive feedback received by teachers during the parent teacher meetings last week, in recognition of their ongoing dedication and creativity in furthering the education of our pupils.

Le deaghuí,

Donna Kirby

## Parent Teacher Meetings

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic restrictions, our parent teacher meetings were conducted by telephone this month, and very positive feedback was received by teachers. These meetings held extra relevance at this time as the home-school link becomes ever more important. We would like to thank all parents and guardians for your ongoing support as we work together for our children.



## Radio Star!

If you were listening to the Alison Curtis show last weekend you may have heard Cian Larkin from Rang a 3 who took part as a guest reviewer! Cian gave a fantastic review of the movie 'Coco'. Well done Cian!

## Clothing Collection

We intend to hold another clothing recycling drive in aid of school funds once school reopens. Thank you to everyone who participated in the last collection in October.

## Board of Management Meeting

The Board of Management meeting which had been due to take place on 12th January 2021 has been postponed to February 2021.

## Mid-term break

Our mid-term break takes place from **15th-19th February**, as per our school calendar.

## Care Programme Theme:

Our Care Programme theme for the month of January was '**Friendship**'. Researchers consistently find connections between the quality of our relationships and our level of satisfaction. Our theme for February is 'Happiness'.

## 5th vs 6th P.E. Challenge!

5th and 6th classes are going head-to-head in a P.E. challenge over the school closure period, with the children being set challenges in order to gain points for their class. So far, 5th class are in the lead so far!

## Junior Entrepreneurs

5th class are getting ready to embark on their journey through the Junior Entrepreneur Programme. This programme encourages children to discover their strengths as individuals and as part of a team. Together, they'll choose, invest in and produce their own product, all the way to making it available for sale at a school-hosted JEP Showcase Day - and of course enjoying their profits at the end!



## Building closed but work continues...

Natalja has taken the opportunity of the school building being closed to wash all of our classroom carpets.

Peter Kelleher, father of Senan, Liam and Shea has very kindly mulched and pruned our fruit trees over the past few weeks.

Tommy has been working on fixing and repairing damage caused by a leak in one of our corridors. Two windows in the front of the school building are going to be replaced.

Thank you everyone for helping to maintain our school building and grounds.

## And finally...

We will be in touch shortly regarding a class get-together (remotely of course!) We'll keep you posted...